Curbing Vaccination Waivers

Speakers and Panelists

Robert Swanson, Director, Division of Immunizations, MI Dept of Health and Human Services

Bob has been the Director of the Division of Immunization for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services since 2006. He began his immunization career over 29 years ago as the Immunization Field Representative with the Division of Immunization. Bob later became a Section Manager for the Immunization Division where he was responsible for the VFC program, the Immunization Registry, school and child care reporting, and field services. Bob received his Master’s degree in Public Health from the University of Michigan.

Rhonda Lennise Conner-Warren, Assistant Professor, Nursing, Life Sciences, MSU

Professor Conner-Warren is a pediatric nurse practitioner and advocate for delivering quality care to improve children’s health. Much of her work has specialized in areas of health-risk behaviors among children and teens and she currently is involved in vaccination efforts with the Ingham County Department of Health - Child Health Clinic. Dr. Conner-Warren’s research as well as practical experience and interaction with families greatly lends to the discussion of vaccination and vaccination waivers.

Mark Navin, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Oakland University

Mark Navin, Ph.D., arrived at Oakland University in 2008 after completing his graduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania. With an interest in social and political philosophy, Dr. Navin’s current research is centered on the ethical and epistemological issues surrounding the decision of many parents not to vaccinate their children. He is the recipient of an OU Faculty Research Fellowship and has taught courses on global justice, the philosophy of law, and political philosophy.
Terri Adams, Section Manager, Division of Immunizations, MI Dept of Health & Human Services

Terri Adams is a registered nurse with 27 years public health nurse experience and an extensive background with immunizations. Her career has been mostly with local and state health departments. While at the MI Department of Health and Human Services, she spent six years as the state’s Vaccines for Children Coordinator. As Section Manager for the last four years, she coordinates the VFC and AFIX, Adult and Adolescent programs, along with Education and Outreach. Terri has a master’s degree in management from Davenport University.

Sponsor Leadership

Matt Grossmann, Director, Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR)

Associate Professor of Political Science

A nationally known political scientist, Dr. Grossman is an expert on American politics and government whose research spans national and state policymaking, election campaigns, interest groups, and political parties. He has authored numerous journal articles on policy change, political party networks, the legislative process and public opinion. He is co-author of Campaigns & Elections, a textbook available through W. W. Norton, and is editor of the volume New Directions in Interest Group Politics, from Routledge.

Forum Coordinator, Facilitator

AnnMarie Schneider, Director for Program Planning & Policy Education, IPPSR

The Michigan Applied Policy Grant Program and a policy forum series featuring research expertise on current legislative issues are under AnnMarie’s direction. AnnMarie also advises marketing and communication of IPPSR programs. Additionally, she directs MSU’s Canadian Studies Center where the focus is on U.S. and Canada relations and Canada’s cultural and economic profile. AnnMarie is most interested to build networks of issue expertise, and securing opportunities for faculty research and student learning.