



# ARIZONA TELEMEDICINE PROGRAM

OFFICE OF THE INTERIM DIRECTOR

1501 N. Campbell Ave  
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## Arizona Telemedicine Council

October 19, 2022

### Speaker Bios

#### **Nicole Bullard MSN, RN-BC**

Ms Bullard began her career in healthcare in 2001, working as a PCT for a Phoenix-based Health System, then quickly decided she was ready to take the leap to earning her rank as an RN. She earned her BSN from Northern Arizona University, then after graduating, was fortunate to start her nursing career at Flagstaff Medical Center, as a Med-Surg Tele RN. In April of 2013, she switched roles and began her tenure in the Telehealth Department, now Virtual Care Program. In 2018, to further support her understanding of technology in healthcare, Nicole completed her MSN with a focus in Healthcare Informatics, through Grand Canyon University. Nicole went on to later receive her ANCC Informatics Nursing Certification.

During those early years working in Virtual Care, Nicole, recalls having to frequently explain to others, exactly what *Telehealth* and *Telemedicine* was. Now, post-COVID-19, with virtual care being part of healthcare as we know it, she doesn't have to explain it quite so often. She has enjoyed witnessing the expansion of virtual care services, and how it has benefited the communities and populations served by NAH. Although she has participated in the planning and management of many different virtual care initiatives, her primary focus has been managing NAH's Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) program and led the recent development process of an updated platform, complete with EHR integration. Although Nicole considers herself an early adapter and somewhat of an expert in the field, she is always looking for that next new and exciting technology to bring to the organization.

Over the years, Nicole has had the pleasure of working with and getting to know members of the Arizona Telemedicine Program. She is thrilled at the opportunity to speak at today's council meeting.

#### **Eladio Pereira, MD, MBA, FACP**

Dr. Pereira is the Chief Medical Officer at the Mariposa Community Health Center in Nogales, Arizona, a position he has held since 1998.

He holds Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from Georgia Tech in Atlanta, GA. He completed medical school and an Internal Medicine residency at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. He also has a Master's in Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

He is Board Certified in Internal Medicine.

His areas of interest include coaching young providers to provide superior care to the patients, both physical and emotional and implementation of clinical guidelines in primary care.



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### **Kimberly Shea, PhD, RN, CHPN**

Dr. Shea is a Clinical Associate Professor at the UArizona College of Nursing and Assistant Professor of Practice at the UArizona Department of Biomedical Informatics. She has been funded for her program of research in home-based telehealth since 2004. Her clinical experience and certification are in hospice and palliative nursing. Her research studies have examined, 1) relationship building when technology moderates interactions among patient, nurse and caregiver; 2) patient integration of telemonitoring data into lifestyle choices, 3) Usability of iPad technology for symptom management, and currently, 4) Best practices using the Comprehensive Patient Assessment for Telehealth in the Home (CPATH) framework. Dr. Shea has presented locally, nationally and internationally on telehealth, in general and telepalliative care, more specifically. She serves as the Associate Director of Telenursing for the Arizona Telemedicine Program.

### **Janet Major**

Ms. Major is the Associate Director for Innovation & Digital Health for the Arizona Telemedicine Program (ATP) and the Southwest Telehealth Resource Center (SWTRC). She earned her B.S. Degree in Telecommunications from Northern Arizona University and has worked at the University of Arizona for 35 years. She has been an integral part of the Arizona Telemedicine Program since it began over 25 years ago and serves on the Executive Team. Her role includes the planning, development and installation of the teleconferencing and telemedicine equipment used in a wide variety of telemedicine locations as well as training healthcare professionals in the effective use of videoconferencing for clinical and educational applications in both LIVE interactive and store-and-forward applications.

She has served as a leader for several statewide and national organizations that promote and support recruiting, training and preparing the healthcare workforce of the future. She is the past Chair for the mHealth, Technology & Distance Learning Special Interest Group of the American Telemedicine Association and continues to serve as a leader in the telemedicine technology community. She has always been highly active in the telecommunications network of experts in Arizona as an Associate Board Member of ATIC: the Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council and as an active advocate for broadband for the southwest including our neighboring states. She served on the Arizona Broadband Task Force that created our Strategic Broadband Plan for Arizona, participates in the Arizona Broadband Stakeholder Network as well as the Arizona Covid-19 Digital Access Task Force. Ms. Major has also served on the Board of Directors for the United States Distance Learning Association including the roles of President and Chair while representing the telehealth constituency for over ten years.

### **Kristine Erps Stewart**

Ms. Stewart is the interim director and associate director for administration at Arizona Telemedicine Program (ATP) and administrator director for Southwest Telehealth Resource Center (SWTRC). She provides administrative oversight for both the ATP and SWTRC. Ms. Erps represents the program at regional and national meetings and is responsible for creation and



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content of public relations materials. Kris assists with reporting requirements and coordinating activities for the ATP and the numerous partnering organizations of the SWTRC. She manages and is the editor of both the ATP and SWTRC Blogs. Kris serves on the advisory board for the National Frontier & Rural Addiction Technology Transfer Center, on the executive committee of the American Telemedicine Association's (ATA) Business & Finance Special Interest Group, past chair for the ATA's Interstate Telehealth Special Interest Group and is the communication and member chair of the Arizona Rural Health Association. She has been with the ATP since 2000 and SWTRC since 2009.

**Alan Pitt** is a Professor of Neuroradiology at the Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix, AZ. In addition to his clinical practice Dr. Pitt has been a serial entrepreneur including robotics, imaging, AI and telemedicine. He is co-founder of Vitalchat, a SaaS based telehealth company using commodity hardware enabling touchless telehealth for the acutely and chronically ill. He is the Chief Medical Officer at Cloudmedxhealth. He is a board member of AxisforAutism. He also advised Philips on issues related to teleradiology and telehealth. More information can be found on his LinkedIn page. Over the past 15 years, Dr. Pitt has been an advisor to large healthcare systems and state government. He has functioned in a myriad of rolls including founder, advisor, board member and executive for several small to mid-cap companies in the health IT and device space. This included cold based imaging, robotics, telehealth and AI. Dr. Pitt was the CMO of Avizia prior to their exit to American Well. He is the CMO for Cloudmedxhealth, an AI company focused on predictive analytics for disease management. This company recently created a dashboard used by the National Governors council for reopening based on both health and social determinants.