

***Treating Patients with Highly Contagious Infectious Diseases:
USING TECHNOLOGY TO ADVANCE SAFETY***
Harborview Medical Center, University of Washington

Course Directors



Rosemarie Fernandez, MD is an Associate Professor – and serves as the Director of Simulation - for the Division of Emergency Medicine at the Harborview Medical Center, University of Washington School of Medicine. She is the Associate Director for Education at the UW Medicine Center for Scholarship in Patient Care, Quality, and Safety. Dr. Fernandez completed a Patient Safety leadership Fellowship at the

AHA-National Patient Safety Foundation in 2011. With academic interests and publications on studies evaluating the effectiveness of training on healthcare worker performance and in the use of simulation in team performance and team assessment research, she is an expert in creating care environments that are safe and effective for patients and care providers.



John Scott Meschke, PhD, MS, JD is a Professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences at the University of Washington School of Public Health, and an adjunct faculty member with the UW Civil and Environmental Engineering program. Dr. Meschke is an environmental and occupational health microbiologist, specializing in the fate, transport, detection, and control of pathogens in environmental media (Air, Water, Food, and Surfaces). Research

interests focus heavily on the transmission and movement of pathogens, and how risks can be reduced, and he has expertise in infection control, alternative methods of water and wastewater disinfection, surface disinfection, biosafety, mathematical models for exposure assessment, and policy implications of infectious agents.

Faculty Bios

Dmitri Bouianov is the founder and CEO of Context VR, a virtual and augmented reality software company to help organizations improve safety and efficiency through immersive technology. He has been a director and consultant with Rocket Alien—a Seattle VR design and technology company, the Chief Technology Officer for PikWorx and Appuri, and a software development engineer for Expedia and Livemocha. Mr. Bouianov has a Bachelor degree in Math from the University of Waterloo, and has over 15 years of experience in software engineering.

Ross Ehrmantraut, RN, HRET Senior Fellow is a Health Program Operations Specialist at the WWAMI Institute for Simulation in Healthcare (WISH). He has an extensive history at UW Medicine as a clinical supervisor in multiple different units and a critical care nurse for over 20 years. He served as the Chief Patient Safety Officer for Harborview Medical Center before joining WISH. He is a recent graduate of the NPSF/AHA Patient Safety Leadership Fellowship where his project focused on a team approach to falls prevention. Mr. Ehrmantraut now leads TeamCORE, an initiative that brings interdisciplinary team training to employees across UW Medicine, and is a Master Trainer for TeamSTEPPS, involved in teaching the program at a national level.

John Lynch, MD, MPH is the medical director of the Harborview Medical Center Infection Control, Antibiotic Stewardship and Employee Health programs, and a clinical provider for outpatient and inpatient infectious disease cases. He completed a residency in Internal Medicine, specialty training in Infectious Diseases and an MPH during his fellowship. Dr. Lynch's research interests include healthcare-associated infections, with a focus on prevention through education, behavior change and clinical care. He leads the UW School of Medicine medical microbiology course and teaches on the subject of infectious diseases in many other settings. Dr. Lynch is active in state-wide and national initiatives to prevent healthcare-associated infectious and the development of drug-resistant bacteria.

Steven Mitchell, MD is the acting medical director of the Emergency Department at Harborview Medical Center and a UW assistant professor of Medicine. Dr. Mitchell has clinical and research interests in pre-hospital emergency care and emergency department clinical operations, with extensive experience in disaster preparedness and operations. Dr. Mitchell earned his M.D. from the UW School of Medicine, and did post-graduate residency training in emergency medicine at the University of Virginia where he was chief resident. He returned to Harborview and the University of Washington in 2006, where he serves as the Chair of the Clinical Care Committee for Ebola virus disease patient care and related operations. Dr. Mitchell is a fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians and a member of the Washington State American College of Emergency Physicians Board of Directors.

Sarah Hendrickson Parker, PhD is a human factors expert and research assistant professor at the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute. Her interests focus on basic and translational research into the performance of teams in a crucial high-risk setting: health care. The Parker Laboratory studies clinical team performance during direct patient care and simulations to better understand complex work and patterns of performance that are indicative of excellent patient care. The goal is to integrate education, research, and front line staff to improve care for patients. Dr. Parker has been Director of Education with the National Center for Human Factors Engineering in Healthcare, an assistant professor of Emergency Medicine at Georgetown University School of Medicine, and an analyst at the World Health Organization and the Mayo Clinic.

David Townes, MD, MPH, DTMH is board certified in Emergency Medicine, and completed a fellowship in International Emergency Medicine, with an MPH concentrated in Health Policy and Administration, and a Diploma in Tropical Medicine & Hygiene. He has been part of the Epidemiologic Intelligence Service and served with the US Public Health Service. On the faculty at the UW since 2001 in Emergency Medicine, Dr. Townes is a Senior Public Health and Medical Technical Advisor to the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) at the US Agency for International Development (USAID), and a Medical Epidemiologist in international emergency and refugee health with the Centers for Disease Control. Dr. Townes has worked extensively overseas - from Antarctica to Zambia - as a wilderness and expedition physician. His research interests include response to- and disease surveillance in- complex humanitarian emergencies, and malaria.

Nancy Simcox, MS is the Director of the Continuing Education Programs at the UW Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences where she develops and delivers research-based education programs for practicing professionals including industrial hygienists, physicians, nurses, safety engineers, and others in the environmental, health and safety field. Ms. Simcox has over 20 years of experience as a research industrial hygienist at both the UW Field Research and Consultation Group and the Center for Occupational and Environmental Medicine at the University of Connecticut Health Center, where she conducted workplace site visits, designed exposure assessment protocols, intervention and research, and performed data reduction and statistical analysis for health-based research projects.

Sarah Wolz, MS holds an MS in Industrial Hygiene and a BS in Bacteriology. She is currently part of the UW DEOHS Continuing Education Program team, developing content for professional development courses. She has past experience as a biotechnology Environmental Health and Safety manager at PathoGenesis Corp, where she was actively involved in developing safety and prevention programs associated with biotechnical research on tuberculosis.

Jill Tepe, BS is the UW DEOHS Continuing Education Programs course coordinator with responsibility for course logistics and materials, facility scheduling, registration, professional accreditation, and electronic availability of course content. Ms. Tepe has eight-years of experience in program and project management in educational outreach, sustainability, and a 13-year scientific background in biotechnology and laboratory methods.