

Meet our Senior Staff

Sean Tunis, MD, MSc – Dr. Tunis is the Founder and Director of CMTP. He is recognized as a thought leader on comparative effectiveness research and evidence-based medicine. He is a former Director of the Office of Clinical Standards and Quality and Chief Medical Officer of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Penny Mohr, MA – As Vice President for Programs, Ms. Mohr is responsible for guiding CMTP into new program areas and providing scientific leadership. An economist by training, Ms. Mohr has more than 20 years experience in medical technology policy.

Leslye Fitterman, PhD – Dr. Fitterman is a pharmacoepidemiologist serving as a Senior Research Director at CMTP. She has extensive experience in study design, clinical trials, and coverage policy.

C. Daniel Mullins, PhD – As a Visiting Scholar, Dr. Mullins is focusing his research on enhancing evidence about the effectiveness of off-label oncology therapeutics, and increasing the supply of pragmatic clinical trials.

Wade M. Aubry, MD – Dr. Aubry is a Senior Clinical and Policy Advisor to CMTP. He has extensive experience working with private sector payers in the areas of technology assessment, coverage decisions, and quality measurement.

Linda Bergthold, PhD – Dr. Bergthold is a Senior Advisor to CMTP. She has more than 20 years of experience in health care consulting and research for public and private purchasers and providers.

“ I was diagnosed with heart disease at 38 and have lived now to age 64, in large part because of successful clinical research conducted over the last several decades. I dream that my grandchildren won't have to worry about heart disease. By mediating issues that can stand in the way of more real-world effectiveness research, CMTP plays an important role in driving the science that makes that dream a reality.”

Lawrence Sadwin

Chairman, CMTP Board of Directors

*Past Chairman, National Board of Directors,
American Heart Association*

Heart disease survivor



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*Transforming evidence
for better decisions,
better outcomes.*



*By changing how clinical research
is conducted, we help make health
care more effective and affordable.*

What is CMTP?

The **Center for Medical Technology Policy (CMTP)** is a private, non-profit organization whose primary goal is to improve the process of generating new clinical research about the real world risks, benefits, and costs of health technologies. We serve as a neutral forum where decision makers (patients, clinicians, health plans, and policy makers) can collaborate with a broad range of expert stakeholders to identify important unanswered clinical questions, design appropriate studies, and develop innovative partnerships to implement these studies.

Goals and Objectives

- Develop a collaborative model of health care research for other organizations interested in expanding the supply of relevant and reliable evidence for decision makers.
- Incorporate the perspectives of health care decision makers in research priorities and study design, while recognizing the importance of meaningfully engaging patients and consumers.
- Ensure the rapid development and adoption of valuable technologies, and the efficient and appropriate use of these technologies.
- Limit the adoption and use of technologies with limited or uncertain benefit.
- Maintain incentives for innovators and investors to develop new high value technologies.

Products and Expertise

Effectiveness Guidance Documents (EGDs): Analogous to FDA guidance documents, EGDs provide specific recommendations to product developers, sponsors, and clinical researchers regarding the design of comparative effectiveness studies aimed to generate evidence for post-regulatory decision makers. EGDs are intended to provide concrete guidance for trial designs that provide decision makers with reasonable confidence that the technology improves health outcomes. See our *Gene Expression Profiling for Breast Cancer* EGD at our website.

Collaborative Research Projects: For selected Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) topics, CMTP builds and manages the public-private partnerships necessary to ensure that the required studies are implemented. Successful CER depends on effective and sustained collaboration between clinical researchers and the end-users of this research. With particular focus on pragmatic clinical trials, adaptive designs, and clinical registries, CMTP enables researchers to generate information that is valid, relevant, and timely – and therefore is useful for clinical and health policy decision making. See *Radiation Therapy in the Treatment of Prostate Cancer* at our website.

Priorities for Evidence Development: Through a structured and transparent method, CMTP establishes prioritized lists of research topics for specific disease areas. This key step of selecting the focus of comparative effectiveness research involves a multiple stakeholder expert workgroup in prioritizing evidence gaps. See *Identifying Critical Gaps in Evidence for Clinical and Health Policy Decision Making* at our website.

Applied Policy and Methods: CMTP has developed a policy framework and model benefit language to help private health plans implement Coverage with Evidence Development policies, where coverage for promising, emerging technologies is provided on the condition of enrollment in a study that will generate the type of information medical directors need to make an informed coverage decision. See *Coverage with Evidence Development: A Conceptual Framework* at our website. Additionally, CMTP has convened a multi-stakeholder workgroup to develop a conceptual, methodological and policy framework to make phase III pharmaceutical trials more informative to post-regulatory decision makers.

Funding Sources

- Aetna
- Amgen
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Blue Shield of California Foundation
- The Commonwealth Fund
- California Healthcare Foundation
- Institute of Medicine
- Johnson & Johnson
- Kaiser Permanente
- Medicare Payment Advisory Commission
- National Pharmaceutical Council
- Pacific Business Group on Health
- Pfizer
- United Healthcare Foundation

CMTP uses a combination of private contributions, grants, and contracts for our applied policy projects to fund infrastructure and initial product development.

Governance

CMTP works with an Advisory Board comprised of representatives from consumer and patient groups, clinicians, major national or regional health plans, product manufacturers, and academia with organizational oversight by a smaller, independent Governing Board.

