

## 5/21-COVID in the Community: Beyond VA Walls

### Speaker Bios:

**Dr. Kameron Matthews, M.D., J.D., FAAFP**

*Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Community Care  
Veterans Health Administration*

**Dr. Kameron Matthews is a board-certified family physician, advocate and policy maker with a career focused on underserved patient populations.** Overseeing a national budget of more than \$15 billion, **she is responsible for the community-based provider network and services that increase access to care for Veterans and select family members nationwide, as well as the associated business processes including claims operations and management, revenue cycle, and quality oversight.** She joined the VA in 2016 after multiple leadership roles in Chicago, Illinois in correctional medicine, federally qualified health centers, and managed care. In addition to her current administrative duties, she provides primary care services through the VISN 21 Teleprimary Care Hub.

**She is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Quality Forum and a member of the Advisory Board of National Minority Quality Forum.** She serves as the 2018-2020 National Academy of Medicine James C. Puffer/American Board of Family Medicine fellow. She is honored to have been awarded the 2017 National Minority Quality Forum's 40 Under 40 Leaders in Minority Health.

### **Aashna R. Basu, MD**

Associate Chief of Staff, Care in the Community (CITC) Service

**Dr. Aashna Basu currently serves as the Associate Chief of Staff for the Community Care service at Greater Los Angeles (GLA) VA Healthcare Center. She has been in this role since August 2018 and provides leadership over the GLA Care in The Community (CITC) program as the GLA National Transformation Lead for Community Care Network (CCN) implementation.** She manages the daily operational functions in a service line consisting of administrative and clinical staff that manage all referrals to VA community care. **She is the lead physician for implementation of the National Operating Model and the realignment of Community Care under the clinical leadership of the Chief of Staff's office at GLA VA. In her role, she has also served as the Co-Chair of the VISN22 Community Care Oversight Council in FY2019, representing 11 VA medical centers.**

Dr. Basu is board certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (ABPMR) and Electrodiagnostic Medicine (ABEM). She is part of the faculty for UCLA/VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System Residency Program and **serves as the Assistant Clinical Professor for UCLA Department of Medicine.** Dr. Basu has previously served as the Acting Assistant Chief for the Department of PM&R at GLA VA and Specialty Care Access Lead Physician. **Her primary passion is teaching the residents and medical students. Her research focus is Carpal Tunnel Syndrome ultrasound guided invasive treatment and the quality of electrodiagnostic studies.**

## Questions

- 1) I've been hearing a lot from the field about expectations as we re-engage/open...Will more procedures and surgeries be sent out to the community with growing pending cases inside VA? Or will the community have the same struggles keeping up?
- 2) Do you think the community will be able to uphold the same safety standards as VA when reopening? Is there any way to keep track of that?
- 3) I have had a lot of viewers ask about expectations post COVID. Unlike VA, in the community, many physicians (proceduralists), nurses, other allied health workers have been furloughed, had pay cuts or even been laid off. How will this/could this affect us inside VA?
- 4) What are some of the challenges in coordinating care within the community for our Veterans now?
- 5) Sunny Spots/Bright news to share with guests///

## Additional Question (if time allows)

How does COVID care in the community compare to what VA is doing?