

Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.

In December 2015, Dr. Raul Pino was appointed Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) by Governor Dannel P. Malloy. Previously he served as Deputy Commissioner under the leadership of DPH Commissioner Dr. Jewel Mullen. He brings considerable public health, administrative, and community health expertise acquired over nearly two decades of experience in state, municipal and community public health agencies.

Prior to his appointment as DPH Deputy Commissioner in June 2015, Dr. Pino served the City of Hartford as Director and Assistant Director of the city's Department of Health & Human Services. In these positions, he managed the department's budget and oversaw labor relations, public health preparedness, code enforcement and the department's management team.

Previously he was an epidemiologist for DPH's Sexually Transmitted Diseases Control Program, and worked at the Institute for Community Research, Hispanic Health Council and Hartford Hospital. He is a member of the American Public Health Association and National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse. Dr. Pino graduated from the University of Havana with a Doctorate in Medicine and the UCONN School of Medicine with Master of Public Health (MPH) degree.

Margaret M. Chaplin, MD

Dr. Margaret Chaplin received her undergraduate degree in Biology from Swarthmore College and her medical degree from Harvard Medical School. She completed her internship at Columbia University and her psychiatry residency at the University of Massachusetts. She then practiced Community Psychiatry in Massachusetts, and Washington State before coming to Community Mental Health Affiliates (CMHA) in New Britain Connecticut in 1997. Compelled by the impact of dual diagnosis on the lives of her patients, she became board certified by the American Board of Addiction Medicine in 2010. She was appointed to the community faculty at the University of Connecticut in 2014. She has spoken about addiction at local high schools, and has published peer reviewed papers on ADHD and addiction as well as on the use of Medication Assisted Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders. In the fall of 2016, she presented on the Opioid Crisis and on the use of Benzodiazepines in Community Mental Health Centers at the Institute for Psychiatric Services of the American Psychiatric Association. Currently she serves as a mentor for the Providers Clinical Support Services-Medication Assisted Treatment (PCSS-MAT) program and continues to practice Psychiatry and Addiction Medicine at CMHA.

Declan T. Barry, Ph.D.

Dr. Barry is a clinical psychologist and Associate Professor in the Psychiatry Department at Yale Medical School. He is Director of the Pain Treatment Services at the APT Foundation, a not-for-profit community based organization in New Haven, CT that provides treatment to individuals with opioid use disorder. Dr. Barry's research is aimed at: (1) developing and evaluating treatments for patients with co-occurring opioid use disorder (e.g., prescription opioids, heroin) and chronic pain and (2) examining the role of sociocultural factors in the occurrence and treatment of addictions and chronic pain. He is Associate Editor of the Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health.

Adam L. Seidner, MD, MPH

Adam L. Seidner, MD, MPH is the Global Medical Director at Travelers Insurance Company in Hartford, Connecticut. Since 1997 he has been responsible for technology assessment, pharmacy and network development, quality improvement as well as establishing medical policies.

He received his medical degree from the State University of New York at Syracuse. He completed residencies and is board certified in Occupational & Environmental Medicine and Family Medicine. He has also received a Master of Public Health degree from study at the University of Connecticut.

Dr. Seidner has filed a number of U.S. Patents as well as earned numerous honors and awards throughout his career such as the Delta Omega National Honor Society, Secretary of State's Public Service Award, ACOEM Research Award, AMA Physician Recognition Award, and the AAFP Family Practice Teaching Appreciation Certificate.

Dwight Ligham, MD

Dr. Ligham has a master's degree in counseling and has ten years of experience working with the disabled in the capacity of vocational and functional rehabilitation prior to his attending medical school. He graduated from medical school cum laude in 1992 and completed his anesthesiology and pain medicine subspecialty training at Yale University. He is board certified in both anesthesiology and in Pain Management.

Dr. Ligham has earned numerous awards including the prestigious Merck Award for academic excellence. He was inducted into the medical honor society, AOA while a medical student. Dr. Ligham has been published in various subjects in pain medicine and has a special interest in spine related pain and the various forms of neuropathic pain including causalgia and Complex Regional Pain Syndrome.

He is interested in the relationship between pain, disability and vocational rehabilitation potential. Dr. Ligham blends these interests clinically through physician performed functional capacity evaluations which synthesize physical data with the medical history to develop realistic vocational goals in sustainable vocational settings.

Dr. Ligham is on staff at both Yale Hew Haven Hospital and at Middlesex Hospital. He has held leadership positions as a member of the Medical Board at the Hamden Surgery Center and as the Pain Management Section Chief at the Hospital of St. Raphael in New Haven, CT.

Dr. Ligham is an assistant Clinical Professor at Quinnipiac University Frank H. Netter School of Medicine.

Michael Erdil, MD, FACOEM

Michael Erdil, MD, FACOEM, is a physician with Occupational and Environmental Health Network in Marlborough MA; and an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Connecticut Health Center in the Department of Internal Medicine, Section of Occupational Medicine. Dr. Erdil is Board Certified in Occupational and Environmental Medicine, and a Fellow of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. Dr. Erdil served as a reviewer for the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research Acute Low Back Problems in Adults 1994; and the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine Occupational Medicine Practice Guidelines 1st edition 1997. Dr. Erdil also serves on the Editorial Advisory Board for the Official Disability Guidelines Treatment in Workers Comp. Dr. Erdil has co-authored several publications, including Cumulative Trauma Disorders of the Upper Extremity, and Biomechanics of Manual Material Handling and Low Back Pain for Zenz' Occupational Medicine Mosby; Cumulative Trauma Disorders: Prevention, Evaluation, and Treatment Van Nostrand Reinhold; the Health Effects Section of the Preamble to the Proposed OSHA Ergonomics Rule 1999, a chapter on Medications and Return to Work for the AMA Physician's Guide to Return to Work (1st ed), and has recently joined UpToDate to author the Occupational Low Back Pain topic reviews. Dr. Erdil has extensively lectured on work-related disorders including AOHC, NECOEM, WOEMA, SEAK, Federal Occupational Health Conference, MA Medical Society Opioid Forum, Harvard School of Public Health, UMass Medical Center, UConn Health Center and others. Dr. Erdil was the recipient in 2016 of the Harriett Hardy Award from the New England College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine for contributions to the field of occupational medicine.

Thomas ST. Louis, MSPH

Tom is an Epidemiologist with the Connecticut Department of Public Health's Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment Program, where he has served as the Supervisor of the Occupational Health Program for almost 15 years.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physiology and Neurobiology from the University of Connecticut and a Master's Degree in Epidemiology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Tom began his career as a microbiologist and then spent several years as a researcher and epidemiologist in the pharmaceutical industry before joining public service in 2002.

William C. Becker, MD

William C. Becker, MD: Core Investigator, Pain Research, Informatics, Multi-morbidities & Education (PRIME) Center of Innovation, VA Connecticut Healthcare System; Assistant Professor, Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Becker is a general internist additionally trained in addiction medicine and pain management who co-directs the Integrated Pain Clinic and Opioid Reassessment Clinic at VA Connecticut and co-chairs Yale School of Medicine's Pain Curriculum Committee. Dr. Becker's VA and PCORI-funded clinical research uses observational and experimental methods to examine and improve the quality of chronic pain treatment in primary care, particularly at the interface between high impact chronic pain and opioid use disorder. Increasingly, his work focuses on de-implementing high-dose, long-term opioid therapy and improving patient's access to and use of non-pharmacologic pain treatments.

Anthony Lisi, DC

Anthony Lisi is the Director of Chiropractic Services for the Veterans Health Administration (VA). In this role he oversees national programmatic issues related to the integration of chiropractic services into the VA healthcare system, and has recently coordinated the implementation of the first federally-funded residency training program for chiropractors. Previously, in 2004 he became the first chiropractor appointed to the medical staff of the VA Connecticut Healthcare System, where he developed processes for integrating hospital-based clinical services and interprofessional clinical education for CAM and traditional medical trainees. He is currently the Chiropractic Section Chief at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System, Assistant Clinical Professor at the Yale Center for Medical Informatics, and Associate Professor of Clinical Sciences at the University of Bridgeport College of Chiropractic. He has authored over 40 peer-reviewed publications

on topics including low back pain management, spinal manipulation, interprofessional education, and chiropractic services.

Kyle Zimmer Jr, LAP-C

Kyle is employed at the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 478 as the Director of Health & Safety and Members Assistance Program Director. He started his career as the Health and Safety Instructor for the Operating Engineers training school in Meriden CT, where he would routinely provide safety and health training for nearly 3,000 members. Kyle is certified as an OSHA Safety and Health specialist. Kyle is qualified to train OSHA safety and health related topics and he is also an instructor for the IUOE National Training Fund in West Virginia where he co-instructs training courses for professional development for more than 400 active instructors.

Kyle has been the eminence of Local 478's Members Assistance Program (MAP), a peer to peer program, which helps assist union members in their families through lifestyle issues. Kyle serves on the following committees, CCIA Safety Committee, The AFL-CIO Safety Committee, the State of Connecticut Emergency Response Commission and serves as the co-chair of the Labor Relations Committee on behalf of Facing Addiction www.facingaddiction.com.

Mellisa Pensa, MD, MPH

Mellisa Pensa, MD, MPH earned her medical degree from the University of Connecticut and completed training and family medicine and preventive medicine at Oregon Health and Sciences University. She earned her Masters of Public Health in Health Policy from Portland State University. She practiced family medicine and worked as a clinical epidemiologist for the Center for Evidence-based Policy prior to beginning a fellowship in Occupational and Environmental Medicine at Yale.

As a preventive medicine resident in Oregon, Mellisa helped to raise awareness of the epidemic of prescription opioid overdose deaths. In her practice of family medicine, she created clinic-level policy to enhance safe opioid prescribing. As a fellow in Occupational and Environmental Medicine, she is researching opioid prescription patterns in working cohorts. She is interested in the impact of opioid prescribing on worker safety, health, and productivity.