

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Ileana Arias, PhD



Dr. Ileana Arias serves as Principal Deputy Director for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). In this role, Dr. Arias serves as the principal advisor to the Director of CDC on all scientific and programmatic activities of CDC/ATSDR. Dr. Arias is responsible for advising the Director in all executive responsibilities and shaping the policies and plans for CDC/ATSDR.

Before becoming Principal Deputy Director, Dr. Arias was the Director of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC), where she worked to prevent injuries and violence and reduce their consequences. Dr. Arias began her career as a research associate at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. She then joined the University of Georgia in Athens as an assistant professor. Prior to joining CDC in 2000, Dr. Arias was the Director of Clinical Training and Professor of Clinical Psychology at the University of Georgia.

Dr. Arias holds a bachelor's degree from Barnard College. She earned her master's degree and PhD, both in psychology, from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. She speaks four languages, including German, French, and Spanish.

Paula A. Johnson, MD, MPH



Dr. Paula A. Johnson is the Executive Director of the Connors Center for Women's Health and Gender Biology and Chief of the Division of Women's Health at Brigham and Women's Hospital. An internationally recognized cardiologist, she is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Johnson's vision for achieving sustainable improvement in women's health is reflected in the Connors Center's unique interdisciplinary approach, which encompasses discovering how disease is expressed differently in women and men, integrating leading-edge research about women's health into the delivery of care, influencing health policy, addressing the health of women globally, and training the next generation of leaders in the field of women's health.

Dr. Johnson currently serves as Commissioner and Chair of the Board of the Boston Public Health Commission, as well as serving on numerous national and international committees. She served on the landmark Institute of Medicine (IOM) Committee on Preventive Services for Women and as a member of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Advisory Committee on Research on Women's Health. Dr. Johnson is featured as a national leader in medicine by the National Library of Medicine.

Dr. Johnson is a graduate of Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges. She earned her medical degree and master's degree in public health from Harvard University.