The 2020 Beatrice Renfield Lecture in Research Nursing

Diversity and Inclusion in Clinical Research

Featuring Rear Admiral Sylvia Trent-Adams, PhD, RN, FAAN

Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2020
Time: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Lecture
7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Reception

Location: Carson Family Auditorium
The Rockefeller University
York Avenue at 66th Street

The Heilbrunn Family Center for Research Nursing at The Rockefeller University is pleased to present the 2020 Beatrice Renfield Lecture, which features Rear Admiral Sylvia Trent-Adams. A rear admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, Trent-Adams has served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health since January 2019. In this capacity, she shares responsibility with the Assistant Secretary for Health for policy and program development, as well as determining and setting legislative and program priorities covering the full range of public health activities within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health. From October 2015 through December 2018, she served as Deputy Surgeon General of the United States.

RADM Trent-Adams has held several leadership positions at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, working to improve access to care for poor and underserved communities. As both a clinician and administrator, she has had a direct impact on building systems of care to improve public health for marginalized populations, domestically as well as internationally. She has received numerous awards for her leadership and contributions to the field of nursing and public health, including the American Academy of Nursing’s Civitas Award and the International Red Cross Florence Nightingale Medal, the highest international honor bestowed upon a nurse. In 2018, RADM Trent-Adams’s lifelong service was recognized with her election to the National Academy of Medicine and the National Academies of Practice.

At the 2020 Beatrice Renfield Lecture, RADM Trent-Adams will talk about improving diversity and inclusion in clinical research. She will discuss barriers to participation in clinical research as well as strategies to reach and engage poor and underserved communities. The presentation will conclude with recommendations on ways to improve participation in clinical research for vulnerable populations.

RADM Trent-Adams received a BS in nursing from Hampton University, an MS in nursing and health policy from the University of Maryland, and a PhD from the University of Maryland. She also completed two internships in the U.S. Senate, where she focused on the prospective payment system for skilled nursing facilities and scope of practice for nurses and psychologists.


This lecture series is made possible by the generosity of The Beatrice Renfield Foundation. It is co-hosted by The Rockefeller University’s Heilbrunn Family Center for Research Nursing and the Women & Science Initiative.

For more information and to register for the live program or the webcast, please visit http://heilbrunnfamily.rucares.org/Beatrice-Renfield-Lectureship-2020