



## FIRST FEMALE DIRECTOR OF US NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE APPOINTED

Cancer experts are applauding President Biden's reported decision to appoint Monica M. Bertagnolli, MD, as director of the National Cancer Institute. The appointment would make her the first woman to lead the NCI, the agency that funds the majority of cancer research in the United States.

"An accomplished cancer surgeon and researcher with deep expertise in community-based cancer research, Dr. Bertagnolli has the knowledge, passion, and skillset to successfully lead the nation's top federal cancer research agency and the wider US cancer research enterprise," commented ASCO's Chief Executive Officer Clifford A. Hudis, MD.<sup>1</sup>

Continue reading [here](#).

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

*Conversations with the Academy*  
webinar: A Reflection • P. 2

---

Is Monkeypox the Next  
Pandemic? • P. 3

---

News from the ICH • P. 3

---

Is It Time to Abandon the Impact  
Factor? • P.4

---

Leadership in Medical Affairs:  
A Testimonial • P. 4

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# CONVERSATIONS WITH THE ACADEMY WEBINAR RECAP

The IFAPP Academy was proud to host esteemed speakers Paul Beninger and Antonio Tataranni for its most recent *Conversations with the Academy* webinar. Below is an excerpt of a summary written about the successful webinar, as well as a link to a full recording of it.

"Reflecting on the myriad factors that could contribute to a sense of purpose and the formation of self-identity – and pride – as professionals in the medical landscape, **Paul Beninger**, Associate Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine, at Tufts University School of Medicine, and **Antonio Tataranni**, Chief Medical Officer at PepsiCo, explored the consequential influences on their professional choices and career path progression.

With their expansive expertise and experience, Paul and Antonio brought a unique confluence of purposeful professionalism, intersecting with entrepreneurship, to this intriguing conversation. The mantra they epitomized: follow one's passion with authenticity, minding the inevitable transitions; be clear on what we are after, comfortable in our professional identities; seek out mentors, crucial to recenter, rechallenge, or obtain a different perspective.

Purpose is born out of a combination of life experiences, education, and aspirations, but also where we come from, what we know, what has been important in our early lives. And, hopefully, education aligns with one's innate sense of purpose. An appreciation of the scale and scope of its contribution to knowledge and to public health and human welfare, is mind-opening."

To view the recorded webinar, click [here](#).



## *Conversations with the Academy*

Presents:

## Exploring Horizons with Professional Identity and Sense of Purpose in Medicines Development

July 21, 2022

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM EDT



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# IS MONKEYPOX THE NEXT PANDEMIC?

The so-called “monkeypox” is spreading, and several countries are starting to implement measures to limit the spread while also offering therapies to infected individuals. In fact, monkeypox has been declared by the US Department of Health and Human Services to be a public health emergency.

Fortunately, two weapons to fight this virus are already available: a vaccine (the Jynneos vaccine) which is now studied as intradermal injection, and an antiviral drug, known as TPOXX, available to treat the most severe cases of monkeypox.

## NEWS FROM THE ICH



“US Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra declared monkeypox a public health emergency. There have been more than 6600 reported cases of monkeypox in the United States, up from fewer than 5000 cases reported last week.”<sup>2</sup>

Continue reading [here](#).

The International Council for Harmonization (ICH) issued a public consultation of the M12 guideline entitled “DRUG INTERACTION STUDIES”. Medical Affairs professionals are familiar with the critical dilemma they may face when in the development of a NCE in which they must consider the implementation of interaction studies. This is an ongoing focus, as the development of any new drug following the approval of any NCE may create the need for additional interaction studies.

The guideline recommends maintaining a consistent approach in designing, conducting, and interpreting enzyme- or transporter-mediated in vitro and clinical pharmacokinetic drug-drug interaction (DDI) studies during the development of a therapeutic product.

Read the draft guideline [here](#).

# IS IT TIME TO ABANDON THE IMPACT FACTOR?

All professionals active in the scientific arena are familiar with the 'Impact Factor', an indicator of the relevance of publications, which considers the number of citations every published paper gets in the two years following its publication. But should we be evaluating scientific contributions in this way?

The wave of criticism of the Impact Factor started ten years ago with the Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA), a document created in 2012 at the annual meeting of the American Society for Cell Biology. The declaration aims to "improve the ways in which researchers and the outputs of scholarly research are evaluated" and specifically calls for doing away with Impact Factors as a way to judge the merit of academics.<sup>3</sup> Continue reading [here](#).



## LEADERSHIP IN MEDICAL AFFAIRS: A TESTIMONIAL

The following testimonial about the importance of the leadership module was prepared by Dr. Gustavo Kesselring, a senior member of the Academy Board. The leadership module is offered not only to all alumni of the Academy but also to professionals in Medical Affairs, and not only helps shape you as a leader, but helps you define your professional identity as a member of the scientific community.

"IFAPP Academy has partnered with Tufts University CSDD and developed a world class online course to provide you with knowledge and insight to impact strategic decision-making within your organization. In addition, through the program's interactive online setting, you will interact and learn from industry leaders and other global biomedical professionals building and expanding your network with faculty and peers across the industry via discussion forums, lectures, and webinars." [Click here to enroll now.](#)

## REFERENCES

1. Worcester, S., MA. (2022, July 25). First Woman Director of the US National Cancer Institute. Medscape. [https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/977866?src=WNL\\_mdpls\\_220729\\_mscpedit\\_honc&uac=317920HV&spon=7&impID=4476878](https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/977866?src=WNL_mdpls_220729_mscpedit_honc&uac=317920HV&spon=7&impID=4476878)
2. White House Declares Monkeypox a Public Health Emergency. (2022, August 4). Medscape. [https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/978645?src=wnl\\_newsart\\_220804\\_MSCPEDIT\\_monkeypox&uac=367853HG&impID=4498223](https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/978645?src=wnl_newsart_220804_MSCPEDIT_monkeypox&uac=367853HG&impID=4498223)
3. Woolston, C. (2021, July 15). University Drops Impact Factor. Nature. <https://media.nature.com/original/magazine-assets/d41586-021-01759-5/d41586-021-01759-5.pdf>

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