

Evelyn Cook, R.N., C.I.C.

Evelyn Cook is the Associate Director of SPICE. Formerly a Nurse Clinician and Nurse Liaison with the Duke Infection Control Outreach Network (DICON) at Duke University Medical Center, Evelyn has served as an infection prevention and control consultant in many NC facilities. She has assisted long-term care facilities in writing and developing infection prevention risk assessments, infection prevention plans and policies specific to the long-term care setting. Ms. Cook, who is also a Registered Nurse and has National Board Certification in Infection Control, is active in several professional organizations including North Carolina Association for Professionals in Infection Control (President 2005-06), National Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. She was named Practitioner of the Year in 2002 by the North Carolina Association of Professionals in Infection Control.

Becky Brooks, R.N., B.S.N., C.I.C.

Becky Brooks is an Infection Prevention Consultant with NC SPICE. Previously, Becky worked for 36 years at UNC Healthcare with the last 16 years in Infection Control and Prevention. Prior to that she worked in Surgical Services as an Operating Room Nurse. Becky enjoys providing education and training as she visits healthcare facilities to conduct infection prevention and control assessments in her current role. Becky earned her BSN at UNC-Chapel Hill School of Nursing and is Board Certified in Infection Control and Prevention.

Mallory McClester Brown, M.D.

Dr. McClester Brown is an Assistant Professor at the UNC School of Medicine Department of Family Medicine. Her predominant clinical focus is caring for adults 65 and older. Dr. McClester Brown graduated with honors from University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in 2010 and completed her residency at UNC-CH. Dr. McClester Brown is certified in both Family Medicine and Geriatric Medicine.

David Lipton, M.S.

David Lipton is an Industrial Hygiene Consultant for NC Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch. He received his MS in Industrial Hygiene and Safety at University of Washington School of Public Health and Community Medicine in 1986 and has been a Certified Industrial Hygienist since 1990. He has served as a Health Compliance Officer, North Carolina Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Division.

Philip D. Sloane, M.D., M.P.H.

Philip D. Sloane is the Elizabeth and Oscar Goodwin Distinguished Professor of Family Medicine University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH). Dr. Sloane, a geriatrician and health services researcher, has conducted numerous studies, including clinical trials, in long-term care settings. A recipient of the Pioneer Award from the Alzheimer's Association and of an Academic Leadership Award from the National Institute on Aging, he has served as a nursing home medical director, as national advisor on dementia care for a nursing home chain, as a provider and consultant on quality to a PACE program, and on the Board of Directors of the American Geriatrics Society. Dr. Sloane co-directs the Collaborative Studies of Long-Term Care (CS-LTC), a program of research that, since 1996, has conducted over 40 funded studies in long-term care settings. His current research involves studies of infection management and antibiotic stewardship in long-term care, development of educational materials to help family caregivers of persons with dementia manage medical symptoms, and use of light as therapy for sleep disorders in older persons.

Erica Pettigrew M.D., J.D., M.P.H.

Dr. Erica Pettigrew is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at UNC-CH. She is the Medical Director of the Orange County Health Department and the Medical Director of Occupational Health at UNC Health Care. She graduated from UNC-CH School of Medicine, and completed her residency at Oregon Health Science University Hospital. Dr. Pettigrew is board certified in Family Medicine as well as Public Health and General Preventive Medicine.

Lauren DiBiase, M.S., C.I.C.

Lauren DiBiase serves as Associate Director of the Infection Prevention Department and is the Public Health Epidemiologist for UNC Health. She received her M.S. in Epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health and her B.S. in Biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Previously, she worked as a Research Associate at the University of North Carolina Center for Public Health Preparedness and as a City Research Scientist at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

William A. Rutala, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Dr. Bill Rutala is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of North Carolina's School of Medicine and serves as the Director and co-founder of the Statewide Program for Infection Control and Epidemiology at the UNC School of Medicine. In 2017, after 38 years, Dr. Rutala retired from his position as Director of Hospital Epidemiology, Occupational Health, and Safety Program at the University of North Carolina Hospitals. He has more than 600 publications (peer-review articles, books, book chapters, brief reports) in the fields of disinfection and sterilization to include several guidelines (e.g., CDC Guideline for Disinfection and Sterilization in Healthcare Facilities), and the epidemiology and prevention of healthcare-associated infections. Dr. Rutala earned his Bachelor of Science degree in science from Rutgers University, his master's degree in microbiology from the University of Tennessee, and both his master's in public health and doctorate in microbiology from the University of North Carolina School of Public Health. He is certified in Infection control and a retired Colonel in the USAR.

Donna Rutala, B.S.N., J.D.

Donna Rutala is a litigation attorney with the firm of Young Moore and Henderson, P.A. in Raleigh, North Carolina. For 30 years she has defended health care providers when they are sued. She received her B.S. in nursing from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her J.D. from North Carolina Central University School of Law. She has a unique combination of experience, having previously worked as an infection control professional and as a claims manager at the UNC Health Care System.

Brittany Levine, J.D.

An attorney at Young Moore, Brittany focuses her practice on complex civil litigation and health care compliance. Brittany advises and defends providers and professionals of long term care facilities as well as clients in the areas of business litigation, transportation, and eminent domain. In addition to her litigation practice, Brittany counsels clients in matters involving healthcare privacy, breach notification and reporting requirements, and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliance. She also serves as a member of Young Moore's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Brittany earned her BA in political science from American University and her law degree magna cum laude from Campbell Law School.

Emily Berns, MPH, RN

Emily Berns is an Infection Preventionist with the Communicable Disease Branch within the North Carolina Division of Public Health, assisting with the COVID-19 response and Group A Strep surveillance. She received her MPH from the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health and her BSN from the University of Miami. She worked as an acute care nurse before entering the field of public health.

Taylor Breeyear, MPH, BSN, RN, CIC

Taylor is an Infection Preventionist with the Surveillance for Healthcare-Associated and Resistant Pathogens Patient Safety (SHARPPS) Program with the North Carolina Division of Public Health (NC DPH). She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Appalachian State University and worked as a critical care nurse before obtaining a Master of Public Health degree from UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. Taylor worked as an Infection Preventionist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and obtained her certification in Infection Control in 2021. She joined the North Carolina Division of Public Health this past July.