

UPSURGE
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Inflection Point Healthcare Summit

An immersive, full-day forum designed to bridge the gap between emerging policy and applied technology in care delivery

June 4, 2026 | Baltimore, MD

Inflection Point Healthcare Summit



**The delivery of healthcare is at an inflection point
— and so are we.**

Maryland is running one of the most consequential healthcare experiments in the country. Through its all-payer system and Total Cost of Care model, the state has aligned incentives around quality and population health in ways most others have not. This creates real pressure to innovate, and an opening for the people and companies that can help health systems deliver better care outcomes. This is the moment the Inflection Point Healthcare Summit was built for.

This full-day forum brings together the leaders shaping the future of care across hospital networks, government, academia, technology, insurance, and investment. The speakers represent those setting policy, running institutions, founding companies, and building the tools that will determine whether Maryland's head start becomes lasting change.

This is more than a convening. It's a statement about what people across sectors can build together here — and an invitation to help build it. Whether you lead a health system, shape policy, found companies, invest in what comes next, or want to find where you fit in this, the work of this day is the same: to meet this moment, and build what comes next.

AGENDA

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

BREAKFAST

8:30 AM - 9:50 AM

SETTING THE STAGE: A UNIQUE MARYLAND POLICY ENVIRONMENT

8:30 AM - 8:35 AM

OPENING

Mohan Suntha, MD, MBA – President & CEO, UMMS

8:35 AM - 9:00 AM | Session 01

FIRESIDE CHAT - THE BIG PICTURE / CMS PERSPECTIVE

Moderator: Hemi Tewarson, JD, MPH – Executive Director, National Academy for State Health Policy

Abe Sutton, JD – Director, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI); Deputy Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

9:05 AM - 9:50 AM | Session 02

USING POLICY TO DRIVE CONSTRUCTIVE CHANGE IN MARYLAND

Moderator: Ellen Kelsay – President & CEO of Business Group on Health

Abid Khan, DrPH – Senior Technical Advisor for the AHEAD model, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation
Jon Kromm, PhD – Executive Director, HSCRC (Health Services Cost Review Commission)

9:50 AM - 10:15 AM

BREAK

10:15 AM - 12:10PM

ANCHOR INSTITUTION PERSPECTIVES IN MARYLAND

10:15 AM - 10:40 AM | Session 03

IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES IN THE CITY OF BALTIMORE THROUGH INNOVATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Gene Ransom III – CEO, MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society

Kevin W. Sowers, MSN, RN, FAAN – President, Johns Hopkins Health System

10:45 AM-11:10AM | Session 04

FROM ENCOUNTERS TO ECOSYSTEMS: REIMAGINING CARE DELIVERY IN THE AHEAD ERA

Tressa Springmann – Senior Vice President and Chief Information and Digital Officer, LifeBridge Health

Jennifer Nickoles – President and CEO, LifeBridge Health

AGENDA CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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11:15 AM - 11:40 PM | Session 05

CAREFIRST BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD: INNOVATION & THE PATH AHEAD

Moderator: Mack McGee – Chief Marketing Officer, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield

Dan Zohorsky – Managing Partner, Healthworx

Laura Herrera Scott, MD, MPH – Chief Medical Officer, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield

11:45 AM - 12:10 PM | Session 06

THE NEXT CHAPTER: SCALING OUTCOMES AND INTEGRATION

Moderator: Matthew Clark – Senior Vice President, Marketing and Communications

Mark Shaver – Chief Strategy Officer, University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS)

Tiffany M. Wiggins, MD, MPH, FACOG – Vice President, Chief Health Impact Officer

Warren D'Souza, PhD, MBA – Senior Vice President and Chief Innovation Officer

Brad Maron, MD – Director, Pulmonary Hypertension Program; Co-Director of the University of Maryland-Institute for Health Computing (UM-IHC)

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM

LUNCH

1:15 PM - 4:45 PM

APPLIED INNOVATION + ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN CARE DELIVERY

1:15 PM - 1:20 PM | AFTERNOON REMARKS

Chris Brandt – Managing Director, Audacious Capital

1:20 PM - 1:35 PM | SESSION 07

JHU DATA SCIENCE AND AI INSTITUTE

Elizabeth Smyth – Executive Director, Johns Hopkins University DSAI

1:35 PM - 2:05 PM | SESSION 08

LEADERS IN HEALTHCARE AI

Myra Norton, MA, MS – Head of Innovation, Johns Hopkins Technology Ventures

Rushika Fernandopulle, MD – CEO, Liza Health

Nick Culbertson – Managing Director, Techstars AI Health Baltimore

Suchi Saria, PhD – CEO, Bayesian Health; John C. Malone Professor of Computer Science, Health Policy, and Statistics, Johns Hopkins University

AGENDA CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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2:10PM - 2:40PM | SESSION 09

PATIENT EXPERIENCE BY DESIGN: MEETING THE CONSUMER WHERE THEY ARE

Kristen Valdes – CEO, b.Well Connected Health

John Lock – SVP & Chief Digital Transformation Officer, MedStar Health

2:40 PM - 3:10 PM

AFTERNOON BREAK

3:10 PM - 3:40 PM | SESSION 10

KAISER PERMANENTE CLINICAL APPLICATIONS OF AGENTIC AI

Moderator: Navid Farzad, MBA – Managing Partner, Frist Cressey Ventures

Sos Mboijana, MD – Associate Chief Medical Information/AI Officer, Kaiser Permanente

3:45 PM - 4:10 PM | SESSION 11

TEDCO AND MARYLAND-BASED INNOVATORS

Moderator: Fagan Harris - President & CEO, Abell Foundation

Todd Walrath – CEO, ShiftMed

Scott Rifkin, MD – Founder and Executive Chairman, Real Time Medical Systems

Justin Amoyal – CEO & Co-Founder, Impruvon

4:15 PM - 4:45 PM | SESSION 12

MARYLAND'S HEALTH DATA UTILITY- INNOVATIONS FOR CLINICAL CARE AND POPULATION INSIGHT

Craig Behm – President and CEO, CRISP

Ryan Bramble – Chief Operating Officer, CRISP

Alex Rice – Account Executive, Databricks

Arif Abdul-Kareem – National Director of Field Engineering, Databricks

4:50 PM - 5:20 PM

VISION FOR A WORLD-LEADING HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Introduction: Mohan Suntha, MD, MBA – President & CEO, UMMS

Moderator: Ellen Kelsay – President & CEO of Business Group on Health

Meena Seshamani, MD, PhD – Secretary, Maryland Department of Health

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

NETWORKING RECEPTION

SPEAKERS



Arif Abdul-Kareem
National Director of Field Engineering,
Databricks



Justin Amoyal
CEO & Co-Founder,
Impruvon



Craig Behm
President and CEO,
Chesapeake Regional Information Systems for our Patients (CRISP)



Ryan Bramble
Chief Operating Officer,
Chesapeake Regional Information Systems for our Patients (CRISP)



Chris Brandt
Interim Leader, UpSurge
Managing Director, Audacious Capital



Matthew Clark
Senior Vice President, Marketing & Communications,
University of Maryland Medical Systems



Nick Culbertson
Managing Director,
Techstars AI Health Baltimore



Warren D'Souza, PhD, MBA
Senior Vice President and Chief Innovation Officer,
University of Maryland Medical Systems

SPEAKERS



Navid Farzad, MBA
Managing Partner,
Frist Cressey Ventures



Rushika Fernandopulle, MD
CEO,
Liza Health



Ellen Kelsay
President and CEO,
Business Group on Health



Abid Khan, DrPH
Director, Division of Multipayer Models,
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)



Jon Kromm, PhD
Executive Director,
HSCRC (Health Services Cost Review Commission)



Troy LeMaile-Stovall, MS, MBA
CEO,
TEDCO



John Lock
SVP & Chief Digital Transformation Officer,
MedStar Health



Brad Maron, MD
Director, Pulmonary Hypertension Program (UMMS)
Co-Director, University of Maryland-Institute for Health Computing

SPEAKERS



Sos Mboijana, MD
Associate Chief Medical Information/AI Officer,
Kaiser Permanente



Mack McGee
Chief Marketing Officer,
CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield



Jennifer Nickoles, MS, FACHE
President and CEO,
LifeBridge Health



Myra Norton, MA, MS
Head of Innovation,
|Johns Hopkins Technology Ventures



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CEO,
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Alex Rice
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Databricks



Scott Rifkin, MD
Founder and Executive Chairman,
Real Time Medical Systems



Suchi Saria, PhD
CEO, Bayesian Health
John C. Malone Professor of Computer Science, Health Policy,
and Statistics, Johns Hopkins University

SPEAKERS



Laura Herrera Scott, MD, MPH
Chief Medical Officer,
CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield



Meena Seshamani, MD, PhD
Secretary of Health,
State of Maryland



Mark Shaver
Chief Strategy Officer,
University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS)



Elizabeth Smyth
Executive Director,
Johns Hopkins University Data Science and AI Institute



Kevin Sowers, MSN, RN, FAAN
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Tressa Spingmann
Senior Vice President and Chief Information and Digital Officer,
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