Alicia Kiesling DNP, MS, RN, NI-BC

Healthcare Regulations Expert

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Quandary Peak Research
Lexington, KY

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Education

Doctor of Nursing Practice, Nursing Informatics
University of Maryland, Baltimore | Jul 2011

M.S. in Nursing Informatics
University of Maryland, Baltimore | Dec 2002

B.S. in Nursing
University of Kentucky | May 1994

Professional Licensure & Certifications

Registered Nurse
Kentucky Board of Nursing | License #1076166 | Active

Informatics Nurse
American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) | Certification #2004004021 | Active

BLS Provider
American Heart Association | Certification #235417840992 | Active

Academic Appointments

University of Kentucky, College of Nursing
Part-Time Instructor (DNP/MSN, BSN Programs) | Lexington, KY | Jan 2021–Present

University of Maryland, College of Nursing
Adjunct Faculty (MSN Program) | Baltimore, MD | Jan 2014–May 2021

Academic Service

University of Kentucky, College of Nursing
Member, MSN/DNP Program Committee | 2021–Present

University of Maryland, College of Nursing
Nursing Informatics Advisory Board Member | 2014–2021

University of Maryland, College of Nursing
Nursing Informatics Practicum Preceptor | 2003–2019

Professional Experience

HealtheConsulting, LLC

Founder / CEO / Consultant / Expert Witness | Lexington, KY | Jul 2020–Present

Selected Consulting & Advisory Engagements

- **USA v. NextGen & Medicalistics** | 2021–2023
  Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, District of Vermont
  Consulted on ONC certification compliance, regulatory citations, and developer conformance reporting.
- **US v. Clinovations** | 2022
  Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, District of Vermont
  Consultant on analyzing CDS build guides and ONC certification requirements
- **Huddle / Circulo Health** | 2020–2022
  Startup- Health IT SME Advisor; supported EHR compliance, HIPAA Privacy Rule compliance, interoperability/Cures Act requirements, (n, and workflow redesign.
- **CedarBridge Group** | 2020–2022
  Health IT Consultant; contributed to FEMA FireHeros grant development, policy documentation, and interoperability strategy.
- **Audacious Inquiry** | 2021–2022
  Consultant; supported Kentucky Health Information Exchange (KHIE) projects, developed regulatory whitepapers, and advised on interoperability strategy.
- **Ankura** | 2020–2022
  Consultant; authored whitepapers and provided health IT regulatory and market landscape analyses.

Professional Service

Elevation Health Consulting

Advisory Board Member | 2020–Present

- Consultant; advised on HIPAA compliance and ONC Information Blocking rules, developed HIE sharing policies, and drafted compliance guidance.

Quandary Peak Research

Healthcare Regulations Expert | Lexington, KY | 2020–Present

Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission (EHNAC)

Commissioner Ex Officio | 2017–2020

Technology Informatics Guiding Educational Reform (TIGER)

Advisory Council Member & Workgroup Lead | 2007–2014

International Council of Nurses, Bank of Nurse Experts

Informatics Domain Expert | 2006–2011

Certification Commission for Health IT (CCHIT)

Interoperability Workgroup Co-Lead | 2004–2009

Active Duty Military / Uniformed Services

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC)

- Senior Advisor, Deputy National Coordinator for Health IT (CAPT/O6) | Washington, DC | Oct 2019–Jul 2020
- Director, Health IT Certification Program & Testing Division (CAPT/O6) | Washington, DC | Apr 2018–Sep 2019
- Director, Health IT Certification Program (CAPT/O6) | Washington, DC | Sep 2014–Apr 2018
- Senior Advisor, Office of Standards & Technology (CAPT/O6) | Washington, DC | Dec 2013–Sep 2014
- Director, Office of Clinical Informatics & Deputy Director, Office of the Chief Medical Officer (CAPT/O6) Washington, DC | May 2012–Dec 2013
- Senior Program Analyst / Lead Nurse Informaticist / Acting Deputy (CDR/O5) | Washington, DC | Nov 2005–May 2012

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

- Health Informatics Specialist, Information Systems Group | Baltimore, MD | Jan 2005–Nov 2005
- Health Informatics Specialist, Office of HIPAA Standards / Consolidated Health Informatics (LCDR/O4) Baltimore, MD | Aug 2003–Jan 2005

National Institutes of Health (NIH), Clinical Center

- Senior Clinical Nurse (LT/O3), Hematology / Bone Marrow Transplant Unit | Bethesda, MD | Jul 1999–Aug 2003

Department of the Navy, National Naval Medical Center

- Staff Nurse (LTJG/O2), High Risk Labor & Delivery | Bethesda, MD | Mar 1997–Jun 1999
- Staff Nurse, High Risk Antepartum / Mother-Baby Unit | Bethesda, MD | Sep 1996–Feb 1997
- Staff Nurse (ENS/O1), Acute Care / Internal Medicine / Infectious Diseases Unit | Bethesda, MD | Aug 1994–Aug 1996
- Direct Commission Training (ENS/O1) | Newport, RI | Jun 1994–Aug 1994

Professional Memberships

- **Kentucky Nurses Association (KNA)** | Member | 2021–Present
- **American Nurses Association (ANA)** | Member | 2011–Present
- **Healthcare Information & Management Systems Society (HIMSS)** | Member | 2004–2020
- **American Nursing Informatics Association (ANIA)** | Member | 2003–Present
- **Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing** | Member | 2002–Present

Teaching

University of Kentucky, College of Nursing

- **NUR 617, Technology for Transforming Nursing & Healthcare** (Course Lead) | Summer 2026, Spring 2026, Summer 2025, Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023
- **NUR 905, Doctor of Nursing Practice Seminar** (Course Lead) | Spring 2026, Fall 2025, Spring 2025
- **NUR 366, Healthcare Systems and Informatics** (Developed & Launched Course) | Fall 2025
- **NUR 917, Technology for Transforming Nursing & Healthcare** (Course Lead) | Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Summer 2023, Spring 2023, Summer 2022, Spring 2022, Summer 2021, Spring 2021
- **NUR 640, Best Practices in Nursing Education: Art & Science of Teaching** (Course Development) | Spring 2024, Fall 2023
- **NUR 978, Population Health: Seminar** (Course Lead) | Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2021
- **NUR 979, Population Health: Practicum** | Fall 2023
- **NUR 778, Proseminar in Contemporary Health and Nursing Policy Issues** | Spring 2023, Fall 2022
- **NUR 919, Quality and Safety in Healthcare** | Summer 2021

University of Maryland, Baltimore

- **NUR 736, Technology Solutions for Knowledge Generation in Healthcare** | Fall 2014, Spring 2014

Journal Articles

- Handley, J. L., **Farlese, A**., Lager, S., Dhavle, A. A., Ahmad, S., Mathias, A., & Ratwani, R. M. (2025). *Meaningfully meeting the interoperability mandate: a review of the Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy Real World Testing practices*. JAMIA open, 8(3), ooaf044. https://doi.org/10.1093/jamiaopen/ooaf044
- Couch, J. & **Bradford, A**. (2008). CCHIT Certified(SM) Electronic Health Records may Reduce Malpractice Risk. Physician Insurer, Second Quarter 2008, 34-37.
- HIMSS Nursing Informatics Awareness Task Force. (2007). *An emerging giant: Nursing informatics*. Nursing Management. 38(3):38-42. Author.

Books & Book Chapters

- Marfell, J., **Farlese, A**., & Melander, S. (2025). Health Policy. In J. Giddens, Concepts for nursing practice (4th ed). Elsevier.
- Padovano, C. & **Morton, A**. (2010). *Health IT Adoption: Transforming health and care in the US*. In Nursing Informatics: Where Caring and Technology Meet. New York: Springer Publishing Co.

Other Scholarly Work

- Dhavle, A., **Farlese, A**. (2023, July). *Update: Information Blocking Enforcement Regulations Finalized*. Quandary Peak Research. https://quandarypeak.com/2023/07/take-notice-enforcement-of-information-blocking-begins/
- **Morton, A.** (2011). Examining Acceptance of an Integrated Personal Health Record (PHR). ISBN: 9781267013378. DNP Research Project, University of Maryland. ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. https://www.proquest.com/docview/904415008

Federal Government Publications

- **Morton, Alicia.** (2020-2011). Numerous HHS/ ONC Health IT Blog Posts at: https://www.healthit.gov/buzzblog/author/alicia-morton
  - Celebrating National Nurses Week: Reflections on Health Information Technology | 05/2020
  - Advancing Interoperable Social Determinants of Health Data | 12/2019
  - Nurses: The Unsung Heroes Changing Healthcare | 05/2018
  - Upgrading the Certified Health IT Product List: Understanding Corrective Action Information | 05/2016
  - Open Invitation to Submit Health IT Test Tools or Procedures | 07/2015
  - Health IT Enabled Quality Improvement: A Vision for Better Health and Health Care | 11/2014
  - UBT Program: Preparing the Health IT Leaders of Tomorrow, Today | 05/2011
- **Bradford, A**. **A.** (2003). Consolidated Health Informatics, Standard Adoption Recommendation: Nursing. Available of the Official Web Site of the President's E-Government Initiatives, Government to Business Portfolio at: http://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/omb/egov/c-3-6-chi.html
- U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT. (2014). Health IT Enabled Quality Improvement: A Vision to Achieve Better Health and Health Care. Author. https://www.healthit.gov/sites/default/files/HITEnabledQualityImprovement-111214.pdf

Presentations

- 08/2021. **Farlese, A**. Keynote: Federal Health IT Policy Changes and the Impact on KY Healthcare Providers. KY Health Information Exchange (KHIE) 2021 eHealth Summit. Virtual.
- 11/2013. K Kawamoto, T Hongsermeier, AA Boxwala; B Rhodes, **AA Morton**, J Parker, CJ Nanjo, VC Lee, BK Minton, D Sottara, HR Strasberg, S Claypool, JA Scherer, MD Pfeffer, DE Shields, KW Boone, P Haug, TM Kuhn, MC Vida, A Langhans, C Mangir, E Pupo, RF Lario, DS Shevlin, J Reider. Health eDecisions (HeD): a Public-Private Partnership to Develop and Validate Standards to Enable Clinical Decision Support at Scale. Poster presentation. The American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) Annual Symposium. Washington, DC.
- 05/2004. **Bradford, A**. Keynote: National Health IT Initiatives. American Nursing Informatics Association (ANIA) Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA.
- 01/2004. **Bradford, A**. Consolidated Health Informatics (CHI) Initiative. FACA Hearing. National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS), Subcommittee on Standards and Security. Washington, DC.
- 12/2003. **Bradford, A**. Consolidated Health Informatics (CHI) Initiative. Final Report: Nursing. FACA Hearing. National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics(NCVHS), Subcommittee on Standards and Security. Washington, DC.

Honors and Awards

- **United States Public Health Service (USPHS)**
- **Outstanding Service Medal** | 2018, 2010
- **Presidential Unit Citation** | 2015
- **Commendation Medal** | 2009, 2006

- **Outstanding Unit Citation** | 2007
- **Office of the Secretary of HHS Badge** | 2006
- **Regular Corps Ribbon** | 2006
- **Crisis Response Service Award** | 2006
- **Unit Commendation** | 2006
- **Achievement Medal** | 2004, 2000
- **National Emergency Preparedness Award** | 2004
- **Field Medical Readiness Badge** | 2004
- **Commissioned Corps Training Ribbon** | 2003
- **Unit Commendation** | 2001
- **Bicentennial Unit Commendation** | 2000
- **Sigma Theta Tau, University of Maryland Chapter** | Induction | 2002
- **U.S. Navy – U.S. Marine Corps | Meritorious Unit Commendation Medal |** 1997
- **U.S. Navy | National Defense Service Medal** | 1994

Commendations & Letters of Appreciation

- **Executive Women in Government |** Letter of Appreciation | 2018
- **U.S. Department of Justice, eClinicalWorks Investigative Team |** Perseverance Award | 2017
- **University of Maryland, School of Nursing |** Letters of Appreciation | 2013–2016
- **American Nurses Credentialing Center |** Letter of Appreciation | 2013
- **TIGER Initiative Foundation |** Letter of Appreciation | 2012
- **The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of HHS |** Secretary's Commendation | 2010
- **American College of Nurse Practitioners |** Letter of Appreciation | 2006
- **International Council of Nursing Practice |** Letter of Selection | 2006
- **National Hispanic Medical Association |** Letter of Appreciation | 2006
- **Dr. Mark McClellan, CMS Administrator |** Letter of Appreciation, Outstanding Performance | 2005
- **RADM Couig, Chief Nurse |** Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing | 2005
- **President George W. Bush |** Letter of Appreciation | 2004
- **RADM Babb, ASG, CCRF |** Letter of Appreciation | 2004
- **Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation |** Letter of Appreciation | 2004
- **National Institutes of Health (NIH) |** Letter of Appreciation, Outstanding Performance | 200

Continuing Education

NetCE (Online Training)
Technology & Innovative Teaching Strategies in Healthcare Education | Sep 2024 | 5 CE Hours

University of Kentucky, College of Nursing (Lexington, KY)
Professional Development: Pedagogy | Aug 2024 | 6 CE Hours

Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC)
2022 ONC Annual Meeting (Part 1), Washington, DC (Virtual) | Feb 2022 | 10 CE Hours

Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC)
2022 ONC Annual Meeting (Part 2), Washington, DC (Virtual) | Apr 2022 | 10 CE Hours

Kentucky Health Information Exchange (KHIE)
2021 eHealth Summit: Year of Transformation (Virtual Conference) | Aug 2021 | 7 CE Hours

Community Service

- **Lafayette High School** | Elected Member, Site Based Decision Making (SBDM) Council | 2024–Present
- **Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) of Lexington** | Volunteer | 2021–Present
- **Medical Reserve Corps, Lexington Fayette County** | Volunteer | 2020–Present
- **United States Coast Guard Academy** | Admissions Partner | 2013–Present

Litigation Consulting

- **Moschella v. Hackensack Meridian Health Hospitals Corporation, et al.** | Apr 2026–Present
  Jurisdiction: Superior Court of New Jersey, Monmouth County
  Case Number: MON-L-2347-20
  Counsel: Walsh Pizzi O'Reilly Falanga LLP
  Nature of Suit: Medical Malpractice
- **Estate of Christopher John Arroyo v. Sariye Savci, Hackensack University Medical Center** | Nov 2024–Present
  Jurisdiction: Superior Court of NJ, Essex County
  Case Number: ESX-L-7679-22
  Counsel: Walsh Pizzi O'Reilly Falanga LLP
  Nature of Suit: Medical Malpractice
- **Angela Prieto v. Rush University Medical Center** | July 2022–June 2023
  Jurisdiction: Circuit Court, Cook County Illinois
  Case Number: 18 L 003531
  Counsel: Swanson, Martin & Bell LLP
  Nature of Suit: Medical Malpractice
  Health IT System: Epic
  Expert Role: Review and provide affidavit and analysis of electronic health records, audit logs, and system configurations for the Epic EHR.
- **Masonicare Corporation v. Cerner Corporation** | Apr 2022–Dec 2022
  Jurisdiction: U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut
  Counsel: Blank Rome LLP
  Nature of Suit: Breach of Contract
  Expert Role: Providing analysis of the attempted implementation of Cerner's CommunityWorks EHR product and related software for use with Masonicare's residential living, skilled nursing, long term care, acute care and home care services; work includes review of the health IT software and services and compliance with industry standards.