

## Consuelo H. Wilkins, MD, MSCI



Dr. Wilkins is the Executive Director of the Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance, a strategic partnership between Meharry Medical College and Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She is also director of the Community-Engaged Research Core in the Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Science. She develops and supports collaborative initiatives to connect researchers across disciplines with each other and with stakeholders.

Dr. Wilkins has been widely recognized for her work in developing and implementing innovative methods of engaging patients and communities in research. She is the principal investigator of a PCORI Research Award focused on understanding the impact of patient engagement on research.

The foundation of her PCORI project is the Community Engagement Studio (CE Studio), a guided approach to patient and community engagement. This approach allows researchers to receive direct input from representative groups to frame and focus research questions, enhance study design, effectively implement protocols and disseminate research. The CE Studio uses a team approach to elicit project-specific input, which allows researchers to gain patient-centered guidance during any stage of research design or implementation.

Dr. Wilkins and her colleagues are also using the CE Studio in the PCORI-funded Mid-South Clinical Data Research Network, where she

**Executive Director, Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance**

**Associate Professor of Medicine**

**Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
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leads the stakeholder engagement team. In this role, she oversees the engagement of more than 5,000 patients and 600 clinical providers in building the infrastructure to do large-scale comparative effectiveness research.

Trained as a geriatrician, Dr. Wilkins' prior research has focused on understanding the complex intersection between cognitive impairment, frailty and depression. She has served in numerous national leadership and advisory roles including as a member of the Department of Health and Human Services Health Equity Council.

### Recent Publications:

[Wilkins CH, Spofford M, Williams N, McKeever C, et al. Community Representatives' Involvement in Clinical and Translational Science Awardee Activities. Clinical and Translational Science. 2013 Aug; 6\(4\): 292-296. DOI: 10.1111/cts.120729. PMID: PMC3884765](#)

[Wilkins, CH, Roe, CM, Morris, JC, Galvin, J E. Mild Physical Impairment Predicts Future Diagnosis of Dementia of the Alzheimer's Type. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. 2013 July; 61:1055-1059. DOI: 10.1111/jgs.12255. PMID: PMC3809089](#)

### Recent Grants:

PCORI: Wilkins, Consuelo (PI); Vanderbilt University

Improving Patient Engagement and Understanding Its Impact on Research through Community Review Boards (3/2014-2/2017)

### Recent Awards:

Recipient, Association of American Medical Colleges Learning Health System Challenge Award (2013)

Fellow, Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) (2014-2015)