

Helen DuPlessis, M.D., MPH is a pediatrician and Senior Advisor at the UCLA Center for Healthier Children Families and Communities (CHCFC), where her current work focuses on transforming the U.S. health system, particularly children's health systems. She is also committed to developing universal outcome measures and mapping systems to facilitate timely access to and use of meaningful data for planning and tracking performance at every level of the broader health system.

Dr. DuPlessis has extensive experience in policy development, program development and implementation, health care administration and quality improvement processes with particular focus on maternal and child health. She served for nearly six years as the Chief Medical Officer of LA Care Health plan, the largest Medicaid managed care plan in the country, where in addition to routine responsibilities as CMO she secured funding for innovative programs for at risk children, helped design and implement several new product lines, created a quality improvement infrastructure, and built strategic alliances with leaders at the community, state and federal level to facilitate improved access and quality care to public beneficiaries. Her earlier work as Director of Student Medical Services for the Los Angeles Unified School District, and as an administrator in the Los Angeles County Department of Health included spearheading the development of an innovative school-based health insurance outreach and enrollment program, accelerating the enrollment of nearly 100,000 low income students and families; creating the tools and processes for mapping the health needs and resources in the LAUSD; directing the Community Pediatrics program for a large segment of Los Angeles county; developing and implementing several county-wide and local community health programs including prevention and intervention services for families impacted by perinatal substance abuse, immunizations, lead screening; and contributing to state level policy development on perinatal substance abuse and EPSDT programs.

She received her undergraduate degree from USC, obtained her MD from the University of California at San Francisco, and her Masters in Public Health from UCLA. While obtaining her Masters, she also completed a fellowship in Drug Policy and Health Services Research through RAND and UCLA.