Marie A. Bernard, M.D.

Deputy Director
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Marie Bernard (she/her) serves as Deputy Director of the National Institute on Aging (NIA) at the National Institutes of Health. As NIA's senior geriatrician, she is the principal advisor to the NIA director. She also serves as the acting NIH Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity. For the Department of Health and Human Services, she has co-chaired two Healthy People 2020/2030 objectives: (1) Older Adults and (2) Dementias, including Alzheimer's Disease. Within NIH, she co-chairs the Inclusion Governance Committee that oversees inclusion in clinical research by sex and gender, race and ethnicity, and age—inclusive of pediatric and older adult subjects. She chairs the Women of Color Committee of the NIH Working Group on Women in Biomedical Careers. She also serves on the Diversity Working Group and was a founding member of the NIH Equity Committee. She has been recognized for her leadership with the 2020 NIH Director's Award for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion.

Until October 2008, Dr. Bernard was the endowed professor and founding chairman of the Donald W. Reynolds Department of Geriatric Medicine at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, and Associate Chief of Staff for Geriatrics and Extended Care at the Oklahoma City Veterans Affairs Medical Center. She has held numerous national leadership roles; lectured; and published widely in her area of research, nutrition, and function in older populations with special focus on underrepresented minorities and as related to geriatric education.

Dr. Bernard received her undergraduate education at Bryn Mawr College and her M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. She trained in internal medicine at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia, where she also served as chief resident. She has received additional training through the Association of American Medical Colleges Health Services Research Institute, the Geriatric Education Center of Pennsylvania, and the Wharton School Executive Development program.