

NKIRUKA NDU, MD, FACP, QME, CCHP-CP

Chief Medical Executive | Strategic Healthcare Leadership | Clinical Governance & Risk Management. Phone: 310-341-4539

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Physician executive with extensive leadership experience directing complex, multi-department healthcare operations. Board-Certified Internist, Fellow of the American College of Physicians (FACP), Qualified Medical Examiner (QME), and Certified Correctional Health Professional – Certified Physician (CCHP-CP).

Proven expertise in executive medical leadership, strategic planning, clinical governance, patient safety, enterprise risk management, medical-legal advisory, and operational strategy. Demonstrated success in rebuilding and scaling clinical teams, optimizing workforce models, managing budgets, developing policies, and leading multidisciplinary stakeholders to achieve measurable improvements in quality, access, and organizational performance. Mentor and resource for physicians, advanced practice providers, and healthcare staff.

CORE EXECUTIVE COMPETENCIES

- Strategic Healthcare Leadership
- Executive Medical Leadership & Clinical Governance
- Workforce Development & Talent Management
- Quality Improvement & Patient Safety
- Operational & Financial Stewardship
- Regulatory Compliance & Legal Oversight
- Multidisciplinary Collaboration & Stakeholder Engagement
- Health Systems Innovation & Informatics Support

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chief Medical Executive (CME)

Pelican Bay State Prison, California | August 2025 – Present (First 6 Months)

- Provide executive leadership for complex healthcare operations across multiple departments, ensuring high-quality patient care, regulatory compliance, and operational efficiency.
- Serve as a senior medical advisor supporting clinical governance, patient safety, regulatory compliance, and ethical standards.
- Lead strategic initiatives to optimize healthcare delivery, staffing models, work force performance, and access to care in a resource-constrained environment.

- Participate in executive-level budgetary planning and resource allocation, balancing clinical needs with fiscal constraints.
- Oversee recruitment, credentialing, and performance evaluation of physicians and advanced practice providers to strengthen workforce capacity.
- Drive policy development and implementation to align clinical practices with regulatory requirements and organizational priorities.
- Mentor physicians, advanced practice providers, and interdisciplinary teams, fostering professional development and leadership capacity.

Key Achievements

- Inherited a critical staffing and leadership gap at PBSP, with no CME or Chief Physician & Surgeon (CPS) for two years, and heavy reliance on high-cost registry providers.
- Implemented a strategic recruitment initiative, resulting in hiring a Chief Physician and Surgeon, two additional telehealth physicians, and two advanced care practitioners (a Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant), improving access to care, coverage, and patient outcomes.
- Strengthened departmental performance and quality oversight, achieving measurable improvements in key organizational benchmarks within the first three months.
- Enhanced team engagement and morale through visible leadership, mentorship, and structured communication.
- Mitigated regulatory and legal risk by establishing structured collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, enhancing alignment of clinical operations, policy implementation, and regulatory expectations.

Chief Physician and Surgeon

- Managed complex healthcare operations across multiple departments, including clinical services, quality improvement, staffing, and policy implementation, ensuring alignment with regulatory standards and organizational goals.
- Directed physician practice management and coordinated multidisciplinary teams to optimize patient care delivery and operational performance.
- Led quality improvement initiatives to strengthen clinical outcomes, patient safety, and compliance with institutional and regulatory requirements.
- Oversaw clinical staffing, scheduling, and performance management to ensure adequate coverage and efficient use of resources.
- Collaborated with nursing leadership, administration, custody and support services to improve care coordination and operational workflows.
- Contributed to the development, review, and implementation of clinical policies and procedures to support evidence-based practice and organizational standards.

Key Achievements:

- Increased clinical guideline adherence by 25% through structured education and monitoring.
- Streamlined workflows resulting in improved patient outcomes, optimized resource utilization, and enhanced documentation compliance.

MEDICAL-LEGAL & ADVISORY EXPERIENCE

- Independent Medical Evaluator (IME), National Practice | 2007 – Present
 - i. Perform Independent Medical Evaluation and provide legal reports
 - ii. Provide medical necessity determinations
 - iii. Medical file reviews
 - iv. Expert witness in internal medicine and correctional healthcare
- Qualified Medical Examiner (QME), California Division of Workers' Compensation | 2007 – Present
 - i. Examine injured workers in California to determine causation and apportionment.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS & TEACHING

- Guest Lecturer: "My Life after Residency: Lessons and Insights from Correctional Medicine", PGY-3 Residents, Rio Bravia Family Medicine Program, Bakersfield, CA | 10/15/2025
- Guest Lecturer (upcoming): "Medical Practice in the Prison System", PGY-2 Residents, Rio Bravia Family Medicine Program, Bakersfield, CA | 02/06/2026
- Serve as a mentor and clinical resource for physicians, advanced practice providers (Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants), nursing staff, and interdisciplinary teams in correctional healthcare settings.

GLOBAL HEALTH & MEDICAL MISSIONS

- Participated in medical missions to Puerto Rico and Nigeria, providing clinical and supporting local healthcare teams.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

- Doctor of Medicine (MD), University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria
- Diplomate, American Board of Internal Medicine (expires 12/2028)
- License, Medical Board of California – A103055 (expires 11/2027)
- Fellow, American College of Physicians (FACP)
- Qualified Medical Examiner (QME), California Division of Workers' Compensation (expires 12/2027)
- Certified Correctional Health Professional (CCHP-CP) (expires 06/2026)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Fellow, American College of Physicians
- Member, CA Society of Industrial Medicine & Surgery
- Member, American College of Correctional Physicians

REFERENCES: Available upon request