Rita Lee, MD and Micol Rothman, MD are co-founders of the UCHealth Integrated Transgender Program. This clinic is one of the only adult programs in the country that allows transgender patients to see multiple providers on the same day as part of one integrated visit. Both are passionate about making sure that patients are respected during all aspects of their visits and the effect on their vulnerable patient population has been life changing.

For Dr. Rothman, providing gender-affirming hormone care was always a part of her clinical practice. She realized early on that there were many silos when practicing care of gender non-conforming patients, and the Integrated Transgender Program represents a key example of how to break down these silos.

Dr. Lee first began to think about advocating for LGBT patients when in medical school and witnessing how the healthcare system treated them, especially during the early years of the AIDS epidemic. She then began her journey to learn more about LGBT health and to advocate for this population; through the years her determination grew as she witnessed how transgender patients had significant health disparities.

Their accomplishments have been transformative, not only for their patients, but for the greater academic and healthcare community.
Dan Matlock, MD, MPH is a truly transformative international leader in patient-centered care. He has created nationally recognized patient education and support tools which are likely to be actualized in widespread practice.

Dr. Matlock is also a caring and thoughtful provider and mentor. He speaks of his patients with the utmost respect and compassion.

As a resident and geriatric fellow, he became increasingly frustrated with what he perceived to be a health care system that did things to people rather than with or for them. He wondered why was it that informing geriatric and nursing home patients about therapies that they need was such an obstacle of the healthcare system. This led him to want to work with helping older adults make more informed and value-concordant decisions about their care.

He cites his father as his most influential role model, who taught him that it is important to love what you do and always be passionate about it. Dr. Matlock would not change anything about his career choices; for him, the journey is more important than the destination.
Cecile Rose, MD, MPH is widely regarded by patients and colleagues as a national and international expert in occupational and environmental lung diseases and an emerging spectrum of respiratory conditions known as post-9/11 Iraq and Afghanistan deployment-related lung diseases.

In 2009, Dr. Rose received a call from a soldier who had developed disabling shortness of breath following several military deployments to Iraq. Dr. Rose had never heard the term “burn pits” and knew nothing about the inhalational hazards that occur in the austere environments where we send our military men and women. She realized there was nothing known about this and embarked on a journey to address this problem. This journey has brought her national accolades and recognition.

She states her early role models were her parents. Her father grew up on an Indian reservation in western South Dakota and went to both medical school and law school and became a forensic pathologist. Her mother grew up on a farm, raised six children, then went to graduate school and earned a PhD in anthropology and women’s studies.

Professionally, Dr. Rose has been a fierce defender of women’s rights and especially passionate about gender equity in medicine.