



**DR. PONJOLA CONEY, Principal Investigator** is senior vice president for Health Affairs, Dean of the School of Medicine at Meharry Medical College, and Professor of OB/GYN. She is considered a leader in reproductive medicine who has conducted research focusing on menopausal health, contraception and assisted reproduction, and she has written over 40 publications in medical literature. The former professor and chair of the department of obstetrics and gynecology at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine also developed successful infertility treatment programs during her tenure at the University of Oklahoma, University of Nebraska and University of Arizona. Dr. Coney's appointment as Meharry's dean in July 2002 represented a significant accomplishment for women in academic medicine. Her extensive experience in curriculum development and clinical research has helped to strengthen the school's efforts to eliminate health disparities, which is key to the mission of Meharry--the nation's largest historically Black medical

school, whose graduates serve overwhelmingly in socio-economically deprived areas throughout the United States.

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