**Introduction to MyLLOC Pediatric Obesity Transcript**

Dr. Aaron Carrel:

Welcome to the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health’s learning community for pediatric obesity. We are building a community for healthcare providers across Wisconsin to participate in education, learn about best practices, and determine better ways to serve our patients. This community relies on more than just the experts in the field of pediatric obesity, it needs *you* to interact with your peers and have meaningful discussions about this important public health concern.

Obesity is still a significant health concern for all of Wisconsin. While some recent data show a plateau in the rate of overall obesity, the percentage of children with extreme obesity continues to increase each year. While our offices are a very important part of the solution, we will never cure obesity without a conscious effort to work with our communities.

At times, trying to tackle this with our young patients can seem daunting because we have so much to keep in mind, so many moving parts that go well beyond current knowledge and best practices. We have our patient whom this may elicit feelings of guilt, anger, confusion. We   
have the family for whom you may feel is positively or negatively contributing to the conversation. We also have society, which has a long-standing tradition of weight bias that plays into this as well.

As you explore this community you will meet three experts, each providing important content as well as their view of a few of the many facets that make up obesity prevention and management. We will cover lipid management, healthy life style choices, and how to have productive conversations with your patients. As you work through the case studies you will have the opportunity to discuss with others, see how others are thinking, and share your ideas.

Not all of us work within a clinical setting that has extensive support and specialty services for our patients. For example, in a rural setting the primary care provider may be the only clinician that the patient is able to see. And that’s why creating this community among providers can provide a powerful base from which practical applications can arise. Ultimately, this is our goal, to provide a community of knowledge and support that can serve as a catalyst for making positive changes in your setting and improving patient outcomes. And this community needs you. We are excited that you have joined with helping our children live happier lives now and   
in the future.

Thank you.