



Dr. Alwyn Cohall

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Alwyn T. Cohall, M.D., is a professor of Clinical Public Health and Pediatrics at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health and New York Presbyterian Hospital where he is the director of the Harlem Health Promotion Center – one of 37 Prevention Research Centers funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Additionally, Dr. Cohall is the director of Project STAY (Services to Assist Youth) – a clinical program funded by the New York State Department of Health's AIDS Institute, and the Robin Hood Foundation, which provides comprehensive medical and psychosocial services to high-risk and HIV infected youth. Further, through the Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York Presbyterian, he has developed a private practice devoted to the health and wellness of adolescents and young adults.

He received his B.A. degree from Wesleyan University (1976), and his M.D. degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry in New Jersey (1980). Following the completion of his pediatric residency at Montefiore Hospital (1983), Dr. Cohall did a fellowship in adolescent medicine at Mt. Sinai Hospital (1984). From 1984-1999, Dr. Cohall was the Chief of the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital, and was instrumental in the development of primary care clinics for adolescents in both hospital and school settings as well as specialized services for pregnant, parenting and HIV-infected teens. Additionally, Dr. Cohall has been instrumental in developing clinical care programs for youth in community centers, runaway/homeless shelters and substance abuse residential treatment facilities. He has been a consulting physician at The Door, and at Columbia University's Young Men's Clinic– nationally recognized comprehensive service programs for youth.

Dr. Cohall has published many scientific papers on various aspects of adolescent health promotion. Additionally, he has co-authored a reference book for adolescents and parents on common teen health problems, and has appeared in and co-produced several health education videos such as "Let's Talk About STD Testing for Males" distributed by ETR Associates which won the prestigious Golden Apple Award by the National Education Association, "My Life, My Decision", which was honored by the Health Improvement Institute of America. His latest venture in using media as a venue for health education is "Cells in Da' Hood", an animated vignette in which cell phones, text messaging and youth take center stage in delivering health messages.

Over the last several years, Dr. Cohall has also become increasingly interested in using the Internet as a forum for web-based health promotion. Along with other colleagues at the Mailman School of Public Health, he has developed the “GetHealthyHarlem” website, which provides health information and guidance to consumers.

He is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Society for Adolescent Health in Medicine, the American Medical Association, the National Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the American Medical Informatics Association, the Infectious Disease Society of America, and the National Chlamydia Coalition.

In recognition of his tireless efforts to improve the health of adolescents and their families, Dr. Cohall has been honored by: the New York Urban League, the New York Civil Liberties Union, the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the American Medical Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.