Avraham Schwartz, Esq. is the Vice President of the Medical Malpractice Program in Risk Management at Northwell Health. He leads and oversees the strategy, development, integration and administration of the Medical Malpractice Claims Program policies, services, and programs for the Health System. He further participates in the development and implementation of financial, strategic and loss control activities and operates and manages departmental medical malpractice claims teams. He further utilizes data to identify opportunities for improvement and creating programs to reduce risk. He also develops relationships with facilities and departments throughout the Health System including Quality, Compliance, Health Information Management, service lines, outside consultants and industry associates and associations to ensure the quality improvement process retains validity and maintains the latest techniques and concepts.

He has also lectured at Northwell hospitals and Hofstra Medical School to various practitioners regarding documentation and minimizing risk in litigation; anatomy of a medical malpractice case; disclosure of adverse events; quality assurance privilege in NY; informed consent; etc.

He has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Yeshiva University and received his Juris Doctor degree from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. Prior to working at Northwell, he practiced medical malpractice defense and general liability defense at several metropolitan NY law firms where he handled cases from inception through resolution including trial and appeal.

Andrea Restifo, MPA, MHCDS, is associate executive director for North Shore University Hospital (NSUH), a tertiary care facility with 756 beds. She oversees quality management, safety services, infection prevention, pathology, blood bank, social work and case management. Andrea is responsible for communicating information related to regulatory preparation, quality management methodology, best practices, lessons learned from occurrences to prevent harm, and the establishment of quality/safety initiatives throughout the hospital.

Under Andrea's leadership, NSUH has made tremendous strides in becoming highly reliable organizations. She has collaborated on instructional materials for performance improvement that have been presented at numerous national and international healthcare conferences. She is co-author of the book, "The Quality Handbook for Health Care Organizations: A Manager's Guide to Tools and Programs," (Jossey-Bass) which was published in 2004. In addition, she co-authored chapters in two books relating to transplant quality assurance and performance improvement.

Over the years she has the honor to formally mentor dozens of interns, administrative fellows, students, nurses and physicians about quality management's vital function and methodologies. In 2011, she was awarded the hospital's Medical Staff Distinguished Service Award. Andrea is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives, National Association for Healthcare Quality, International Society for Quality in Health Care, American Society for Healthcare Risk Management NY chapter, American College of Medical Quality and Villanova University Nursing Alumni Society. She serves on the New York Organ Donor Network of the Board of Directors Medical Advisory Committee. In 2019, she received the United Hospital Fund the Excellence in Health Care Award for Quality Improvement Champion.

She completed her Bachelor of Science in nursing at Villanova University. She has a Master of Public Administration degree from Long Island University and a Master of Health Care Delivery Science from Dartmouth College. She currently teaches at Hofstra University as an Adjunct Assistant Professor.