



Nneka I. Comfere, M.D.

Professor of Dermatology, Professor of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology

Nneka I. Comfere, M.D., is a consultant in the Division of Dermatopathology and Cutaneous Immunopathology, Department of Dermatology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, with a joint appointment in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology. Dr. Comfere is the Juanita Kious Waugh Executive Dean of Education of Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science and dean of Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine. She is also a member of the Mayo Clinic Board of Governors and Mayo Clinic Board of Trustees. In addition, she serves as medical director of the Mayo Clinic Dermatology Digital Health, Artificial Intelligence and Innovations (DHAI) Program. Dr. Comfere joined the staff of Mayo Clinic in 2006 and holds the academic rank of professor of dermatology and professor of laboratory medicine and pathology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science.

Dr. Comfere earned her B.Sc. at Florida State University and her M.D. at Mayo Medical School (now Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine). She completed her residency in dermatology and her fellowship in dermatopathology at Mayo Clinic School of Graduate Medical Education. She continued her education as a research scholar in the Mayo Clinic Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern Center for the Science of Health Care Delivery.

Dr. Comfere's practice is devoted to dermatopathology and clinical dermatology, with expertise in cutaneous lymphomas. She successfully spearheaded transformation of dermatopathology from traditional microscopy-based to a completely digital practice - the first fully digital pathology subspecialty practice group at Mayo Clinic. She established the DHAI program in Enterprise Dermatology and, in concert with this team, oversaw implementation of a state-of-the-art AI-enabled 3D-whole body skin imaging system with potential to reduce skin cancer risk for millions of patients via mapping, monitoring and tracking of lesion/disease progression over time.

Dr. Comfere has given presentations on her work both nationally and internationally and has authored over 100 journal articles and abstracts. She serves on the editorial board of the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology. In addition to her clinical and research activities, Dr. Comfere provides mentorship to multiple residents and fellows, among others.

Dr. Comfere is an active member of multiple professional societies including the American Academy of Dermatology, International Society of Dermatopathology, and American Society of Dermatopathology, where she serves on the Board of Directors and has served on the Nominations, Appropriate Use Criteria, Quality and Patient Safety, and Membership committees.