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Loretta Christensen, M.D., MBA, MSJ, FACS is an enrolled member of the Navajo Tribe and a native of Gallup, New Mexico. Her clans are To'tsohnii, Naakai, Bilaga'ana. Dr. Christensen serves as the Chief Medical Officer for the Navajo Area Indian Health Service. She has been the co-lead for the COVID-19 response Branch and the lead for the Medical Branch of the Unified Command for Navajo.

Dr. Christensen received her undergraduate degree in Biological Anthropology from Harvard University and her medical degree from Hahnemann University Medical School (Drexel). She completed her General Surgery residency at Monmouth Medical Center in New Jersey and a fellowship in Trauma and Critical Care at Cooper University Hospital/UMDNJ. Dr. Christensen has an MBA from Georgian Court University and a Masters in Jurisprudence with a specialty in Healthcare Law from Seton Hall Law School.

Dr. Christensen served for 17 years as the Clinical Trauma Director and Associate Director of the Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Jersey Shore University Hospital. She was also the Director of Integrative Medicine and non-invasive pain management services. Dr. Christensen had a private practice in Integrative Medicine providing Medical Acupuncture, Functional Medicine, Nutrition and Chinese Medicine. She has specialty training in palliative care, lifestyle medicine and mind-body medicine.

Dr. Christensen is board certified in General Surgery and an American College of Surgeons fellow.