Jaewon Ryu, MD, JD,
Associate Vice President for Professional Practice and Chief Medical Officer

JAEWON RYU, MD, JD, joins the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System as the Associate Vice President for Professional Practice and Chief Medical Officer. Jaewon brings to the health system significant experience in developing health system strategy and leading operational implementation across many areas. Jaewon also brings clinical expertise as a board-certified physician in Emergency Medicine.

Prior to arriving at the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System, Jaewon served on the executive leadership team at Kaiser Permanente, Mid-Atlantic States, an integrated healthcare system responsible for both the insurance coverage and healthcare delivery for over 500,000 member patients in Maryland, Virginia, and DC. In this capacity, he led many key initiatives driving higher quality and more efficient care, in addition to shaping the strategies related specifically to government programs and health reform and policy.

Jaewon has also held a couple positions in government, including as Expert Consultant and Policy Advisor in the front office of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, where he focused on quality and efficiency measurement and alternative payment design (sometimes referred to as “value-based purchasing”). Prior to that, he was selected as a White House Fellow and served as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Cabinet office having oversight over the nation’s largest integrated healthcare system. Earlier in his career, he also worked in the national service program, AmeriCorps, and he has remained dedicated to community involvement throughout his career.

Jaewon is excited by the abundance of potential for the UI Health System. He particularly sees opportunities arising from the collective assets of the health sciences schools, the hospital and clinics, as well as the active presence within the community. By bringing together our mission-driven purpose with these assets, he sees a unique combination that should position us well in the changing healthcare landscape.

Currently, Jaewon is focused on learning the organization and its people. He hopes to identify areas where we can better capitalize on the assets mentioned earlier, and then to create the right systems and reporting to enable that to happen. Jaewon is excited to be here, and to join the organization at such a transformative time.