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Johnson has previously served as the President of the Association of Departments of Family Medicine. He was a member of the United States Preventive Services Task Force, the NJ Task Force for the Prevention of Obesity and the Committee on Law and Justice of the National Academy of Sciences. He has been a reviewer for NIH, HRSA, PCORI and AHRQ. He is on the editorial board of the Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine. He is a member of the Board on Health Care Services the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the National Health Information Technology Collaborative for the Underserved (NHIT). He is the PI of the Howard University Clinical Research Network for Health Equity. His research interests include obesity, health disparities, and family violence.