Dr. Cary Scheiderer is a Review Officer at the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), where she is responsible for organizing and managing the review of applications submitted for funding. In this position, she works with scientists, patients, and other healthcare stakeholders to help PCORI identify applications with the strongest potential to help patients, caregivers, clinicians, policy makers, and other healthcare system stakeholders make informed decisions to improve patient outcomes. Before joining PCORI, Cary held policy analyst positions at the National Institutes of Health in the Office of the Director. She worked on initiatives related to bioethics, protection of participants in research, compensation for research-related injury, financial conflict of interest, IRB review, research misconduct, and the future of the biomedical workforce. Cary also worked as a Senior Policy and Research Analyst with the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues where she led a report on privacy issues surrounding whole genome sequencing.

During this seminar, Cary will talk about how the skill and knowledge foundation she started building while obtaining a degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from UMD (1999) aided her exploration of careers in a variety of settings. She will give an overview of what led her to and prepared her for each of these roles; challenges along the way; and compare working in each of these settings. Cary will describe factors that led to her success and will stress the importance of being flexible and having fun along the way in pursuit of your goals.