

Dr. Preetha Rajaraman, Health Attaché and South Asia Regional Representative for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), serves as a key advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Embassy in India on matters involving health and biomedical research in South Asia. She is responsible for in-country representation, monitoring, and coordination of the policy, programs, and interests of all HHS agencies over a broad portfolio spanning research and innovation, non-communicable and communicable diseases, health safety and security, and health policy. Dr. Rajaraman previously initiated research, programs and policy at the U.S. National Institutes of Health's National Cancer Institute, where she received the Director's Award for exceptional leadership fostering cooperation in cancer research between scientists in the United States and India. Her research on the interaction between genetic susceptibility and environmental factors in cancer has resulted in over 140 peer-reviewed publications. She has been an expert advisory member for various international bodies including the International Commission on Radiation Protection, the World Health Organization, and the *Lancet Oncology*. She holds a PhD in Epidemiology from the Johns Hopkins University, an MSc in Environmental Health (University of Washington), and a BA in Biology from Reed College.