Dr. Utibe Essien is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh, and a general internist and health disparities researcher in the VA Pittsburgh Center for Health Equity Research and Promotion.

His research focuses on racial and ethnic disparities in the use of novel therapeutics in the management of chronic diseases including atrial fibrillation. He has recently applied this research framework to the COVID-19 pandemic, rapidly becoming an expert in the health disparities that are disproportionately affecting minority communities with COVID-19. His work has been featured in *JAMA* and the *NEJM* and he has been interviewed by several national news outlets including the New York Times, Washington Post, and NPR.

Dr. Essien's leadership in advancing health equity during COVID-19 led him to be named a “Top 50 Experts to Trust During a Pandemic” by *Medium* and he was recently recognized by Business Insider as one of “30 Leaders under 40 Transforming Healthcare.”