



Blue Ribbon Study Panel on Biodefense

Response and Recovery

April 1, 2015

Hudson Institute

1015 15th Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC

Objective

Provide panelists with an understanding of the biodefense requirements for effective preparedness, response and recovery from biological and chemical threats that can inflict potentially catastrophic consequences.

Agenda

9:00 Closed pre-meeting with Panelists and Ex Officiis

- Dr. Luciana Borio, Assistant Commissioner for Counterterrorism Policy, Food and Drug Administration

9:30 Congressional Perspective

- Former Representative Mike J. Rogers

10:15 Panel One: Pre-event and Emergency Response

Discussion of pre-event planning and exercises, and emergency response, including the challenges faced by first responders and hospitals, and the role of DOD and other Federal agencies.

- Ms. Myra Socher, Assistant Professor, Vanderbilt University
- Chief G. Keith Bryant, Fire Chief, Oklahoma City Fire Department; President and Chairman of the Board of the International Association of Fire Chiefs
- Dr. Matthew Minson, Senior Advisor for Health Affairs, Texas A&M University

- Dr. Carter Mecher, Senior Medical Advisor, Office of Public Health, Department of Veterans Affairs; former Director for Medical Preparedness Policy, Homeland Security Council and National Security Staff

11:15 Break

11:20 Panel Two: Public Health Response

Discussion of the public health response to biological events, including the challenges of real-time epidemiology and other tools for characterizing the spread of disease or a large-scale chemical event throughout a population here in the United States and elsewhere.

- Dr. Suzet McKinney, Deputy Commissioner, Chicago Department of Public Health
- Ms. Melissa Hersh, President and CEO, Hersh Consulting
- Dr. James Terbush, Senior Partner, Martin, Blanck, and Associates; former Command Surgeon, NORAD/NORTHCOM

12:20 Break to collect lunches

12:30 Lunch Keynote

- Dr. Irwin Redlener, Columbia University

1:15 Panel Three: Pharmaceutical Response

Discussion of response requirements for medical countermeasures, including the need for extremely rapid development and distribution.

- Dr. Ann DeGroot, CEO, EpiVax
- Mr. Mike Chervenik, Managing Director, Stokes Evans
- Mr. Dan Abdun-Nabi, CEO, Emergent Biosolutions
- Mr. Jude Plessas, Executive Manager, Countermeasures Delivery and Distribution, United States Postal Service

2:15 Break

2:30 Panel Four: Recovery and Mitigation

Discussion of standards for and challenges regarding recovery and mitigation, including the need for standards regarding how clean is clean and the lack of agreement regarding agency responsibilities.

- Dr. Kavita Berger, Scientist, Gryphon Scientific
- Mr. Michael Hopmeier, President, Unconventional Concepts, Inc.
- TBD

3:30 Panel Five: Leadership

Discussion regarding the unique challenges for biodefense leaders and the need to expand the ranks.

- Dr. Robert Kadlec, Deputy Staff Director, U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence; former Special Assistant to President George W. Bush for Health and Biodefense; Colonel (Retired - US Air Force)
- Dr. Kenneth Bernard, former Special Assistant to President George W. Bush for Biodefense; former Senior Advisor to President William J. Clinton for Security and Health; Rear Admiral (Retired - US Public Health Service)
- TBD

4:30 Conclusion

4:45 Closed post-meeting with Panelists and Ex Officios