



Blue Ribbon Study Panel on Biodefense

Surveillance and Detection

March 12, 2015
Hudson Institute
1015 15th Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC

Objective

Provide Panelists with an understanding of the biodefense requirements for effective surveillance and detection of biological and chemical threats that can inflict potentially catastrophic consequences. Provide representatives of regional meetings the opportunity to discuss their biodefense experience and challenges with the panelists.

Schedule

9:30 Congressional Perspective

- Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Rhode Island

10:00 Panel One: The Biosurveillance and Detection Landscape

Discussion of key elements of effective biosurveillance and detection, and continued challenges in the effectiveness of ongoing efforts.

- Dr. Julie Gerberding, Executive Vice President for Strategic Communications, Global Public Policy and Population Health, Merck; former Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Dr. Julie Fischer, Associate Research Professor, Department of Health Policy, George Washington University
- Dr. Norm Kahn, Consultant, Counter-BIO LLC; former Director, Intelligence Community Counter-Biological Weapons Program

11:15 Break

11:30 Panel Two: Environmental Surveillance and Detection

Discussion of the technological and policy challenges to early and reliable detection of environmentally dispersed biological and chemical agents.

- Dr. Jeffrey Runge, President, Biologue, Inc.; former Chief Medical Officer and Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Department of Homeland Security
- Dr. Denise Pettit, Assistant Director, State Laboratory of Public Health, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
- Dr. Eric Van Geison, Senior Director, Diagnostics and Biosurveillance, Innovation, Global Health, and Security Operations, MRI Global; former Division Chief for Diagnostics and Disease Surveillance, Defense Threat Reduction Agency

12:30 Lunch Keynote: The Human-Animal Interface

- Dr. William B. Karesh, Executive Vice President for Health and Policy, EcoHealth Alliance

1:15 Panel Three: Clinical Surveillance and Detection

Discussion of key elements of an effective clinical surveillance and detection architecture, and impediments to and opportunities in increasing situational awareness for early and accurate disease detection and clinical diagnosis.

- Dr. Dan Didier, Director of Public Health, Thermo Fischer Scientific
- Mr. Dan Desmond, President, The SIMI Group
- Ms. Deborah Rosenblum, Executive Vice President, Nuclear Threat Initiative
- Mr. Robert VanDine, Founder, Rapid Pathogen Screening

2:30 Panel Four: Law Enforcement, Attribution, and the Lone Wolf

Discussion of law enforcement activities, attribution of deliberate acts, and the problem of the lone wolf.

- Dr. Randall Murch, Professor in Practice, School of Public and International Affairs and Research Leader, Office of the Vice President, National Capital Region, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech)
- Dr. Yonah Alexander, Director, Inter-University Center for Terrorism Studies
- Supervisory Special Agent Edward You, Federal Bureau of Investigations Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate

3:30 Break

3:45 Panel Five: Read-outs from Study Panel Satellite Meetings

Representatives from satellite meetings held in support of the Study Panel will present their findings and recommendations, providing a preview into response and recovery issues to be addressed at Meeting 4.

- Dr. Elizabeth Posillico, Co-Chair, Alliance for Biosecurity
- Dr. Gerald W. Parker, Vice President, Public Health Preparedness and Response, Texas A&M Health Sciences Center
- Ms. Beth Maldin Morgenthau, Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Policy, Community Resilience and Response, Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Mr. Tim Stephens, CEO, MESH Coalition

5:00 Conclusions