

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 Officios

- Dr. Luciana Borio, Assistant Commissioner for Counterterrorism Policy, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services

9:30 Congressional Perspective

- Former Representative Mike J. Rogers, Distinguished Fellow, Hudson Institute

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

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

- 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 (President George W. Bush and President Barack H. Obama)

11:15 Break

11:20 Panel Two: Public Health Response

Discussion of public health response, 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. James Terbush, Senior Partner, Martin, Blanck, and Associates; former Command Surgeon, North American Aerospace Defense Command/U.S. Northern Command, Department of Defense
- Dr. Suzet McKinney, Deputy Commissioner, Chicago Department of Public Health
- Ms. Melissa Hersh, President and CEO, Hersh Consulting

12:20 Break to collect lunches

12:30 Lunch Keynote

- Dr. Irwin Redlener, Professor of Health Policy and Management, Columbia University; Director, National Center for Disaster Preparedness

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. Daniel J. Abdun-Nabi, President and CEO, Emergent BioSolutions
- Mr. Mike Chervenik, Managing Director, Stokes Evans
- Mr. Jude Plessas, Executive Manager, Countermeasures Delivery & Distribution, U.S. Postal Service

2:15 Break

2:30 Panel Four: Recovery and Mitigation

Discussion of recovery and mitigation, including the challenges posed by cutting edge technology, lack of agreement regarding agency responsibilities, resilience, and implications for future preparedness.

- Dr. Kavita Berger, Scientist, Gryphon Scientific
- Mr. Michael Hopmeier, President, Unconventional Concepts, Inc.
- Dr. Ken Staley, Consultant, McKinsey & Company; former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Counterproliferation, Department of State; former Director for Biodefense Policy, Homeland Security Council (President George W. Bush)

3:30 Panel Five: Leadership

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

- 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)
- Ms. Lisa E. Gordon-Hagerty, President, Tier Tech International, Inc.; former Director for Combating Terrorism, National Security Council (President William J. Clinton)
- 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)

4:30 Conclusion

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

5:30 Adjourn to dinner with Panel Members, Ex Officios, and Staff