



Thursday, December 5, 2024  
58 East 68th St., New York, NY

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**Under the Weather:  
The Nexus of Climate Change and Biodefense**

**OBJECTIVE**

Provide the Bipartisan Commission on Biodefense with a better understanding of: (1) the effects of climate change on human health and One Health; (2) the future implications of migration and shifting disease patterns; and (3) policy considerations to reduce the inevitable impacts of climate change on biodefense.

**SCHEDULE**

**9:30 – 9:45 am**      **Opening Remarks**

**9:45 – 10:25 am**      **Panel One: Climate and Health**

*Expert will discuss how climate change is driving disease burden and global and national investments that are needed to address climate impacts on the biological threat landscape.*

**Vanessa Kerry, MD MSc**

Special Envoy for Climate Change and Health, World Health Organization; Chief Executive Officer, Seed Global Health; Director, Program in Global Public Policy and Social Change, Department of Global Health and Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School

**10:25 – 11:30 am**      **Panel Two: Impacts on One Health**

*Government and military officials will examine how climate change alters factors such as how pathogens adapt, the availability of hosts, ecosystems and land use, adaptive capacity, food security, and human health.*

**CDR Matthew Kasper, PhD**

Branch Chief, Global Emerging Infections Surveillance, Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division, Defense Health Agency, Department of Defense

**Juli Trtanj, MSc**

Director, Climate and Health Program Office; One Health Lead; Executive Director, National Integrated Heat Health Information System; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**Gwen Collman, PhD**

Director, Office of Scientific Coordination Planning and Evaluation, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; Strategic Advisor, NIH Climate Change and Health Initiative, National Institutes of Health

**11:30 – 11:40 am**      **Break**

**11:40 am – 12:45 pm Panel Three: Understanding the Changing Landscapes of Migration and Disease Patterns**

*Experts will discuss how the movement of groups of people due to change in the environment will have long-term health security effects and how disease transmission and infection patterns will evolve with climate change, affecting both seasonal risk of, and broad geographic changes in, disease occurrence over decades.*

**C. Jessica E. Metcalf, PhD**

Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Public Affairs, Princeton School of Public and International Affairs; Co-Director, Program in Global Health and Health Policy, Princeton University

**Rachel Elizabeth Baker, PhD**

John and Elizabeth Irving Family Assistant Professor of Climate Health, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and Environment and Society, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health and the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society, Brown University

**William B. Karesh, DVM**

President, One Health Concepts

**12:45 – 1:55 pm**      **Lunch and Networking**

**1:55 – 3:00 pm**      **Panel Four: Grappling with This National Security Threat**

*Viewing climate change as a national security threat, a former city government official, current federal official, and an expert will discuss policy solutions from the local to federal level.*

**Ashwin Vasan, MD PhD**

Former Commissioner, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

**Jeff Schlegelmilch, MPH MBA**

Director, National Center for Disaster Preparedness, Columbia Climate School; Adjunct Associate Professor of Climate, Columbia Climate School

**Ann Kurth, PhD, MPH, MSN, CNM, FAAN**

President, New York Academy of Medicine

**3:00 pm**      **Closing Remarks and Adjourn**