

Health Watch USAsm Newsletter

https://www.healthwatchusa.org Feb. 1, 2024

Member of the National Quality Forum & designated "Community Leader" for Value-Driven Healthcare by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services

Activity for the Month of Nov. Health Watch USAsm:

- -- 2 Articles/Op-Eds regarding COVID-19.
- -- 1 Presentation.
- -- 2023 HW USA Conference Videos are Available.

Information Regarding Health Watch USAsm Sept. 14th, 2022 COVID-19 Conference - Frontline Worker Safety: <u>https://healthconference.org</u>

Health Watch USAsm 2022 Activities Report: <u>https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Officers/20221231-HWUSA-Report-2022-2.pdf</u>

Health Watch USAsm 2021 Activities Report: https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Officers/20211231-HWUSA-Report-2021.pdf

Health Watch USAsm 2020 Activities Report: https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Officers/20201231-HWUSA-Report-2020.pdf

Nov. 1st, 2023, Health Watch USAsm Webinar



Long COVID's Impact on Patients, Workers & Society Health Watch USAsm

Speaker Presentation Videos and PowerPoints Can Be Viewed At: <u>https://healthconference.org</u>

To take the continuing education course (no charges apply) go to: <u>https://sokyahec.thinkific.com/courses/longcovidimpact</u>

Health Watch USAsm - Peer Reviewed-Publications, News Articles & OpEds



Wake up! We are still in a pandemic and Vaccines are our best defense against long COVID

USA Today: "The chance of becoming severely sick from COVID when attending a January indoor function is far too great not to take preventative measures. And once you

become sick, do not count on developing any long-term protective immunity to this rapidly changing, immune evasive virus. Infections also tear down not build immunity to other infections...After a large literature review, Marra and colleagues found that three doses of a vaccine had a 69% efficacy in the prevention of long COVID. A more recent study reported a higher efficacy of 73%...We need to wake up as a society before we reach a point of no return, or before the damage to our frontal lobes from repeated viral infections reaches a point where we are unable to form a consensus and effectively respond to this pandemic." **References** USA Today. Jan. 9, 2024. <u>https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/voices/2024/01/09/long-covid-vaccine-best-defense-infection-virus/72152592007/</u>



COVID-19 vs. Seasonal Influenza: A Comparative Analysis Reveals Alarming Trends

There were 2.87 times as many SARS-CoV-2 (5,572,366 cases) as seasonal influenza cases (1,772,602 cases and 5

times more new hospitalizations with COVID-19 than seasonal influenza. Importantly, the impact on society is not just determined by the case fatality or disability rate for those infected with a dangerous pathogen. Infectivity is also of utmost importance, especially for SARS-CoV-2, an immunoevasive mutating virus that all too commonly causes reinfections. The high rates of death and disability from SARS-CoV-2, compared to seasonal influenza, along with its increased infectivity, makes slowing viral spread and development of next-generation vaccines imperative. **References** Infection Control Today. Jan. 2,

2023. <u>https://www.infectioncontroltoday.com/view/covid-19-vs-seasonal-influenza-comparative-analysis-reveals-alarming-trends</u>

CDC Sends Back Proposals to HICPAC on Pathogen Spread in Health Care for Revision

On January 23, 2023, the CDC announced it is sending back its 2023 proposals regarding the spread of dangerous pathogens in health care to the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC) for revision. Infection Control Today[®] (ICT[®]) has published 2 articles sounding the alarm regarding the potential harm these recommendations could potentially cause and the need to revise the 2023 proposed guidelines. The narrative that the use of N-95 masks, negative pressure rooms, and effective source control is too burdensome needs to be weighed against the Federal estimate of the cost of \$9.6 million per life lost. But even more concerning is the newly posted preprint from Beijing Science which describes a cell-cultured mutated SARS-CoV-2 related virus which has a 100% fatality rate in human ACE2-transgenic mice. Disease "X" may

have been found, and we must be fully prepared for the next pandemic. Infection Control Today. Jan. 24, 2023. <u>https://www.infectioncontroltoday.com/view/cdc-sends-back-proposals-hicpac-pathogen-spread-health-care-revision</u>

Health Watch USAsm - Patient & Healthcare Worker Advocacy

A CDC Update on the Draft 2024 Guideline to Prevent Transmission of Pathogens in Healthcare Settings - Posted on January 23, 2024 by Daniel Jernigan, MD, MPH and John Howard, MD, MPH, JD, LLM, MBA

"Based on the significant interest in the draft recommendations, CDC is taking a proactive step of communicating back to HICPAC some initial questions and comments on which we would like additional consideration before submitting the guideline into the Federal Register for public comment. In addition, CDC is working to expand the scope of technical backgrounds of participants on the HICPAC Isolation Guideline Workgroup and eventually among the committee members through established processes in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) regulations and guidance..."

"A comprehensive CDC review has identified many positive aspects of the draft recommendations. The draft categorizes transmission pathways into two broad categories, air and touch, each with various subcategories..."

"Although the document does not address engineering controls such as ventilation controls in detail, their importance is acknowledged and a separate, subsequent guideline will address the issue..."

Here are the CDC requested clarifications needed by HICPAC:

#1. Should there be a category of Transmission-based Precautions that includes masks (instead of NIOSH Approved[®] N95[®] [or higher-level] respirators) for pathogens that spread by the air? Should N95 respirators be recommended for all pathogens that spread by the air?
#2. Can the workgroup clarify the criteria that would be used to determine which transmission by air category applies for a pathogen? For the category of Special Air Precautions, can you clarify if this category includes only new or emerging pathogens or if this category might also include other pathogens that are more established? Can you also clarify what constitutes a severe illness?
#3. Is the current guideline language sufficient to allow for voluntary use of a NIOSH Approved N95 (or higher-level) respirator? Should the document include a recommendation about healthcare organizations allowing voluntary use?

#4. Should there be a recommendation for use of source control in healthcare settings that is broader than current draft recommendations? Should source control be recommended at all times in healthcare facilities? <u>https://blogs.cdc.gov/safehealthcare/draft-2024-guideline-to-prevent-transmission-of-pathogens-in-healthcare-settings/</u>

A win for healthcare workers and patients: The CDC returns HICPAC's draft recommendations on infection control.

Fiona Lowenstein: Kavanagh and Thomason believe a lack of adequate protections for healthcare workers is contributing to staffing shortages. Employers claim "that the nursing shortage is preventing them from hiring," ..

Surveillance, tracking, data, and transparency have been "chronic problems" for the CDC since long before the pandemic, said Kevin Kavanagh, chairman of Health Watch USA — a patient advocacy, health care, and research integrity organization.

His group has previously urged action for other infectious agents, including Candida auris, MRSA, C. diff, and CRE. Critics of HICPAC's draft guidance have pointed out that the recommendations would increase the risk of infection for a wide range of pathogens beyond SARS-CoV-2, including influenza, RSV, measles, and Ebola. The (2023 draft HICPAC) recommendations would also do little to prepare healthcare centers for future airborne disease outbreaks.

Kavanagh believes the CDC's failures to better track and prevent the spread of these pathogens before 2020 contributed to a lack of preparedness when SARS-CoV-2 first emerged. "The strategic stockpile had dwindled," he explained, referring to a shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE). "At one point there was an advisory that healthcare workers...could wear a bandana. That to me is a lack of preparation beyond comprehension."...

The CDC's decision to return HICPAC's draft reflects the power of push-back from health advocacy and labor groups. It also comes amidst an increase in some workplace protections around the country. Los Angeles County, Illinois, Berkshire Health System in Massachusetts, and New York City reinstated mask mandates for healthcare facilities this winter, as did New York's Fire Department. Kavanagh called CDC's decision to return HICPAC's draft "important and impactful," but warned that "much work still needs to be done." Jan. 30, 2023. The Sick Times: <u>https://thesicktimes.org/2024/01/30/a-win-for-healthcare-workers-and-patients-the-cdc-returnshicpacs-draft-recommendations-on-infection-control/</u>

Articles, Comments and Letters Regarding the 2023 CDC Proposed Guidelines to Prevent Spread of Hospital Pathogens.

CDC Proposals Regarding Airborne Pathogens

One Step Forward, 2 Back: CDC's Proposals for Infection Control in Health Care Facilities Infection Control Today. July 24, 2023. <u>https://www.infectioncontroltoday.com/view/one-step-forward-2-back-cdc-s-proposals-infection-control-health-care-facilities</u>

The Need for Effective Policy to Prevent Airborne Spread of Pathogens CDC HICPAC Meeting - June 2023. View Presentation: <u>https://youtu.be/g1fPL9qRGt8</u> View Written Comment: <u>https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-</u> Community/PDF-Downloads/20230608-HICPAC-Recommendations-WrittenComment.pdf

CDC Proposals and the Effects of Pandemic Preparedness

Written Comment sent to ASPIR regarding the inhibiting of N95 mask usage will affect supply chain and not encouraging the usage of negative pressure rooms. <u>https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Initiatives/PDF-Downloads/20231130-ASPR-Masking-Requirements.pdf</u>

CDC Proposals and the Americans With Disabilities Act

CDC's HICPAC Update: Impact on COVID-19, Pathogen Control, and Immunocompromised Safety in Health care Settings Infection Control Today. Nov. 8, 2023. <u>https://www.infectioncontroltoday.com/view/cdc-s-hicpac-update-impact-covid-19-pathogen-</u> control-immunocompromised-safety-health-care-settings

Comment Regarding Americans with Disabilities Act and Proposed CDC HICPAC Guidance for Control of Infectious Disease Spread.

View Video https://youtu.be/zUV5Tx_EFI4 View Written Comment: https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-Community/PDF-Downloads/20231103-KTK-Comment-HICPAC.pdf View Action Letter: https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Initiatives/PDF-Downloads/20231230-CDC-HICPAC-ADA-Letter-Submitted.pdf CDC Response https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Initiatives/PDF-Downloads/20231220_Dear%20Dr.%20Kavanagh_-CDC-Response.pdf

CDC Enhanced Barrier Precautions Proposals:

Public Comments Regarding Enhanced Barrier Precautions CDC HICPAC Dec. 7, 2023. View Video: <u>https://youtu.be/IQNoDtePBFs</u> <u>https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-Community/PDF-Downloads/20231207-EBP-HWUSA.pdf</u>

Public Comment Enhanced Barrier Precautions. CDC HICPAC June 9, 2023. View Video: https://youtu.be/RiFQAaPEHPE View Written Comment: <u>https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-</u> <u>Community/PDF-Downloads/20230609-HICPAC-CDC-Public-Comment.pdf</u>

Public Comment Enhanced Barrier Precautions. PACCARB Meeting. Dec. 20, 2023. View Comment: <u>https://youtu.be/q_UiDIIIEI0</u> View Written Comment: <u>https://www.healthwatchusa.org/HWUSA-Presentations-</u> <u>Community/PACCARB-WrittenComments/20231220-PACCARB-PublicComment-Final.pdf</u>



PACCARB, Dec. 20, 2023. Enhanced Barrier Precautions and Revisions to Recommendations for Contact Precautions.

Dr. Kevin Kavanagh from Health Watch USA(sm) discusses concerns regarding the CDC's proposed Enhanced Barrier Precautions and Isolation Precautions. A case is made that these precautions

are a step backwards and will not stop infections, nor will they help prepare us for the next pandemic. PACCARB Meeting. Dec. 20, 2023. View Video: <u>https://youtu.be/q_UiDIIIEI0</u> Written <u>Comment</u>

Download Signed Comment Letter (as of Dec. 20, 2024) Download CDC Letter



Health Watch USAsm - Articles of Interest



Is Vaccination Approaching a Dangerous Tipping Point?

"To reduce deaths, hospitalization, and the burden on families and the health care system, all those directly interacting with individuals in a health care setting, ranging from front office staff to retail pharmacists to primary care physicians, need to focus at every appropriate opportunity on helping to ensure that individuals have the necessary information to make informed choices regarding vaccination, considering the benefits and risks." <u>https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/</u> fullarticle/2813910

Is It Dangerous to Keep Getting COVID-19?

"Regardless of a person's health status, each COVID-19 infection can raise the risk of developing blood clots, which can travel to the brain or lungs. That's why Smith believes anyone who is eligible for antiviral drugs such as Paxlovid should take them, since controlling the virus as quickly as possible can reduce any potential long-term or lingering effects an infection can have on the body.... there is also growing evidence that in some people, getting COVID-19 the first time may compromise the immune response in a way that makes the body less likely to respond effectively the next time it sees the virus. That could leave certain organs and body systems, such as the brain, weaker for months after infection—and subsequent ones. "It's the balance of these two opposing forces—the immune system learning from the past and knowing how to deal with a virus and do a better job the second and third time around, and the idea that a first encounter with a virus might alter the immune system in some way that it becomes less efficient—that could explain why some people get Long COVID," says Al-Aly." https://time.com/6553340/covid-19-reinfection-risk/

Incidence of persistent SARS-CoV-2 gut infection in patients with a history of COVID-19: Insights from endoscopic examination

"Gut mucosal tissues can act as a long-term reservoir for SARS-CoV-2, retaining viral particles for months following the primary COVID-19 infection. Smokers and individuals with diabetes may be at an increased risk of persistent viral gut infection. These findings provide in- sights into the dynamics of SARS-CoV-2 infection in the gut and have implications for further research. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10769582/

Long COVID manifests with T cell dysregulation, inflammation and an uncoordinated adaptive immune response to SARS-CoV-2.

"We found that LC individuals exhibited systemic inflammation and immune dysregulation. This was evidenced by global differences in T cell subset distribution implying ongoing immune responses, as well as by sex-specific perturbations in cytolytic subsets. LC individuals displayed increased frequencies of CD4+ T cells poised to migrate to inflamed tissues and exhausted SARS-CoV-2-specific CD8+ T cells, higher levels of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies and a mis-coordination between their SARS-CoV-2-specific T and B cell responses. Our analysis suggested an improper crosstalk between the cellular and humoral adaptive immunity in LC, which can lead to immune dysregulation, inflammation and clinical symptoms associated with this debilitating condition." https://www.nature.com/articles/s41590-023-01724-6

Towards Conversational Diagnostic AI

Cornell University: "AMIE (Articulate Medical Intelligence Explorer), a Large Language Model (LLM) based AI system optimized for diagnostic dialogue....AMIE's performance to that of primary care physicians (PCPs) (was evaluated)in a randomized, double-blind crossover study of text-based consultations with validated patient actors in the style of an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE). The study included 149 case scenarios from clinical providers in Canada, the UK, and India, 20 PCPs for comparison with AMIE, and evaluations by specialist physicians and patient actors. AMIE demonstrated greater diagnostic accuracy and superior performance on 28 of 32 axes according to specialist physicians and 24 of 26 axes according to patient actors." https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.05654

Covid-19 might be over, but brain damage still rages on

Probably the scariest part is that we still don't know the true scope of the damage caused by Covid-19. There were several clues that the coronavirus affected our brain. Losing the sense of smell while being infected was one of them, along with other symptoms related to long Covid, such as constant fatigue and brain fog. The scientists found a "greater reduction in grey matter thickness" in the brain of those who had overcome Covid-19. The most affected areas in the brain, according to the article published in 'Nature', are those associated with the olfactory pathways (orbitofrontal cortex and parahippocampal gyrus). (21 months) A slam dunk if you need a balance transfer. <u>https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/medical/covid-19-might-be-over-but-brain-damage-still-rages-on/ss-AA1627nO</u>

Complacency Has Replaced Alarm in the Newest COVID Surge

Jan. 12, 2024 – Sneezing, coughing, sniffling – it may seem that everyone you know is sick with some type of respiratory virus right now. At present, the United States is getting hammered with such illnesses, with visits to the doctor for respiratory viruses on an upward trend in recent weeks. Data from the CDC's wastewater surveillance system shows that we are in the second-biggest COVID surge of the pandemic, with the JN1 variant representing about 62% of the circulating strains of the COVID-19 virus at the moment.

https://www.webmd.com/covid/news/20240112/complacency-has-replaced-alarm-in-thenewest-covid-surge

The effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines to prevent long COVID symptoms: staggered cohort study of data from the UK, Spain, and Estonia

Vaccination effectiveness in the prevention of Long COVID symptoms reported to be as high as 71% with certain vaccines.

""Vaccination against COVID-19 consistently reduced the risk of long COVID symptoms, which highlights the importance of vaccination to prevent persistent COVID-19 symptoms, particularly in adults. Compared with unvaccinated people, overall HRs for long COVID symptoms in people vaccinated with a first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine were 0.54 (95% CI 0.44–0.67) in CPRD GOLD, 0.48 (0.34–0.68) in CPRD AURUM, 0.71 (0.55–0.91) in SIDIAP, and 0.59 (0.40–0.87) in CORIVA. A slightly stronger preventative effect was seen for the first dose of BNT162b2 than for ChAdOx1 (sHR 0.85 [0.60–1.20] in CPRD GOLD and 0.84 [0.74–0.94] in CPRD AURUM)." Lancet Respiratory Medicine.. <u>https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanres/article/PIIS2213-2600(23)00414-9/fulltext</u>

A call for real action on patient safety: Private equity firms gnawing away at health care in US

"There is also evidence that private equity acquisitions are affecting patient care. A study published in JAMA examined more than 50 hospitals that had been bought out and found that they saw a 25 percent increase in adverse events, such as hospital-acquired infections or falls, or falls, than non-private-equity-owned hospitals...Without greater enforcement of antitrust rules and oversight of providers, our health-care system will become even more expensive and quality of care will deteriorate. Our country can't afford that."

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/01/10/private-equity-health-care-costsacquisitions/

Silent battles: immune responses in asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection

SARS-CoV-2 infections manifest with a broad spectrum of presentations, ranging from asymptomatic infections to severe pneumonia and fatal outcomes. This review centers on asymptomatic infections, a widely reported phenomenon that has substantially contributed to the rapid spread of the pandemic. In such asymptomatic infections, we focus on the role of innate, humoral, and cellular immunity. Notably, asymptomatic infections are characterized by an early and robust innate immune response, particularly a swift type 1 IFN reaction, alongside a rapid and broad induction of SARS-CoV-2-specific T cells. Often, antibody levels tend to be lower or undetectable after asymptomatic infections, suggesting that the rapid control of viral replication by innate and cellular responses might impede the full triggering of humoral immunity. Even if antibody levels are present in the early convalescent phase, they wane rapidly below serological detection limits, particularly following asymptomatic infection. Consequently, prevalence studies reliant solely on serological assays likely underestimate the extent of community exposure to the virus. Nature https://www.nature.com/articles/s41423-024-01127-z

Vaccine Effectiveness Against Long COVID in Children

This large retrospective study shows a moderate protective effect of SARS-CoV-2 vaccination against long COVID. "The effect is stronger in adolescents, who have higher risk of long COVID, and wanes over time. Understanding VE mechanism against long COVID requires more study, including EHR sources and prospective data. The vaccination rate was 56% in the cohort of 1,037,936

children. The incidence of probable long COVID was 4.5% among patients with COVID-19, while diagnosed long COVID was 0.7%. Adjusted vaccine effectiveness within 12 months was 35.4% (95 CI 24.5 – 44.5) against probable long COVID and 41.7% (15.0 – 60.0) against diagnosed long COVID. VE was higher for adolescents 50.3% [36.3 – 61.0]) than children aged 5-11 (23.8% [4.9 – 39.0])." https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/doi/10.1542/peds.2023-064446/196419/Vaccine-Effectiveness-Against-Long-COVID-in

Characteristics and Clinical Outcomes of Vaccine-Eligible US Children Under-5 Years Hospitalized for Acute COVID-19 in a National Network

"Most young children hospitalized for acute COVID-19, including most children admitted to the intensive care unit and with life-threatening illness, had not initiated COVID-19 vaccination despite being eligible. Nearly half of these children had no underlying conditions. Of the small percentage of children who initiated a COVID-19 primary series, most had not completed it before hospitalization."

https://journals.lww.com/pidj/abstract/9900/characteristics and clinical outcomes of.685.aspx

Hospitals try a new pitch to investors: other ways of making money

Novant Health, a system of 16 hospitals in North Carolina, is also branching out in search of higher margins. The system struck a deal with TPG last year to run a national chain of imaging centers, CEO Carl Armato said during his presentation. The system is also eyeing forays into specialty pharmacy and hospital-at-home programs. And if none of that pans out, Armato touted Novant's \$4 billion in cash to protect it against industry headwinds. Clay Ashdown, the new chief financial officer of 33-hospital Intermountain Healthcare, similarly presented a slide that showed the system's \$15.9 billion in cash and investments. Over half of that portfolio is liquid and available within a week's notice, he said.

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#search/STAT/FMfcgzGwJchvxPvTFcqMrFmKnpqpWkDs

Beyond breathing: How COVID-19 affects your heart, brain and other organs

American Heart Association: Because COVID-19 typically affects breathing and can lead to problems such as pneumonia, many people may think it's primarily a lung disease. It's not that simple, said Dr. Nisha Viswanathan, director of the long COVID program at the David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles. "I would argue that COVID-19 is not a disease of the lungs at all," she said. "It seems most likely that it is what we call a vascular and neurologic infection, affecting both nerve endings and our cardiovascular system." <u>https://www.heart.org/en/news/2024/01/16/how-covid-19-affects-your-heart-brain-and-other-organs</u>

Long COVID is associated with severe cognitive slowing: a multicentre crosssectional study

"Together, these results robustly demonstrate pronounced cognitive slowing in people with PCC, which distinguishes them from age-matched healthy individuals who previously had symptomatic COVID-19 but did not manifest PCC. This might be an important factor contributing to some of the cognitive impairments reported in patients with PCC....Cognitive slowing was evident even on a 30-s task measuring simple reaction time (SRT), with patients with PCC responding to stimuli ~3 standard deviations slower than healthy controls. 53.5% of patients with PCC's response speed

was slower than 2 standard deviations from the control mean, indicating a high prevalence of cognitive slowing in PCC. This finding was replicated across two clinic samples in Germany and the UK. "<u>https://www.thelancet.com/journals/eclinm/article/PIIS2589-5370(24)00013-0/fulltext</u>

Long COVID: Patients, Workers & Society COVID: Patients, Workers & Society Health Watch USAsm Webinar

Long COVID's Impact on Patients, Workers & Society Health Watch USAsm

For More Information Go To: http://www.healthconference.org

Speakers for the Nov. 1st 2023 Webinar Include:



Ambassador Deborah Birx, MD Past White House Coordinator Coronavirus Response (USA) "Impact of Long COVID on the United States".



Peter J. Hotez, MD, PhD, Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine and Professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Virology & Microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine. will present on "Global Vaccines and Vaccinations: The Science vs The Anti-science." Dr Hotez will discuss the impact of developing new low cost and accessible vaccines for global health, including a recombinant protein COVID-19 "people's vaccine" now administered to more than 100 million adolescents and children in India and Indonesia. He will also discuss new trends in antivaccine sentiments in the US and an escalating and globalizing antiscience empire.

Additional Presenters:

1. *Pam Belluck*, New York Times Reporter -- Presentation: "How Long COVID is affecting people's jobs and their needs at work."

2. *Eleni Iasonidou, MD*, Pediatrician, Founder of Long Covid Greece and a one of the very first Greek representatives to join Long Covid Kids. Presentation: "Long Covid and its impact on children."

3. Georgios Pappas, MD, PhD, Physician, Researcher and Advocate. Specializing on zoonoses and preparedness against deliberate and natural outbreaks/epidemics – Presentation: "Combating Disinformation regarding COVID-19 and Long COVID."

4. Jane Thomason, MSPH, CIH, Industrial Hygienist, National Nurses United & California Nurses Association -- Presentation: "The impact of Long COVID on Nurses."

5. Greg Vanichkachorn, MD, MPH, Occupational and Aerospace Medicine, Mayo Clinic--Presentation: "Symptoms, treatment and rehabilitation of patients with Long COVID."

6. Dr. Wilmore Webley, PhD, University of Massachusetts, -- Presentation: "The effectiveness of vaccines to prevent Long COVID."

7. *Brian T. Walitt, MD, MPH*, Clinician with the NIH's National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. -- Presentation: "Neuropsychiatric manifestations of Long COVID & Chronic Fatigue Syndrome."

Continuing Education Is Planned for Physicians, Nurses, Social Workers, Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapy, Dentistry and Respiratory Therapy. For More information Go To: http://www.healthconference.org

Download Speaker Bios: <u>https://www.healthconference.org/healthconference.org-</u> <u>files/2023Conference_downloads/_Bios-Speakers-2023-HWUSA-Conference-6.pdf</u>

Download Webinar Agenda: <u>https://www.healthconference.org/healthconference.org-files/2023Conference_downloads/_Agenda-1.pdf</u>

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Download last year's summary white paper from 2022 Worker Safety Conference (Journal of Patient Safety): https://journals.lww.com/journalpatientsafety/Fulltext/9900/ Frontline Worker Safety in the Age of COVID 19 A.126.aspx

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