

Frontline Workers: A Global Perspective



**Frontline Worker Safety
in the Age of COVID-19**
Health Watch USAsm



Webinar Sept. 14th, 2022 - Registration Now Open

<https://healthconference.org>

Public Health

Key To Stopping Infectious Disease

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Triple Threat

► **The United States has a Triple Threat Caused By Infectious Disease Which Should Have Been Better Controlled.**

- ❖ SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19 – Much of The Afternoon will focus on this uncontrolled pandemic.
- ❖ Raging Monkeypox Epidemic.
- ❖ Recent Polio Outbreak.

Polio: Vaccinations are Key

- ▶ Who would have thought we would be talking about polio in 2022?
- ▶ Multiple samples of wastewater in rural New York and in New York City have been found to be positive for the virus.
- ▶ School vaccinations are key.
- ▶ Vaccine hesitancy is on the rise. In some rural counties, rates of vaccinations have fallen below 60%. A community needs 80% to 90% of its citizens to be vaccinated before spread will stop.

Monkeypox

- ▶ Monkeypox can affect all sexes and ages. In Africa, it is common for the disease to exist in children.
- ▶ Public health must be supported and engaged to have the resources to educate and vaccinate at-risk populations.
- ▶ So far, vaccines and therapeutics are in short supply, education on avoiding close or intimate contact with strangers is key.

COVID-19

- ▶ COVID-19 is still with us. Rates of infections and deaths are still too high.
- ▶ Later this afternoon we will learn more about Long COVID and that it is an all-too-common occurrence which we want to avoid.
- ▶ Similar to Polio and Monkeypox, vaccinations are key to stopping the epidemic.
- ▶ According to the New York Times, in late August of this year, the United States only had 67% of its population receiving a 2-dose vaccine and only 32% had been boosted.
- ▶ The US is 68th in the World, worse than Malaysia, Nicaragua, Cambodia, Malta, and Chile.



Public Health Must Be A Leader

- ▶ Public Health must hold their ground and not bend to public and political pressure.
- ▶ We must evolve Federal, State and community health entities.
- ▶ You will hear later this afternoon regarding workplace violence and threats made against public health and healthcare workers.
- ▶ We must not only educate the public, but also engage community leaders to educate their community.
- ▶ We must also provide intervention and self-care for communities.



Public Health Is The Leader In Community Safety Health

- ▶ We must listen so we can lead.
- ▶ Public Health needs to be at the forefront and lead the world in the prevention of diseases & Promotion of Safety.
- ▶ We Need To Vaccinate The World To Stop the Pandemic.



Engage the Community

- ▶ We must not only be a leader, but we must also listen to the public even to those who do not want to become vaccinated.
- ▶ We must get 80% or more of a community immunized before we can eradicate this disease.
- ▶ We need to engage community leaders to encourage community adoption of public health strategies and vaccinations.

Disparities

- ▶ COVID-19 has taught us the importance of equity, racism and elitism.
- ▶ And everyone has to be involved.
- ▶ We can't immunize one little segment. We must immunize everybody and immunize every country.

We Must Improve Our Efforts

The Health Of Our Country Is At Stake

- ▶ We need to develop better vaccines and our companies need to cooperate and coordinate development.
- ▶ Better detection & testing.
- ▶ Better communication.
- ▶ Better collaboration with all countries in the world.
- ▶ Until everyone is protected, none of us are protected.
- ▶ We must empower our rural and local communities, our entire country, and the whole world.



We Have To Be Successful

The Health Of Our Country Is At Stake

- ▶ We need to reach all.
- ▶ We must not only educate the public, but we must engage community leaders to educate their community.
- ▶ We need to involve everyone.
- ▶ Immunizations are Key.

Keep Our Children In School

- ▶ Some children have fallen behind more than two years in their education. It will be difficult for them to catch up.
- ▶ Schools need to stay open. Immunizations are key, both for children and for caregivers.
- ▶ We must also involve our public health transportation system.



