



The Truth About Ebola for New England: Fact vs. Hype
Friday, November 7, 2014
Boston University's National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories

Program Agenda

9:30 – 10:00 **Check-in/Networking/Coffee**

10:00 – 10:20 **Introductory Remarks**

Dr. Robert Brown, President
Boston University

James T. Brett, President & CEO
The New England Council

Cheryl Bartlett, Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

10:20 -11:20 **Moderated Panel Discussion**

Moderator:

James T. Brett, President & CEO
The New England Council

Panelists:

Dr. Nahid Bhadelia, M.D. - Director of Infection Control, Boston
University National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories

Dr. Paul D. Biddinger, M.D. – Director of Operations for
Emergency Medicine and Medical Director for Emergency
Preparedness, Massachusetts General Hospital

Dr. Jamie Childs, Sc.D. – Senior Research Scientist & Lecturer in
Epidemiology, Yale School of Public Health

Dr. Ronald B. Corley, Ph.D. – Director, Boston University National
Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories

11:20 – 12:00 **Audience Q&A**

Panelist Biographies

Dr. Nahid Bhadelia, M.D.

Director of Infection Control

Boston University National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories

Dr. Bhadelia is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Section of Infectious Diseases and the Associate Hospital Epidemiologist at Boston Medical Center. She is also the Director of Infection Control at National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories (NEIDL) at Boston University. Her specialization is with in infection control issues related to emerging pathogens and highly communicable infectious diseases. She is the director of the medical response program for BU's biosafety level 4 laboratories at the NEIDL and provides input into BU's Research Occupational Health policies related to infectious diseases. Her research interests are related to comparative effectiveness of hospital epidemiology practices as well as the impact of emerging diseases on hospitals and surrounding communities.

Aside from her clinical training in infectious diseases, she has a background in international affairs/human security and conducted a masters thesis examining the impact of pandemics on macro level health indicators and community security. She has previously worked on a project funded by the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, critically examining the transition of HIV from an acute to chronic illness and its influence on health systems in developing countries. Most recently, she has been part of the World Health Organization operations in Sierra Leone to combat the Ebola outbreak in West Africa in 2014.

Dr. Paul Biddinger, M.D.

Director of Operations for Emergency Medicine

Medical Director for Emergency Preparedness

Massachusetts General Hospital

Dr. Paul Biddinger, M.D., is an attending physician at the Massachusetts General Hospital Department of Emergency Medicine. He graduated from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine after receiving his undergraduate degree from Princeton University. He completed his residency in emergency medicine with Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency and served as Chief Resident.

Dr. Biddinger's chief administrative responsibility is serving as the Director of Operations in the Emergency Department. He has both been actively researching and implementing initiatives that improve patient flow, reduce overcrowding, and enhance patient safety in the ED, and has published several articles on this work. In addition, Dr. Biddinger serves as Chief of the Division of Emergency Preparedness within the Department of Emergency Medicine and as the Medical Director for Emergency Preparedness at MGH.

Dr. Biddinger also serves as the Director of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Exercise Program (EPREP) at the Harvard School of Public Health, where he leads planning and training events for health and public health staff involved in disaster preparedness at the local, regional and state levels. Dr. Biddinger speaks frequently in numerous ad hoc settings locally, nationally, and internationally on topics of health and public health sector disaster preparedness and response.

Dr. Jamie Childs, Sc.D.
Senior Research Scientist & Lecturer in Epidemiology
Yale School of Public Health

Senior Scientist Childs' area of research includes the ecological dynamics of directly-transmitted zoonotic viruses, including the hantaviruses, arenaviruses and rabies, and vector-borne bacteria, including rickettsia, bartonella and borrelia. Prior to coming to Yale in 2004, Dr. Childs served as the Chief of the Viral and Rickettial Zoonoses Branch at CDC. His recent interests and research, conducted in collaboration with Dr. Albert Ko, Division Chief at Yale, and Fleur Porter, an MPH candidate, focus on the ecoepidemiology of intra- and inter-specific transmission of leptospire in an urban slum setting in Salvador, Brazil. The Norway rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) is the principal reservoir host for leptospire causing human disease in Salvador, however, scant knowledge exists on the mechanisms of acquisition, maintenance and shedding of this bacterium by rats. Humans are directly infected by leptospire through contact with environments contaminated with spirochetes shed in the urine of infected rats. Defining parameters of the natural history of leptospiral infection within individual rats and within rat populations, coupled with determinations of critical environmental and ecological features underlying the distribution and density of rat populations, will help elucidate risk factors for human infection and disease.

Dr. Ronald Corley, Ph.D.
Director
Boston University National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories

Dr. Corley joined Boston University in 1994 as the Chair of the Department of Microbiology on the Medical Campus. During his tenure in this position, he oversaw the rebuilding of the department into a research-intensive department of diverse faculty interested in the broad areas of microbiology and immunology, focusing on host-pathogen interactions.

In October of 2014 Dr. Corley became the Director of the National Emerging Infectious Diseases Laboratories, where he has served as an Associate Director and Immunology Core Director for the past 7 years. Dr. Corley also served as the Associate Provost for Research, BUMC for the past five years. In this capacity his focus was on facilitating different research agendas, building the infrastructure to support research programs, and making research more efficient and cost effective. As the Associate Provost for Research, BUMC Dr. Corley initiated and encouraged interdisciplinary research initiatives across all campuses at Boston University.

Dr. Corley received his Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology from Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. He continued his postdoctoral research work in both human immunology and the development of animal model systems for immunological analysis at the Basel Institute for Immunology, Switzerland. In 1977 Dr. Corley returned to Duke University Medical Center, where he joined the faculty in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, as a Scholar of the Leukemia Society of America. During his entire career, Dr. Corley has been continuously funded by grants from the NIH and private foundations. Dr. Corley has also served on a number of scientific review panels, including various study sections of the National Institutes of Health and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.