

HEALTH COVERAGE FELLOWSHIP 2010

Schedule of Events

April 30-May 8

Friday, April 30: **Opening reception and dinner**

5:30-6:30: Orientation meeting for fellows.

6:30-7:15 p.m.: Cocktail reception.

7:30-9:30 p.m.: Dinner and program.

Introduction of the Fellowship: **Sarah Iselin**, Blue Cross of MA Foundation President

Introduction of Fellows and Keynote Speaker: **Larry Tye**, Fellowship Director

Keynote: **Drew Altman** is president of the Kaiser Family Foundation, a leading think tank on US health care issues and, more recently, a leading source of health news. Before joining Kaiser, Drew was commissioner of human services for the state of New Jersey, head of health programs at the Pew Charitable Trusts, and vice president of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. He also held a senior post in the Health Care Financing Administration under President Carter.

Drew's topic: **What's next?**

A health care reform expert looks at the challenges for the nation and the media now that we have a law.

And he considers the role non-profits can play in repairing what is broken in journalism.

Saturday, May 1: **Health Care: Clarifying the Crisis**

9:15-10:30 a.m. ***The wounds of war***

Michael Lawson is CEO of the three Veterans Administration hospitals in Boston and a Vietnam veteran. **Andy Jean-Baptiste** worked with wounded soldiers during her tour of duty in Iraq. **Chris McGuirk** served in Afghanistan. They will talk about what the VA is doing for today's returning soldiers.

10:45-noon ***Reforming health care: lessons from the past and an electronic road to the future***

Dr. **David Blumenthal** runs the White House effort to construct a health IT network and wrote *Heart of Power: Health and Politics in the Oval Office*, the definitive book on the history of health care reform.

12:15-1:30 p.m. ***The health care debate: public druthers***

Robert Blendon is head of Harvard's Opinion Research Program and professor of health policy at the School of Public Health and Kennedy School of Government.

1:45-3 p.m. ***Doctor and Patient: end-of-life care, patients as partners, and medicine in the age of twitter***

Dr. **Pauline Chen**, a transplant surgeon, writes the *Doctor and Patient* column for the *New York Times* and is author of *Final Exam: A Surgeon's Reflections on Mortality*.

3-5:30 p.m. ***Relax***

Exercise at the fitness center. Walk around Wellesley. Ride your bike. Play pool. Or rest.

6 p.m.-whenever ***Let loose***

Dinner at the Acton Jazz Café, with music from the eclectic and up-tempo Cercie Miller Quartet.

Sunday, May 2:

Putting the Public Back in Health

8:45 a.m.

We head to Tewksbury State Hospital

9:30-10:30 a.m.

Birds, people, and other ways of spreading disease

Dr. **Al DeMaria**, state epidemiologist for Massachusetts, helps us understand threats from swine flu to rabies and avian flu.

10:30 a.m.- 1 p.m

Dual diagnosis/dual treatment

We visit the State Pharmacy with its innovative drug-buy program, then walk around the hospital and hear how it treats a vexing blend of physical and mental ailments. Our guides are Tewksbury CEO **Sandra Akers**, Tewksbury Medical Director **Peter Connolly**, and **Lou Dell'Olio**, who runs the state pharmacy.

1-2:30 p.m.

Views from the top

We meet over lunch with New Hampshire Public Health Director Dr. **Jose Montero** and our host, Massachusetts Commissioner of Public Health **John Auerbach**.

4-7 p.m.

Rest up

7 p.m.-whenever

Med errors and mea culpas

Over dinner, we focus on medical errors and patient safety. Dr. **Rick van Pelt**, an anesthesiologist, is head of global programs at Partners Harvard Medical International. **Linda Kenney** set up and runs Medically Induced Trauma Support Services. **Dr. Lucian Leape**, a lecturer at Harvard School of Public Health, is a pioneer of the movements to make hospitals safer and reform medical education.

Monday, May 3:

Gains and Gaps in Mental Health

8:15 a.m.

We head out for a *Hard Day's Night*

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Old disorders and new ways of looking at them

We visit McLean Hospital where we meet with Chief Medical officer **Joe Gold**, then divide up. One group visits the Obsessive-Compulsive Disorders Institute with **Diane Davey**. Others are at the Brain Bank with Dr. **Francine Benes**, the Pathways Academy for children with autism and Asperger's with **Roya Ostavar**, an adolescent borderline personality disorder unit with Dr. **Blaise Aguirre**, and the eating disorders program with **Patricia Tarbox**.

12:30- 2:30 p.m.

Shock: old questions, new answers

Kitty Dukakis has battled disabling depression for 20 years. She tried drugs and therapy, but only electroconvulsive therapy gave her back her life. She talks over lunch about her illness and treatment. Joining her are her doctor, **Charlie Welch**, head of the ECT program at Mass General Hospital, and her son, **John Dukakis**.

2:30-5 p.m.

Rest up

We have a long night ahead, so take time to chill.

6-8 p.m.

Eating and listening

To set a context for what we will see on Boston's streets, we head to Boston's Health Care for the Homeless for dinner and a discussion with its co-founder and president, Dr. **Jim O'Connell**. Then we meet psychiatrist **Jim Bonner** and the long-term street people in his *How to Stay Well in a Crazy World* therapy group.

9 p.m.-midnight

Street stories

We divide into three groups. One walks the streets with Pine Street workers. Another visits Pine Street's Night Center. The last spends the evening at Health Care for the Homeless' medical respite facility.

Tuesday, May 4:

Insuring the Uninsured

8:15-9:15 a.m.

Debriefing ourselves

Each group reports in on last night, as we slowly wake up. Skip breakfast if you need the sleep.

9:30-10:15

Setting the context

Former Governor **Michael Dukakis** launched Massachusetts' first bid for universal coverage in the late 1980s and continues to focus on the issue as a professor at UCLA and Northeastern.

10:15 a.m.-11:45

Sign posts and starting points

Sarah Iselin, former Bay State commissioner of health care finance, is president of the Blue Cross of Massachusetts Foundation. **Nancy Turnbull** is associate dean at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Noon-1:45 p.m.

How reform is working in Massachusetts, for better and worse

Jon Kingsdale heads up the Commonwealth Connector, which oversees health care reform in Massachusetts.

2-3 p.m.

The journalist's role: will the battle never end?

Gardiner Harris writes about public health from the Washington bureau of the *New York Times*. **Susan Dentzer** is editor-in-chief of *Health Affairs* and an analyst for PBS' The NewsHour.

3:15-5:30

Catch your breath

Catch up on sleep. Take a long walk. Check in on the kids, or parents. Go shopping. You need a break.

5:30-whenever

Cooling down

Sally Connolly and her associates hold hands-on sessions on reiki, reflexology, shiatsu, dance kinesthetics, massage, and chi gong. At dinner, we are joined by **Greg Fricchione**, a psychiatrist and director of the Benson-Henry Institute for Mind-Body Medicine at Mass General Hospital.

Wednesday, May 5: **Virtual Quality, Getting Real, and a Sporting Chance**

8:30 a.m. ***We head into *the city and ballpark.****

10 a.m.-noon ***Simulating sickness and health***

Dr. **David Feinstein**, **David Fobert**, Dr. **Alex Derevianko**, and **Darren Tavernelli** put us through our paces –from hand-eye coordination to suturing – at Beth Israel Deaconess’ state-of-the art surgical simulation center.

12:30-2 p.m. ***Watching over us***

Dr. **Mark Chassin** is president of the Joint Commission, which oversees care at more than 17,000 hospitals, laboratories, hospices, and other health care organizations here and overseas.

2:30-4:15 p.m. ***Divide and conquer cutting-edge health challenges***

Dr. **Robert Master** takes us on a visit to the elderly disabled served by his Commonwealth Care Alliance, Mass General’s Dr. **Steven Schlozman** shows how zombies can help us understand the human brain, the Blue Cross Foundation’s **Shanna Shulman** schools us in untangling the most impenetrable medical research, BIDMC’s Dr. **John Halamka** demonstrates how computers can make health care faster and safer, and the MA Department of Public Health’s **Sandra Smole** gives us an up-close look at the latest techniques and equipment to battle biological threats.

4:45-6 p.m. ***Sidelined***

We consider medical journalists’ role in covering sports injuries with **Brian McKeon**, doctor for the Celtics; **Bert Zarins**, doc for the Bruins; Sox and Patriots medical chief **Tom Gill**; and veteran Sox third baseman/second baseman/shortstop **Ted Lepcio**.

6-10 p.m. ***1918, 2004, 2007, and 2010!***

We tour Fenway, then watch the Sox crush the Angels, with Nieman Fellowship Curator **Bob Giles**, Mass Hospital Association President **Lynn Nicholas**, BIDMC CEO **Paul Levy**, McLean Hospital President Emeritus Dr. **Bruce Cohen**, Dr. **McKeon**, **Ted Lepcio**, and other guests.

Thursday, May 6: **It's All in the Delivery**

8:15 a.m. ***We head *in town****

Medicine on the edge

9:30-10:45 a.m. We check in at Mount Auburn Hospital for an open-ended talk with **Steve Chubb** and his trustees about their burdens and joys.

10:45-1 Over lunch we discuss operations of this hospital – and especially its innovative global payment plan – with CEO **Jeanette Clough**, CFO **Peter Semenza**, Vice President **Kathryn Burke**, Quality Chief Dr. **Susan Abookire**, Physicians Association President Dr. **Barbara Spivak** and Executive Director **Ginger Lyons deNeufville**, and Blue Cross of MA Executive Vice President **Andrew Dreyfus**.

1-2:30 p.m. We split into five groups for hands-on looks at interventional radiology with Dr. **Michael Shortsleeve** and **John Bridgeman**; electronic record-keeping with **Dr. Barbara Spivak**, **Nick Dileo** and **Kerin Joyce**; primary care hospitalists with Dr. **Lori Balestrero** and **Chuck Lukasik**; critical-care intensivists with Dr. **Carey Thomson** and **Rebecca LoGiudice**; and programs to reduce errors and promote quality with Dr. **Susan Abookire**.

4-7 p.m. ***Tone up or take a nap***

7:15 p.m. til... ***A low-key dinner on campus, sharing notes***

We report back on our experiences from the morning and afternoon break-out sessions. And we relish being by ourselves.

Friday, May 7: **Logjams in the ER, Confronting the Crises**

8:15 a.m. **We head out**

9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. ***What's the rush: a diverting problem***

We look at the crunch in emergency medicine from three vantage points. A third of us ride with crews of Boston EMS chief **Jim Hooley**. Another third go to Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, where Dr. **Richard Wolfe** shows us how his ER works. The rest head to Hanscom Field, and fly with Dr. **Suzanne Wedel's** Medflight teams.

1-1:30 p.m. ***Show and tell***

We reconnoiter for lunch at the Blue Cross Foundation office at Landmark Center, sharing experiences from the morning.

1:30-3:30 p.m. ***Crisis journalism***

Richard Serino is deputy director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Dr. **Julio Frenk** is dean of the Harvard School of Public Health.

4-6 ***Unwind.***

6:15-9:30 ***A matter of ethics***

We have dinner at Blue Ginger with Dr. **Jerry Kassirer**, editor-in-chief emeritus of the *New England Journal of Medicine* and author of *On the Take: How Medicine's Complicity with Big Business Can Endanger Your Health*.

Saturday, May 8: **Wrapping it Up.**

9-11:30 a.m. *Our story lists*

We break into three groups, with each fellow presenting her or his list of stories while others suggest sources, storytelling strategies, and other ways to make those ideas appeal to readers, listeners, and editors. Group leaders are **Rhonda Mann, Richard Saltus, and Larry Tye.**

Mann was a medical producer at Boston's WCVB-Channel 5. She is director of marketing at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

Saltus was a longtime medical writer for the *Boston Globe* and Associated Press. He now writes about health and science issues at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Noon-1 p.m. Lunch with our group, then you can head home.