

Vital Directions for Health and Health Care: Sept. 26 Symposium and Discussion Papers

The U.S. health care system has undergone tremendous transformation in just the past few years. The next administration will continue to face many challenges in meeting increasing demands on the health care system while controlling costs, eliminating disparities in access and care, and incorporating rapidly advancing new technologies and treatments, to name a few.

To provide guidance on priorities for health and health care to the incoming administration and other health care leaders and policymakers, the National Academy of Medicine has launched a new initiative, [Vital Directions for Health and Health Care](#). At this Sept. 26 symposium in Washington, D.C., some of the nation's leading experts in health care policy will discuss priorities identified in a collection of expert papers by more than 100 researchers, scientists, and policymakers in three categories: better health and well-being, high-value health care, and strong science and technology. **The discussion papers are [now available online](#).**

The initiative is being overseen by an [18-member steering committee](#), which commissioned the papers and will draw upon discussions at the symposium to inform the committee's final publication, expected later this year.

Speakers at the symposium will include:

Georges Benjamin, executive director of the American Public Health Association

Mark McClellan, Robert J. Margolis Professor of Business, Medicine, and Policy, and director of the Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy, Duke University; and former director of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services from 2004 to 2006

Peter R. Orszag, vice chairman of investment banking and managing director, Lazard; and former director of the Office of Management and Budget from 2009 to 2010 and the Congressional Budget Office from 2007 to 2009

Jonathan Perlin, president of clinical services and chief medical officer, Hospital Corporation of America

Lewis G. Sandy, executive vice president of clinical advancement for United Health Group; and

Janet Woodcock, director of the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research

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DETAILS:

The symposium will take place from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. EDT on Monday, Sept. 26 at the National Academy of Sciences building, 2101 Constitution Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. The agenda is available [here](#).

To register to attend the symposium, reporters should contact the Office of News and Public Information; tel. 202-334-2138 or e-mail news@nas.edu. Those who cannot attend the symposium in person can watch a live webcast [here](#).

