

Panelist Bios

Tom Frieden, MD, MPH @DrFriedenCDC

Tom Frieden, MD, MPH, became Director of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in June 2009. Dr. Frieden has worked to control health threats from infectious diseases, respond to emergencies, and battle the leading causes of suffering and death in our nation and around the world.



As the director of our nation's health protection agency, he is leading CDC to address the following challenging health priorities:

1. **Improving health security at home and around the world** – by preparing for, detecting, rapidly responding to, and preventing health threats 24/7 to save lives and safeguard communities. These include global disease threats, antimicrobial resistance, foodborne illness, and healthcare-acquired infections.
2. **Reducing the leading causes of death and illness** – by focusing on reducing disease that sap the quality of life and longevity of Americans, including tobacco, uncontrolled blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, physical inactivity, motor vehicle safety, prescription drug overdoses, and HIV/AIDS.
3. **Strengthening public health and healthcare collaboration** – by aligning, coordinating, and integrating

Dr. Frieden has intensified the agency's 24/7 work to save lives and protect people, including:

- Establishing more effective responses to outbreaks and other health threats at state, local, and global levels, including the global effort to eradicate polio forever.
- Preventing infections from food and in healthcare facilities with new programs and guidance.
- Helping Americans to quit smoking, reducing childhood obesity, prevent diabetes, and saving teens and others lives from car crashes through focused programs.
- Extending life-saving treatment, disease prevention, and infection control in more than 50 countries to save lives globally and protect Americans from health threats outside our borders.
- As a CDC EIS officer disease detective from 1990-1992, Dr. Frieden conducted many epidemiologic investigations, including outbreaks of measles, typhoid, cryptosporidium, and multidrug-resistant tuberculosis.

public health and healthcare to improve health outcomes.

Career Highlights

- From 1992-1996, as a CDC assignee, he led New York City's program that rapidly controlled tuberculosis, including reducing cases of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis by 80 percent.
- While working in India for five years as a CDC assignee to the World Health Organization, he assisted with national tuberculosis control efforts. The program in India has treated more than 10 million patients and has saved more than three million lives.
- As Commissioner of the New York City Health Department from 2002-2009, he directed the city's effort that reduced the number of smokers by 350,000, and reduced teen smoking by half.
- Immediately upon his appointment as CDC Director in 2009, Dr. Frieden led the nation's response to the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus pandemic.
- Dr. Frieden launched the first-ever national paid anti-tobacco media campaign, CDC's Tips from Former Smokers, which likely helped more than 100,000 smokers quit permanently, saving money, and preventing smoking-related disease.

- He also prioritized CDC's efforts to reduce infections in healthcare settings, cutting some life-threatening infections by a third or more.
- Dr. Frieden created CDC's *Vital Signs*, a monthly clear language publication, pointing out today's most critical health problems, and guiding the public health community and clinical providers to actionable solutions.

A physician with training in internal medicine, infectious diseases, public health, and epidemiology, Dr. Frieden is especially known for his expertise in tuberculosis control. Dr. Frieden worked for CDC from 1990 until 2002. He began his career at CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Officer at the New York City Health Department.

Dr. Frieden speaks Spanish and graduated from Oberlin College. He received both his medical degree and master's of public health degree from Columbia University and completed infectious disease training at Yale University. He has received many awards and honors and has published more than 200 scientific articles.

Wilbur H. Chen, MD



Wilbur H. Chen, MD, MS is an Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, where he is the Chief of the Adult Clinical Studies section at the Center for Vaccine Development and Director of the University of Maryland Travelers' Health Clinic. He is a board-certified infectious disease physician with a focus on translational vaccine research.

His primary research interests are two-fold: developing vaccines for the elderly (a rapidly growing segment of the global population which is susceptible to infection) and developing vaccines for enteric pathogens (diseases chiefly of resource-poor and economically disadvantaged populations).

Dr. Chen is an active investigator within the NIAID-supported Vaccine and Treatment Evaluation Unit (VTEU), Co-PI of the clinical core of an NIAID-funded Cooperative Center for Human Immunology (CCHI U19), and PI of the NIAID-supported Food and Waterborne Diseases Integrated Research Network's Clinical Research Unit (FWD IRN CRU). He has been involved in conducting seasonal, pandemic 2009 H1N1, avian H5N1, and avian H7N9 influenza vaccine trials; and evaluating "mix and match" approaches for various adjuvants to be used with influenza vaccines. One of the more unique tools in his clinical research is the use of human volunteer challenge models, which involves controlled infections with wild-type enteric pathogens (such as: *Vibrio cholerae*, *Shigella flexneri*, and enterotoxigenic *E. coli*) to allow for studies on the pathogenesis and the exploration of potential mechanisms of protective immunity against these human-host restricted organisms and the evaluation of candidate therapeutics and vaccines. He is currently conducting studies exploring the mechanisms of protective immunity against typhoid and ETEC and assessing vaccines targeting avian influenza, cholera, ETEC, and *Shigella*.

After receiving a B.A. from Boston University and M.D. from Howard University, Dr. Chen completed his residency in internal medicine at Johns Hopkins Bayview and fellowship in infectious disease at the University of Maryland. Subsequently, he completed an NIH T32 fellowship in Vaccinology and an M.S. in Clinical Research at the University of Maryland.

William Schaffner, MD (Moderator)

William Schaffner, MD is medical director of the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) and professor of preventive medicine and infectious diseases at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, TN. He also serves as a hospital epidemiologist at Vanderbilt University Hospital.



Dr. Schaffner is a past-president of NFID and is a member of numerous other professional societies, including the Infectious Diseases Society of America, the Society of Healthcare Epidemiology of America and the American Public Health Association.

Dr. Schaffner is active in the field of infectious disease research and has authored or co-authored more than 400 published studies, reviews, and book chapters on infectious diseases. He currently serves on the editorial board of a number of scientific journals, including *Journal of Infectious Diseases*, *Vaccine*, and CDC's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*.

His work has focused on all aspects of infectious diseases including epidemiology, infection control, and immunization. In 2013, he received the John P. Utz Leadership Award from NFID for his longstanding service to NFID and the field of infectious diseases. In 2009, he received the James D. Bruce Award from the American College of Physicians for "distinguished contributions to preventive medicine." Dr. Schaffner has worked extensively on the effective use of vaccines in both pediatric and adult populations. He is a strong proponent of collaboration between academic medical centers and public health institutions.

Patricia N. Whitley-Williams, MD



Patricia Whitley-Williams, M.D. is currently Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatrics, as well as Chief of the Division of Pediatric Allergy, Immunology and Infectious Diseases at the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (RWJMS). A native of Boston, she received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Simmons College in Boston and an M.D. degree from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. She completed her pediatric residency at Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati and fellowship training in pediatric infectious diseases at Boston City Hospital/Boston University School of Medicine.

She served on the faculty of Boston University School of Medicine as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics before joining the faculty of the Morehouse School of Medicine as an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Associate Dean for Clinical Students. She was Associate Professor and Interim Chair of the Department of Pediatrics at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia from 1990 to 1993. In September of 1993, Dr. Whitley-Williams joined the faculty of the then University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School as Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics. She is board certified in pediatrics and pediatric infectious diseases and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. She has published many articles and several book chapters, served on national grant review committees and mentored many young pediatricians, residents and medical students.

She is a member of the Infectious Disease Society of America, the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Medical Association. She serves on national committees including, the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (Vice President), the National Medical Association's liaison member of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the US Medical Licensure Examination Management Committee. She was recently appointed to the American Board of Pediatrics as a member of the Subspecialties Committee. Her research interests include HIV/AIDS in women and children as well as childhood and adolescent immunizations.