

Improving Visibility for Proactive Tactics in Emerging Situations

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ABSTRACT

Whether it's an infectious disease, a natural disaster, a human-made disaster, or a loss in utilities and resources, state and local leaders need visibility into the real-time resources of the entire healthcare continuum from labs, hospitals, long-term care settings, and shelters. By connecting public health and healthcare systems, information, and resources, leaders can be more agile and predictive in where to deploy limited resources before and during an emerging situation.

The panelists will discuss how technology and data analytics can be utilized in real-time to resource decisions, bi-directional communication, transparency to stakeholders, and policy development. They will also explore the public health and healthcare continuum for mutual strategy, predictive modeling and reduction of excess loss of life.

The panel will consist of a short introduction by each panelist followed by a facilitated discussion, and questions from the audience.

Keywords

Data analytics, Real-time resource management, Emergency Communication, Policy development

PANELISTS BIOGRAPHY**Lindsay Huse***Health Director*

Douglas County Health Department, Nebraska, USA

Lindsay Huse took on the role of Douglas County Health Department's health director in 2021 in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic. Prior to this role, she held the position of Public Health Nursing State Supervisor at the Wyoming Department of Health. Lindsay received a Doctorate of Nursing Practice from the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. Prior to that she received the MPH degree from UNC Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Nursing degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in 2001.

Michelle (Shelly) Schwedhelm*Associate Director of Global Center for Health Security*

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Shelly Schwedhelm serves as the Associate Director for Clinical Operations and Emergency Management at the UNMC Global Center for Health Security (GCHS). She also serves as the Executive Director of Emergency Management and Biopreparedness at Nebraska Medicine, with operational accountability for the Biocontainment Unit and National Quarantine Unit in addition to several state, regional and national grants. Shelly had overall accountability for biocontainment unit operations and logistics during the care of repatriated Americans with Ebola virus disease in 2014-15. During the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, she lead efforts in collaboration with local, state and federal partners to support quarantine missions for repatriated Americans from Wuhan China and others returning from the Diamond Princess cruise ship from Japan who required care for COVID 19. Shelly has been a key leader as well in the Nebraska and Region VII COVID-19 response creating guidance and serving as an infection prevention subject matter expert for onsite visits in meat packing plants, shelters, long-term care facilities, correctional facilities and schools.

Heidi W. Steinecker*US Public Health Government Executive Lead*

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Heidi W. Steinecker has over twenty years of experience leading healthcare delivery systems and public health. Prior to being a public health consultant, Heidi was the Deputy Director of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) with policy and operational oversight for the largest healthcare system in the US. She used predictive analytics to determine where to target infection preventionists which resulted in California having the lowest COVID fatality ratio in Skilled Nursing Facilities. Heidi also created a data scientist division and re-organized the operational public health structure for a more agile, flatter, functionally aligned business model for increased efficiency and accountability. Heidi authored and implemented the California Facility Pandemic Mitigation plan; increased infection control strike teams by 50%; established state-wide surge sites; and lead facilities and counties through surge plans for effective evacuation, repopulation, and patient transfers during emergency events, including wild-fires, earthquakes, power outages, and communicable disease outbreaks. Heidi works collaboratively with local, state, and national leaders around the globe during emergency events to protect vulnerable populations in congregate settings including healthcare, long-term care, and other licensed facilities.