

COVID-19 DISASTER RESEARCH AND PREVENTION SYMPOSIUM

COVID-19 Disaster Research and Prevention Symposium

Free Virtual Symposium

Wednesday, May 19, 2021 | 8am -1pm (CST)

Join us for an international perspective about the COVID-19 crisis. The Gulf Coast Center for Precision Environmental Health (GC-CPEH), working with The Office for Science and Technology (OST) at the Embassy of France in the United States and the TEXAS Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL), is hosting a virtual **COVID19 Disaster Research and Prevention Symposium**.

Registration is still open: https://bcm.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4s4Z_3aDRIK3zYp-gDiwTw

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

All times listed are in US Central time

8:00 – 8:10 AM

Welcome/General Introduction

- Dr. Cheryl Walker, Baylor College of Medicine

8:10 – 8:25 AM

Opening Remarks

- Sylvester Turner, Houston Mayor
- Alexis Andres, Consul General of France in Houston

Session 1: Facilitator, Dr. Elaine Symanski, Baylor College of Medicine

8:30 – 9:00 AM

Impact of Air Pollution on COVID Mortality

- Dr. Francesca Dominici, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

9:00 – 9:30 AM

Traffic modulation amid Covid: an opportunity to reinvent mobility planning?

- Flavien Lopez, CEREMA

9:30 – 10:00 AM

SARS CoV-2 Wastewater Data to Action

- Dr. Loren Hopkins, Houston Health Department

10:00 – 10:10 AM

BREAK

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Session 2: Facilitator, Dr. Renaud Seigneuric, OST at the Embassy of France

- 10:15 – 10:45 AM ***Research on Emerging Infectious Disease; the pillar for the response to pandemics***
- **Dr. Eric d’Ortenzio**, French Institute of Health and Medical Research, Inserm/ANRS-MIE
- 10:45 – 11:15 AM ***Molecular Surveillance of SARS-CoV2, the Nasal Microbiome and Infection***
- **Dr. Richard Pyles**, The University of Texas Medical Branch
- 11:15 – 11:55 AM ***OneHealth: it's all related***
- **Drs. Karine Chalvet-Monfray and Gwenael Vourch**, National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment (INRAE)
- 11:55 AM – 12:05 PM **BREAK**

Q&A Session: Facilitator, Dr. Chris Amos, Baylor College of Medicine

- 12:10 – 12:55 PM **Q&A Session with Dr. Peter Hotez and Panelists**
- **Dr. Peter Hotez**, Baylor College of Medicine
 - **Dr. Bettina Beech**, The University of Houston
 - **Dr. Eric d’Ortenzio**, French Institute of Health and Medical Research, Inserm/ANRS-MIE
 - **Dr. Loren Hopkins**, Houston Health Department
 - **Dr. Richard Pyles**, The University of Texas Medical Branch
- 12:55 – 1:00 PM **Closing Remarks**
- **Dr. Renaud Seigneuric**, OST at the Embassy of France

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WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS



Dr. Cheryl Walker
BCM Professor, GC-CPEH
Director



Sylvester Turner
Houston Mayor



Alexis Andres
Consul General of France in
Houston

FACILITATORS



Dr. Elaine Symanski
BCM Professor, GC-CPEH
Deputy Director



Dr. Chris Amos
BCM Professor, GC-CPEH
PIPELINE Director



Dr. Renaud Seigneuric
Attaché for Science and
Technology

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SPEAKERS & PANELISTS



Dr. Francesca Dominici is the Director of the Harvard Data Science Initiative, at the Harvard University and the Clarence James Gamble Professor of Biostatistics, Population and Data Science at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and of the International Society of Mathematical Statistics. She leads an interdisciplinary group of scientists with the ultimate goal of addressing important questions in environmental health science, climate change, and health policy.



Flavien Lopez is serving in Cerema, the French public agency supporting public policy for urban development, mobility, adapting to climate change, and transitioning society. As a chief project and specialist of bicycle traffic infrastructures and public space planning, he is involved in the development of national guidelines and recommendations to make cycling a recognized mobility solution.



Dr. Loren Hopkins is the City of Houston Chief Environmental Science Officer, Chief of the Bureau of Community and Children's Environmental Health at the Houston Health Department, and a Professor in the Practice in the Department of Statistics at Rice University. In this dual capacity, she conducts applied research and uses the results to inform policies at the City of Houston to improve the health of the community. She leads the city's COVID-19 data science team.

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Dr. Eric D'Ortenzio is a medical doctor, specialized in Public Health and in General Medicine. He also obtained a Master of Science in Epidemiology from Sorbonne University and a diploma in Tropical Medicine. Since 2015, he is working for Inserm in Paris and is since 2021 the Head of the Department of Strategy and Partnerships at ANRS | Emerging infectious diseases. He is also consultant in tropical medicine and migrant health in the outpatient's clinic of Bichat Hospital in Paris. His topics of interest include research on emerging infectious diseases and tropical diseases.



Dr. Richard B Pyles is a Professor of Pediatrics and Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Texas Medical Branch. As Director of the Galveston National Laboratory Molecular Diagnostic Lab, his group performed clinical COVID testing. His ongoing research includes exploration of the role of the nasal microbiome on SARSCoV2. The work has discovered antimicrobial bacteria that will help identify novel antimicrobials and molecular pathways to limit the virus.



Dr. Karine CHALVET-MONFRAY is a veterinarian, full professor of Statistics and Epidemiology at VetAgro Sup (Lyon, France) since 2013. She obtained a PhD in Biometrics in 1996 and accreditation to supervise medical research in 2006. Since 2015, she is deputy head of the research unit "epidemiology of animal and zoonotic diseases" at INRAE. She teaches the modeling of infectious diseases in the faculty of medicine (Lyon and Grenoble). Her topic of interest is the modeling of zoonotic infectious diseases in link with the environment and weather.

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Dr. Gwenaél Vourc'h is a research director at the National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment (INRAE) in Clermont-Ferrand, deputy director of the Epidemiology of animal and zoonotic diseases research unit. After veterinary studies and a thesis in ecology, she became interested in the ecology of infectious and zoonotic diseases. She works in particular on the risks of transmission of Lyme disease in relation to the environment. She is also developing approaches to support the ecological transition of breeding on health aspects. For several years now, she has been mobilizing the innovative concept-knowledge design approach on different themes in order to identify new avenues of multidisciplinary research with applied aims. She is part of the preparatory committee of the PREZODE initiative (Preventing Zoonotic Disease Emergence).



Dr. Peter J. Hotez is Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine and Professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Virology & Microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine where he is also the Co-director of the Texas Children's Center for Vaccine Development (CVD) and Texas Children's Hospital Endowed Chair of Tropical Pediatrics. Most recently as both a vaccine scientist and autism parent, he has led national efforts to defend vaccines and to serve as an ardent champion of vaccines going up against a growing national "antivax" threat. In 2019, he received the Award for Leadership in Advocacy for Vaccines from the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.



Dr. Bettina Beech is the Associate Provost for Strategic Initiatives and Population Health Research, Associate Dean for Research in the College of Medicine and Professor of Health Systems and Population Health Science at the University of Houston. She has used her interdisciplinary training and leadership skills in the effort to combat COVID-19 by developing contact tracing courses that have trained over 15,000 students. Dr. Beech is also a Site Principal Investigator of an NIH-funded grant to examine COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and perspectives among African Americans and Latinos.

This symposium is sponsored by [The Gulf Coast Center for Precision Environmental Health](#) (GC-CPEH, the NIEHS Environmental Health Sciences Core Center in the Texas Gulf Coast Region, P30ES030285), [the Office for Science and Technology \(OST\) at the Embassy of France in the United States](#) and [the TEXAS Community Engagement Alliance \(CEAL\)](#). If you have any questions, please email us at gc-cpeh@bcm.edu.