Building a Resilient Drug Supply Chain
Duke-Margolis Center Webinar
April 19, 2021 | 12:00-2:00pm

Aim: The Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy is convening a public webinar to discuss how to build a more resilient drug supply chain. During this webinar, experts will describe the challenges we face in building a resilient drug supply chain, potential approaches to build a more robust, responsive, and resilient supply chain, and how we can assess our progress towards supply chain resilience.

Background: The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the vulnerability of the U.S. drug supply chain. Even before the pandemic, drug shortages were a pervasive and persistent problem, affecting critical drugs, vaccines and other pharmaceuticals used to treat patients in hospitals and emergency rooms. With the onset of the pandemic, these challenges have grown, with healthcare providers struggling to find the drugs and supplies they needed to effectively treat and manage patients.

Given these challenges, there have been growing calls to increase the resilience of the US drug supply chain. Resilient drug supply chains can limit the risk of drug shortages, protect patient health, and ensure preparedness for pandemics and other threats to health and national security. Recognizing the importance of a resilient supply chain, the Biden administration issued an executive order in February calling for an assessment of the resilience of America’s supply chains, including the supply chain for drugs and vaccines.

12:00 pm Welcome and Introduction
Mark McClellan, Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy

12:05 pm Session 1: How resilient is the U.S. drug supply chain today?
In this session, we will aim to establish a definition of supply chain resilience, understand why supply chain resilience is so important, and discuss ways to better measure and collect data on the resilience of our supply chain. We will also discuss the economic forces and incentives that drive the state of our supply chain.

Presentation: A Framework for Assessing Supply Chain Resilience and Risks
• Marta Wosinska, Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy

Panel Discussion:
Moderator: Marta Wosinska, Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy
• Rena Conti, Associate Research Director, Institute for Health System Innovation and Policy, Boston University
• Dan Kistner, Group Senior Vice President, Pharmacy Solutions, Vizient
12:45 pm  Session 2: Building a More Resilient, Responsive, and Flexible Supply Chain
Building a resilient supply chain will require changes to how drugs and vaccines are manufactured, sourced, and distributed. In this session, we will discuss what a resilient supply chain might look like, and the steps that could be taken to make our supply chain more responsive and resilient.

Panel Discussion:
Moderator: Adam Kroetsch, Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy
- Sandeep Patel, Director of Division of Research, Innovation, and Ventures (DRIVE), BARDA
- Bill Falstich, Vice President, Biopharma Hospital Supply, Pfizer
- Allan Coukell, Senior Vice President, Public Policy, Civica

1:20 pm  Session 3: Next Steps
Recognizing the magnitude of the supply chain resilience challenge, we will need to prioritize the most critical actions. In this session, we will discuss the policies, business practices, and incentives that could be put in place, and which should be put in place after the administration’s upcoming supply chain assessment.

Panel Discussion:
Moderator: Mark McClellan, Duke-Margolis Center for Health Policy
- Doug Holtz-Eakin, President, American Action Forum
- Carlo de Notaristefani, President, CDN Advising
- Jessica Daley, Vice President, Strategic Supplier Engagement, Premier
- Rena Conti, Associate Research Director, Institute for Health System Innovation and Policy, Boston University

2:00 pm  Meeting Adjourns