Long COVID: New Research and the Economic Toll

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES
(In order of appearance on the program)

KATHRYN SANTORO, MA is Director of Programming at the National Institute for Health Care Management (NIHCM) Foundation, a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization dedicated to transforming health care through evidence and collaboration. Ms. Santoro currently leads NIHCM’s programs to highlight market and policy innovations, including webinars and Capitol Hill briefings, and directs the organization’s journalism and population health programs.

Ms. Santoro joined NIHCM Foundation in September 2004 after receiving her Master's degree in Public Policy from George Washington University with a focus on women’s health policy. Ms. Santoro previously served as a Project Consultant for Women in Government where she was responsible for compiling a state-by-state report card on access to cervical cancer screening. While pursuing her Master’s degree, Ms. Santoro was a Communications Assistant for a health policy consulting firm and a Graduate Intern for a Washington, D.C. based women’s and children’s policy research organization. Ms. Santoro attended Villanova University in Villanova, PA and graduated with a BA cum laude in Political Science.

Walter J. Koroshetz, MD, serves as Director of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. He joined NINDS in 2007 as Deputy Director and has held leadership roles in a number of NIH and NINDS programs including co-leading the NIH’s BRAIN Initiative, the NIH RECOVER Initiative in the study of Post-Acute Sequelae of COVID-19, NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience, the NIH Post-Acute Sequelae of Covid-19 Initiative, the Traumatic Brain Injury Center collaboration between the NIH intramural and the Uniformed Health Services University, the Helping to End Addiction Long Term (HEAL) Initiative. He co-leads a number of NIH Common Fund’s programs including the Undiagnosed Disease Network, the Acute to Chronic Pain Transition programs, Somatic Gene Editing program, Transformational ALS research program, and he was instrumental in founding the NIH Office of Emergency Care Research.

Before joining NINDS, Dr. Koroshetz served as Vice Chair of the neurology service and Director of stroke and neurointensive care services at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). He was a professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School (HMS) and led neurology resident training at MGH between 1990 and 2007. Over that same period, he co-directed the HMS Neurobiology of Disease Course with Drs. Edward Kravitz and Robert H Brown.

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Dr. Koroshetz graduated from Georgetown University and received his medical degree from the University of Chicago. He trained in internal medicine at the University of Chicago and Massachusetts General Hospital. He then trained in Neurology and Neuroscience at MGH and Harvard Neurobiology focusing on how synaptic mechanisms might contribute to neuronal death. His early research in the lab and clinic focused on Huntington’s disease and with the team at MGH performed the first study of pre-symptomatic testing based on linkage analysis. A major focus of his clinical research career was the development of measures in patients that reflect the underlying biology of their conditions. This led to brain the development and validation of imaging techniques including Magnetic Resonance (MR) spectroscopy in Huntington’s disease; diffusion/perfusion MR and CT X-ray angiography and perfusion imaging in stroke. These stroke imaging tools are now commonplace in stroke care. Guided by these tools he pioneered acute clot removal for acute stroke patients with large artery occlusion which is now practiced at Comprehensive stroke centers around the country. Through his work with the American Academy of Neurology, American Stroke Association and ACGME, he played a significant role in the revolution in acute stroke care in the US and the growth of the neurointensive care field.
David Cutler, PhD, has developed an impressive record of achievement in both academia and the public sector. He served as Assistant Professor of Economics from 1991 to 1995, was named John L. Loeb Associate Professor of Social Sciences in 1995, and received tenure in 1997. He is currently the Otto Eckstein Professor of Applied Economics in the Department of Economics and was named Harvard College Professor in 2014 until 2019. Professor Cutler holds secondary appointments at the Kennedy School of Government and the School of Public Health. Professor Cutler was associate dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences for Social Sciences from 2003-2008.

Honored for his scholarly work and singled out for outstanding mentorship of graduate students, Professor Cutler’s work in health economics and public economics has earned him significant academic and public acclaim. Professor Cutler served on the Council of Economic Advisers and the National Economic Council during the Clinton Administration and has advised the Presidential campaigns of Bill Bradley, John Kerry, and Barack Obama as well as being Senior Health Care Advisor for the Obama Presidential Campaign. Among other affiliations, Professor Cutler has held positions with the National Institutes of Health and the National Academy of Sciences. Currently, Professor Cutler is a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, a member of the Institute of Medicine, and a Fellow of the Employee Benefit Research Institute. He advises many companies and groups on health care.

Professor Cutler was a key advisor in the formulation of the recent cost control legislation in Massachusetts, and is one of the members of the Health Policy Commission created to help reduce medical spending in that state.

Professor Cutler is author of two books, several chapters in edited books, and many published papers on the topics of health care and other public policy topics. Author of Your Money Or Your Life: Strong Medicine for America’s Health Care System, published by Oxford University Press, this book, and Professor Cutler’s ideas, were the subject of a feature article in the New York Times Magazine, The Quality Cure, by Roger Lowenstein. Cutler’s most recent book, The Quality Cure, pursues these themes. Cutler was recently named one of the 30 people who could have a powerful impact on healthcare by Modern Healthcare magazine and one of the 50 most influential men aged 45 and younger by Details magazine.

Katie Bach, is a nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, where she writes about long Covid, job quality, and low-wage work. Bach is currently at Amazon, as Director of Employee Experience. Previously, Bach held leadership roles at the Good Jobs Institute and at Starbucks. She was also a management consultant at McKinsey & Company. Her Brookings research on long Covid’s labor market impact has been cited by the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, the New York Times, NPR, and more. Bach has an MBA from MIT Sloan, a Master’s degree from the London School of Economics, and a BA from Oxford University.

Kelli Tice, MD, is a family physician with a background in public health who serves as GuideWell and Florida Blue’s Vice President, Medical Affairs and Chief Health Equity Officer. In this role, which she assumed in January 2022, Dr. Tice is responsible for creating solutions that improve health outcomes and address health inequities for GuideWell’s customers and communities.

In addition to leading the company’s health equity strategy, she has responsibilities in the areas of corporate social responsibility and public health surveillance. Dr. Tice is also the clinical lead for Florida Blue’s COVID-19 response. Additionally, Dr. Tice is a key member of the Equity Alliance, an enterprise-wide initiative focused on addressing systemic racism and health disparities for Black Americans. Prior to her current role, she served as Senior Medical Director for Medical Affairs.

Early in her medical training, Dr. Tice became interested in addressing health disparities and delivering culturally competent care. Dr. Tice taught cultural competency for physicians, and incorporated evidence-based techniques to promote health equity into primary care practice in both private and public clinical settings. She is passionate about health education and she enjoys mentoring and community involvement.

Before joining GuideWell and Florida Blue in 2018, she spent 17 years as a public health physician, serving in numerous leadership roles including that of County Health Officer and State Medical Director for the Florida Department of Health.

Dr. Tice is a member of the Florida Academy of Family Physicians, and currently serves as the President of Northeast Florida Medical Society. She received her bachelor’s degree from Florida
A&M University, her medical degree from the University of Florida College of Medicine and completed her residency at St. Vincent’s Family Practice Residency Program.