

Nuclear Weapons: A Public Health Issue

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021 • 12–1 PM

Jointly provided by the Massachusetts Medical Society, its Committee on Environmental & Occupational Health, and its Committee on Global Health, and Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility



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Program Agenda

- 12:00 p.m. Welcome**
Brita E. Lundberg, MD
- 12:02 p.m. Introduction**
Jennifer Leaning, MD, SMH
- 12:05 p.m. Looking Back, Looking Forward: The Medical Consequences of Nuclear War**
The legacy of cardiologist Dr. Bernard Lown and colleagues' 1962 articles in NEJM and where we are now
Joseph Hodgkin, MD
- 12:15 p.m. Nuclear War as Public Health's Greatest "Never Event"**
Matt Bivens, MD
- 12:25 p.m. An Ethical Responsibility? How Physicians Can Advocate for Prevention**
Tova Fuller, MD, PhD
- 12:35 p.m. Is There a Meaningful Medical or Civil Defense Response?**
Jennifer Leaning, MD, SMH
- 12:40 p.m. Q&A**
- 1:00 p.m. Closing**

Accreditation Statement

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the Massachusetts Medical Society and Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility. The Massachusetts Medical Society is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

AMA Credit Designation Statement

The Massachusetts Medical Society designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*[™]. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This activity meets the criteria of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine for risk management study.

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Presenters

Matt Bivens, MD

Dr. Bivens is an emergency physician who works at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, where he holds an academic appointment at Harvard Medical School as Instructor in Clinical Medicine, and at St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford, MA.

Dr. Bivens is the EMS Medical Director for several ambulance services in southern Massachusetts. Prior to medical school in Washington D.C., he worked as a journalist. Among other things, he covered the war in Chechnya for the Los Angeles Times, was the editor of The Moscow Times, a daily English-language paper, and helped manage Russia's largest publishing house, Independent Media. His journalism has been published in The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, Harper's, The Nation, and other media.

Tova Fuller, MD, PhD

Dr. Tova Fuller is an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of California San Francisco, serving as an inpatient psychiatrist. She has an MS in biomedical engineering and a PhD in computational genetics in addition to her MD. Her clinical areas of interest are acute treatment of serious mental illness and hypnosis.

Dr. Fuller has been involved with PSR since her first year of medical school. She sat on the national board of directors as a medical student representative and also was involved with the Los Angeles and Washington chapters. Currently she serves as Vice President and Nuclear Weapons Abolition Committee (NWAC) chair of the SF Bay PSR chapter. In 2011 she was awarded the Lown-Alexander-Sidel Award for Medical Advocacy.

Dr. Fuller's primary area of interest is militarism and nuclear weapons. She co-planned 2 national conferences as a medical student on these topics in addition to climate change and environmental health.

Joseph Hodgkin, MD

Dr. Hodgkin is a hospitalist at Massachusetts General Hospital. He is involved in advocacy and peer education on nuclear weapons.

Jennifer Leaning, MD, SMH

Jennifer Leaning is a Senior Research Fellow at the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University and recently retired as Professor of the Practice at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She is Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Leaning's research and policy interests include issues of public health, medical ethics, and early warning in response to mass atrocity, war and disaster as well as problems of human security, human rights and international humanitarian law in crisis settings. She has field experience in assessing these issues in specific settings of armed conflict, forced migration, and abuses of human rights.

Dr. Leaning has served on the boards of directors of Physicians for Social Responsibility, Physicians for Human Rights, the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Red Cross, Oxfam America, and the Humane Society of the United States. She now serves on the Steering Group of GAAMAC (Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes) and the Board of Directors of the Norwegian Refugee Committee—USA. She edited the journal PSR Quarterly/Medicine and Global Survival from 1991-2000 and is currently on the editorial board of the journal Health and Human Rights and a member of the Board of Syndics of Harvard University Press.