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VIRAL MISINFORMATION: :NOITAMROFNIM JARIV

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Health Impacts and Legal Solutions

Health misinformation and disinformation are creating significant harms to public health and healthcare systems across the globe.

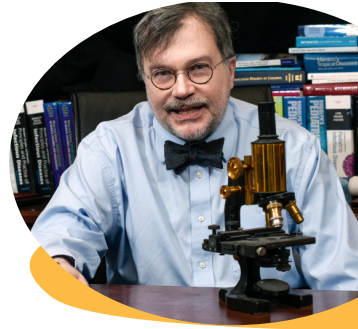
The US Office of the Surgeon General has declared health misinformation to be a significant public health challenge.

Misinformation on issues such as vaccinations, masking, abortion, COVID-19, gender-affirming care, monkeypox and opioids have spread even more quickly with the use of social media and web-based news channels. Such misinformation can exacerbate health inequities and pose problems for health privacy. Law and policy will be instrumental in determining the response to ongoing health misinformation and will most certainly influence how healthcare and public health systems develop strategies promoting science. Efforts to stem the spread of misinformation implicate many areas of law, including technology and privacy law, the First Amendment, tort law, FTC law and professional licensing.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

DR. PETER HOTEZ

Peter J. Hotez, MD, PhD, is an internationally recognized physician-scientist in neglected tropical diseases and vaccine development. He is dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine and professor of pediatrics and molecular virology and 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.



Among Dr. Hotez's many honors and awards, he was named by *FORTUNE* magazine as one of the 34 most influential people in healthcare in 2017. In 2022, he and his colleague Dr. Maria Elena Bottazzi were nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for their work to develop and distribute a low-cost COVID-19 vaccine to people of the world without patent limitation.



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