

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FIVE US HEALTH SECRETARIES FEATURED TOGETHER FOR FIRST TIME AT
ASPEN IDEAS FESTIVAL'S SPOTLIGHT HEALTH**

*Conversation with David Mathews, Kathleen Sebelius, Donna Shalala, Louis W. Sullivan, and
Tommy G. Thompson Now Online*

WHAT: New video from Spotlight Health, part of the 2015 Aspen Ideas Festival, presented by the Aspen Institute and *The Atlantic*, is now online, including:

- **Happy Birthday, Medicare and Medicaid – Five HHS Secretaries Celebrate Together**

June 27, 1:15 PM MT

In a first-of-its-kind gathering, five US Department of Health and Human Services Secretaries talk about the American way of healthcare. Together, they have served five presidents from both political parties, as far back as 1976 and as recently as 2014. Medicare and Medicaid, which celebrate a 50th anniversary this year, will be a cornerstone of their conversation. But these leaders also presided over the agency as astounding progress occurred in biomedical research, the American population grew older and more diverse, and repeated attempts were made to expand access to care. What can these former Cabinet officials tell us about the government's evolving role in health, and about bringing a divided nation together around better health for all?

David Mathews, President and CEO, Kettering Foundation; Former Secretary, US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

Kathleen Sebelius, Former Secretary, US Department of Health and Human Services; Former Governor, State of Kansas

Donna Shalala, President and CEO, Clinton Foundation; Former Secretary, US Department of Health and Human Services

Louis W. Sullivan, Chairman of the Board, National Health Museum; Former Secretary, US Department of Health and Human Services

Tommy Thompson, Former Secretary, US Department of Health and Human Services; Former Governor, State of Wisconsin

Moderated by: **Judy Woodruff**, Co-Anchor and Managing Editor, "PBS NewsHour"

Watch here: <https://youtu.be/uBfA9KbMJU0>

- **Be Prepared: Infectious Diseases are Here to Stay**

— MORE —

June 26, 3:00 PM MT

Plague, which devastated Europe in the Middle Ages, has now been reported in Colorado. HIV, unknown before the 1980s, has killed almost 40 million people, and in the 21st century, the United States has already been threatened by SARS, H1N1, and MERS. Around the world, the struggle against other infectious diseases continues. We can't predict where or when the next one will appear, or how devastating it will be, but we know it is coming. How prepared are we? Meanwhile, children in many nations are dying from vaccine-preventable infections and in the United States, measles is on the rise, with 400 cases linked to a single outbreak in 2014. What incentives will stimulate more R&D to curb infectious diseases? How do we prioritize investments in drug development? How do we get more people vaccinated?

Larry Brilliant, Senior Advisor, Jeff Skoll Group; Chairman, Skoll Global Threats Fund

Anthony S. Fauci, Director and Chief, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health

Neeraj Mistry, Managing Director, Global Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases, Sabin Vaccine Institute

Storn Kabuluzi, Director of Preventive Health Services, Ministry of Health

Moderated by: **Judy Woodruff**, Co-Anchor and Managing Editor, "PBS NewsHour"

Watch here: <https://youtu.be/Y-cMgxTGcQ4>

- **Breakthroughs in Cancer**

June 26, 1:15 PM MT

Paradigm-shifting knowledge continues to reshape our approach to cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. We are going deeper into cancer genomics and the heterogeneity of malignancy, developing new immunotherapies that build on the body's natural defenses, and designing targeted drugs that block cancer pathways. In forward-facing clinics and hospitals, design that abets healing is gaining new attention. Bringing the best science into under-resourced communities remains an enormous challenge, but state-of-the-art cancer facilities in Rwanda and Uganda offer models the world can learn from. What's on the horizon in cancer research and clinical care? Will the ceaseless war on cancer ever end in victory? How do we share advances more equitably around the globe?

Corey Casper, Head of Global Oncology, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center; Professor of Medicine, University of Washington

Peter Drobac, Co-Founder and Executive Director, University of Global Health Equity, Partners in Health

Edith Perez, Deputy Director at Large, Mayo Clinic Cancer Center in Florida

Moderated by: **Alan Weil**, Editor-in-Chief, Health Affairs

Watch here: <https://youtu.be/Cjleb1MvpcU>

WHERE: Throughout the week of the Aspen Ideas Festival, which runs June 25 to July 4, video will be available at www.youtube.com/aspeninstitute, www.aspenideas.org/video, and YouTube.com/AtlanticLIVEvideo.

Additionally, on Twitter, follow [@AspenIdeas](https://twitter.com/AspenIdeas) and [@Atlantic LIVE](https://twitter.com/AtlanticLIVE), tweet your thoughts using [#AspenIdeas](https://twitter.com/AspenIdeas) and [#SpotlightHealth](https://twitter.com/SpotlightHealth), and follow our speakers at <http://as.pn/ideasspkrs15>. Like us at [Facebook.com/AspenIdeas](https://facebook.com/AspenIdeas) and [Facebook.com/TheAtlantic](https://facebook.com/TheAtlantic), and follow [Facebook.com/AspenInstitute](https://facebook.com/AspenInstitute) and [Facebook.com/AtlanticLIVE](https://facebook.com/AtlanticLIVE) for inside looks at the Festival.

See our behind-the-scenes photos and show us your point of view using #AspenIdeas and #SpotlightHealth at Instagram.com/AspenInstitute and Instagram.com/AtlanticLive.

For a full list of ways to stay engaged with the 2015 Aspen Ideas Festival online, see <http://www.aspeninstitute.org/about/blog/join-ideas-festival-anywhere>.

WHEN: The Spotlight Health portion (June 25-28) of the Aspen Ideas Festival concludes today, but video from Festival 1 (June 28-July 1) and Festival 2 (July 1-4) of the Aspen Ideas Festival will be available on a rolling basis throughout the coming week (now through July 4, 2015). Archived videos can be found online at www.aspenideas.org/video.

Presenting underwriters for the 2015 Aspen Ideas Festival include Allstate; Booz Allen Hamilton; HP; Mount Sinai Health System; Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Shell; Southern Company; Toyota; U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management; and Walton Family Foundation. Supporting underwriters include American Federation of Teachers, Environmental Defense Fund, EY, Genworth, and Pearson. The MacArthur Foundation and PBS are contributing underwriters.

Presenting underwriters for 2015 Aspen Ideas Festival Spotlight Health are Anschutz Medical Campus, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Booz Allen Hamilton, HCN, Mayo Clinic, Mount Sinai Health System, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Supporting underwriters include American Medical Association, Autism Speaks, and Children's National Health System. Association of American Medical Colleges, the CDC Foundation, Consumer Reports, Genentech, and The Rockefeller Foundation are contributing underwriters.

About *The Atlantic*

Founded in 1857 and today one of the fastest growing media platforms in the industry, *The Atlantic* has throughout its history championed the power of big ideas and continues to shape global debate across print, digital, events, and video platforms. With its award-winning digital presence, TheAtlantic.com and CityLab.com on cities around the world, *The Atlantic* is a multimedia forum on the most critical issues of our times—from politics, business, urban affairs, and the economy, to technology, arts, and culture. *The Atlantic* is the flagship property of Washington, D.C.-based publisher Atlantic Media. Its co-presidents are Editor in Chief James Bennet and Chief Operating Officer, Bob Cohn.

About the Aspen Institute

The Aspen Institute is an educational and policy studies organization based in Washington, DC. Its mission is to foster leadership based on enduring values and to provide a nonpartisan venue for dealing with critical issues. The Institute is based in Washington, DC; Aspen, Colorado; and on the Wye River on Maryland's Eastern Shore. It also has offices in New York City and an international network of partners. For more information, visit www.aspeninstitute.org.

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