



The National Forum for Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention (National Forum) held its 21st annual meeting on October 26, 2023, via a virtual meeting platform. All participants were asked to complete a 12-question survey evaluating their experience after the event. 47 individuals responded to the survey (20% response rate).

Overall, satisfaction with the meeting was high—**95% of respondents found the meeting valuable or very valuable.**

Similarly, the overwhelming majority of respondents found the panels valuable or very valuable—100% Panel 1 (Vital Conditions for Well-Being), 95% Panel 2 (Reframing Prevention and Public Health) and 100% Panel 3 (Reducing the Mental Health Crisis and the Leading Cause of Death Together). One respondent noted:

“Very enlightening. Each panel session, I learned something.”

-Annual Meeting Participant

“Just so impressive. I really wish you could take the Indiana discussion (Panel 2) and amplify those sound bites (and entire discussion) across the entire field. What a model and true solutions - that I have not heard at ANY other meeting or presentation.”

Generally, respondents found the online registration process (97%) and pre-meeting communications excellent or good (97%). However, a few respondents commented on challenges with the chat during the course of the meeting and the numerous registration reminders to attendees to individuals even after they had already registered. Suggestions for improvement centered around creating more opportunities for engagement between attendees—sharing the attendee list, breakout sessions, more interaction, more interactive chat. Other respondents commented on the length of the meeting, indicating it was hard to stay focused and engaged virtually over such a long period of time.

Fifteen respondents suggested a policy idea, or action that the National Forum could be advancing. Five individuals commented on the need to advance awareness of the linkage between mental health and heart health. Suggestions for future meeting topics are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Suggestions for Future Meeting Topics
Everyone's Concern (featuring the enormity of CV disease state/ how it impacts every household in some way)
Have we regained the ground we lost during COVID?
Health System metrics accountability on HTN, A1c & cholesterol perhaps in tandem w NcQA?
Healthy Aging - beginning at planning and conception
Making investments in public health
Other major health related issues such as Cancer, COPD, etc. would be great.
Perhaps expand upon the Indiana session and extrapolate some of that content as a theme?
Promoting optimal CV health worldwide: Challenges and opportunities

35% of respondents found an idea, policy, or action from the meeting that they or their organization may implement. *Suggestion for what attendees can take back to their organization. One respondent noted they heard "wonderful ideas to present to our board."*

Table 2. Ideas, Actions and Policies Attendees Take Back to their Organization
A greater focus on metrics, transparency, and accountability.
All the valuable information shared at the National Forum can be and will be implemented in the services that our [organization] provides to [community].
All topics mentioned. Very enlightening. Each panel session, I learned something.
Better staff and patient education.
[Organizations] are all focused on strengthening our movement toward greater justice in health, wellness, and healthcare...I would like to see greater focus on prevention with emphasis on prevention.
Collaborative Approach to Public Goods Investments
Evaluate public good investments
Further awareness in the community
Health equity discussions
Healthy equity framework: further work on promoting team care that includes chronic disease and mental health
I am going to amplify brain health = heart health more in communications
Including cardiovascular disease along the spectrum of mental health.
Measuring equitable outcomes
More attention to mental health at younger ages, more attention to physical activity and supporting communities for more trails and safe walking areas.
More networking with like-minded organizations
[Organization] is implementing DEI in all Departments and schools. It overrides all our actions as faculty. Needs to continue to add students and activities that are open to everyone and foster diversity.
SDoH Community Linkages.
Some of the speakers have presented information I will use; new connections on social media
Utilizing Medical Mobile Units to reach out to our most vulnerable communities.
Work with legislature to increase spending on Public Health

