JOANNE LYNN, M.D., M.A.

HOW TO BUILD THE CARE SYSTEM
YOU NEED WHEN YOU ARE VERY OLD

SEPTEMBER 22, 2016
4:00 P.M.
208 LIGHT HALL

Upcoming Discovery Lecture:

ELIZABETH ENGLE, M.D.
Professor of Neurology and Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School
Associate Member, Broad Institute Investigator, HHMI

Oct. 6, 2016
208 Light Hall / 4:00 P.M.
Most Americans will become old, without the supports needed to live well. We will need someone’s help every day for more than two years, on average. Most will need financial help from family or government. Housing is not yet modified for living with disabilities and home-delivered food often sports a long waiting list. Medical care does not focus on patient and family priorities. Family caregiving will be a crisis as families become smaller, more dispersed, older, and facing inadequate retirement income for the younger generation.

Dr. Lynn presents a pragmatic way to ensure that Americans can count on living comfortably and meaningfully through the period of disability and illness that marks the last years of life at a cost that families and taxpayers can sustain. MediCaring Communities proposes to build care plans around the elder’s health needs, living situation, and preferences. Integrating supportive services with medical care and installing local monitoring and management also improve services. Finances improve from harvesting savings from better medical care. Evidence supports each component, but optimal gain is in the combination, where savings support community-based services; communities build the necessary environment, and elders and their families craft their course with the help of interdisciplinary teams.

Joanne Lynn, MD, MA (Philosophy and Social Policy), MS (Quantitative Clinical Sciences), is Director of Altarum Institute’s Center for Elder Care and Advanced Illness, which aims to ensure that frail elders can live meaningfully and comfortably at sustainable costs. The work includes implementing and measuring care plans, developing methods for counties and cities to monitor and manage frail elder care, coaching counties and cities, and developing support for caregivers. Dr. Lynn has been a tenured professor at Dartmouth and George Washington University, a staff member at CMS, the Bureau Chief for Cancer and Chronic Disease for Washington (DC), a researcher at RAND, and on IHI’s quality improvement faculty. She is a member of the National Academy of Medicine, a Master of the American College of Physicians, a Fellow of the Hastings Institute, and an author of more than 280 peer-reviewed publications, 80 books and chapters, and a dozen amicus briefs and publications for public commissions.