

Questions for Candidates

The following information and questions are intended solely for educational purposes and to help you discuss important issues with candidates for elected office. The information contained herein and the proposed questions do not, and should not be interpreted to, favor or oppose one candidate or political party over another. Use these questions, or ask your own, as the successful candidates are only a short time away from engaging in a legislative debate that will impact Dartmouth-Hitchcock (D-H) and your community. Remember, this is entirely voluntary on your part.

Federal Office

Many of Dartmouth-Hitchcock's patients rely on Medicare as their source of health insurance. In their 2018 financial review of the program, the Medicare Board of Trustees reported that the Medicare Hospital Insurance Trust Fund will be unable to fulfill its commitments in 2026, three years sooner than previously reported.

- If you are elected to the federal office you are seeking, what will you do to ensure not only that Medicare is available but also that all seniors will be able to access the medical care they need?

Over the last several years there have been a number of Medicaid policy proposals that would fundamentally change the way Medicaid is currently financed.

- Do you support current federal commitments to Medicaid?

Researchers at Dartmouth-Hitchcock are proud to be recipients of many federally supported research grant programs including from the National Institute of Health, the Agency for Health Care Research and Quality, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

- Will you be an active champion at the federal level to ensure that there is robust federal funding available for medical research?

As one of the few academic health systems with clinics and member hospitals located in a rural setting, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health and the patients we serve face unique challenges.

- As the federal government continues to address rural health care challenges, what policies and programs will you advocate for at the legislative and executive branches that support rural health and address health challenges in our region?

New Hampshire

New Hampshire is facing multiple public health challenges, including an opioid crisis and mental health capacity constraints, yet NH Medicaid reimbursement rates for hospitals remain the lowest in the country.

- Do you support increasing provider reimbursement so as to ensure access to vital services in this time of great demand?
- What other solutions might you propose?

Vermont

Vermont is engaged in an effort to reform health care through an "All Payer Model," aligning all payers (Medicare, Medicaid and commercial insurers) and providers in an effort to reward value over volume while limiting health care growth spending.

- Do you support or oppose this initiative? What would you propose instead?

VOTE on November 6

