Jason Karlawish, MD

Co-Director, Penn Memory Centre, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA

Jason Karlawish is a physician and writer. He cares for patients at the Penn Memory Center, which he co-directs. A Professor of Medicine, Medical Ethics and Health Policy, and Neurology at the University of Pennsylvania, his research focuses on issues at the intersections of bioethics, aging and the neurosciences. As leader of the Penn Program for Precision Medicine for the Brain (P3MB) he and his colleagues have investigated the development and translation of Alzheimer's disease treatments and biomarker-based diagnostics. His essays have appeared in Forbes.com, The Hill, the New York Times, the Philadelphia Inquirer, STATnews and the Washington Post. He is the author of the novel Open Wound: The Tragic Obsession of Dr. William Beaumont (University of Michigan 2011). Based on true events along the early 19th century American frontier, it is the story of a physician's increasing obsession with achieving fame and fortune. His book, The Problem of Alzheimer's: How Science, Culture and Politics Turned a Rare Disease into a Crisis and What We Can Do About It (St Martin’s Press 2021), is an account of how Alzheimer’s disease became a crisis and the steps needed to address it.