



City and County of San Francisco
Edwin M. Lee, Mayor

San Francisco Department of Public Health

Barbara A. Garcia, MPA
Director of Health

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of

March 4, 2014

A current overview of issues affecting the state of public health in San Francisco

<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

Affordable Care Act and Jail Health Services

Under the new Affordable Care Act (ACA), estimates suggest that up to 90% of men and women in county jails are now eligible for healthcare coverage. Should continuous, integrated healthcare services become widely available for jail populations, a reduction in criminal behavior and repeated incarcerations associated with chronic health conditions is expected. Jail Health anticipates that including healthcare enrollment services in our reentry planning efforts has the potential to significantly increase the likelihood that formerly incarcerated individuals will access and continue treatment in the community, which will in turn, positively affect public health and recidivism rates. Thus far Jail Health Services has successfully enrolled 22 individuals in healthcare and assisted upwards of 168 individuals with beginning the healthcare enrollment process. We anticipate that those numbers will grow significantly once our enrollment specialist becomes certified and we are able to do enrollment in the intake jail.

Cognitive Counseling for Episodic Substance-Using Men

Men who have sex with men (MSM) who use alcohol and other drugs are at elevated risk for HIV infection. The Substance Use Research Unit has published the outcome paper for a randomized trial of a brief behavioral intervention (adapted Personalized Cognitive Counseling) for MSM who episodically use alcohol, cocaine, methamphetamine or poppers. The trial demonstrated a reduction in some HIV risk behaviors among men who were not dependent on those substances.

(Coffin PO, Santos GM, Colfax G, Das M, Matheson T, DeMicco E, Dilley J, Vittinghoff E, Raiford JL, Carry M, Herbst JH. Adapted Personalized Cognitive Counseling for Episodic Substance-using Men Who Have Sex with Men: A Randomized Controlled Trial. *AIDS & Behavior*. 2014; Feb 9 [Epub].)

San Francisco Immunization Coalition Update

In October 2013, the San Francisco Immunization Coalition (SFIC) bid farewell to its longtime Director, Andrew Resignato, as he moved on to new pursuits. In December, the SFIC Advisory Board appointed fellow Board member Larry Vitale, RN, MPA, MPH to take the Director's position. SFIC has continued actively promoting immunization in San Francisco. Throughout the fall of 2013, SFIC partnered with SFDPH and SFSU School of Nursing to provide influenza vaccinations to nearly 300 residents of SF homeless shelters. In February 2014, Congresswoman

Jackie Speier sponsored a community outreach event on the SFSU campus to promote the implementation of Covered California. SFIC participated by providing influenza and Tdap vaccinations at this event with the support of SFSU nursing students and the SFDPH Immunization Program. SFIC has a new website: ImmunizeSF.org and a new Facebook page, [Facebook.com/ImmunizeSF](https://www.facebook.com/ImmunizeSF).

Office-Based Induction Clinic

It is estimated that 12-15% of the inmate population has a history of heroin addiction, most of whom do not receive drug abuse treatment either during incarceration or upon release. As a consequence, re-addiction to heroin typically occurs within one month of release from incarceration, increasing the likelihood of death from overdose, HIV infection, hepatitis B and C infections, increased criminal activity, and re-incarceration. Buprenorphine, an opioid agonist has been found to be highly effective in reducing heroin use in the community and retaining patients in treatment. It is being increasingly used in place of methadone.

Jail Health Services began prescribing Buprenorphine to inmates for opiate maintenance approximately 6 months ago. To ensure continuity of care upon release from custody, it established a linkage to community treatment for these patients through the Department of Public Health's Office-Based Induction Clinic (OBIC). All patients started on Buprenorphine in jail are provided information about and referred to OBIC for follow up care. Jail Health Services then tracks these patient's court dates so that they can notify OBIC when the individual is released from custody. Thus far, approximately 50% of patients prescribed Buprenorphine in jail have connected with OBIC upon release from custody at least once for continued care.

Nurse-led Orientation Clinics in Primary Care

Effective March 1, 2014 eight of the community oriented primary care San Francisco Health Network (SFHN) clinics will be implementing Orientation Clinics (OC) for new patients with stable conditions seeking care into our system. Faced with a large wait list for new patient appointments, primary care nursing leadership came together to create an "OC Implementation Team" led by Kit Chan, Anna Robert and Lissette Waterman. The Team produced:

- A standardized OC workflow including appointment scheduling template
- Standing orders for age and disease appropriate screening and health maintenance services
- An OC order set and intake forms
- An OC Training Manual which allows for the training of 39 RNs in eCW workflow and standards for Orientation Clinic.

The training would not have been successful without the incredible flexibility, collaboration and support of Bel Garcia and Emma Bathke of the eCW training team, the rest of the Community Oriented Primary Care nurse managers, and Ocean Park Health Center for allowing use of their training room. OC is largely responsible for the reduction of our new patient wait list from the peak of 1152 in 3/2013 to 231 as of 2/24/14.

This is an incredible example of nursing leadership and collaboration, and sets an important precedent for our system's ability to rapidly standardize, train and implement innovative

approaches to improve access. With the anticipated increase in demand for primary care services resulting from the Affordable Care Act, OC is proving to be a successful example of nursing innovation in team-based care. It allows for nurses to work at the top of their scope to improve access, client outcomes, and ultimately to reach the triple aim.

The Whistleblower Program, operated by the Controller's Office, receives complaints regarding the misuse of City funds, improper activities by City officers and employees, deficiencies in the quality and delivery of government services, and wasteful and inefficient City government practices. There are a number of ways to file a complaint. Go to www.sfcontroller.org and click on the Frequently Requested tab to access the Whistleblower complaint instructions in the drop down menu.