



## San Francisco Department of Public Health

Greg Wagner  
Acting Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco  
London N. Breed  
Mayor

### **As part of the 54-city Partnership for Healthy Cities, San Francisco pursues citywide public health data project to tackle chronic disease**

### ***San Francisco is committed to preventing chronic diseases as part of a global network of cities***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**San Francisco (October 31, 2018)**—On World Cities Day, Mayor London Breed affirmed her commitment to proven public health policies that prevent deaths and injuries as part of the Partnership for Healthy Cities. The San Francisco Department of Public Health is pursuing a city-wide initiative to leverage clinical data from San Francisco's largest health systems to better address an array of chronic diseases that afflict city residents. This would allow for more timely and accurate information about chronic disease in San Francisco, which enables the Department of Public Health to more effectively tackle the greatest burdens of disease in the community.

"San Francisco is proud to be a leader in public health, and joining with other cities around the world is a great way to continue to learn, share progress and make improvements," said **Mayor London Breed**. "San Francisco's many efforts – such as addressing food insecurity, reducing new HIV infections, banning flavored tobacco, reducing the consumption of sugary drinks, improving traffic safety, supporting walking and biking, and improving the health of people who are homeless -- all add up to making a healthier, safer city for all our residents and visitors. The new Healthy Cities project to share chronic illness data is an innovation that will allow us to make even more progress."

San Francisco's proposed partnership between health systems and public health is a powerful one. Chronic illness data from participating health systems such as UCSF Health and Sutter Health, along with the San Francisco Health Network and Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, can help the City identify neighborhoods and areas that need extra attention. The data will also help feedback in real time whether those efforts are effective.

"By sharing data across health systems, we will get the best picture possible of how chronic disease affects San Franciscans, and will be able to design targeted interventions and better campaigns to help improve the health of all residents," said **Dr. Tomás J. Aragón**, MD, DrPH, San Francisco Health Officer.

With a growing majority of the world's people living in urban areas, cities have a crucial role to play in ensuring the health and safety of people worldwide. San Francisco joined the



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Partnership for Healthy Cities in 2017 as one of 54 cities around the world whose mayors are taking leadership on preventing non-communicable chronic diseases —such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases—and injuries.

“The Hospital Council is excited to see San Francisco exploring such innovative work that can provide actionable information to improve patient care,” said **David Serrano-Sewell**, Regional Vice President, Hospital Council of Northern and Central California.

“UCSF Health and our partner hospital Zuckerberg San Francisco General are deeply committed to addressing and improving public health in San Francisco. Our longstanding partnership with the SF Department of Public Health is key to this endeavor,” said **Dr. Kirsten Bibbins-Domingo**, PhD, MD, MAS, Vice Dean for Population Health and Health Equity in the UCSF School of Medicine.

“Sutter Health’s CPMC is proud to partner on this initiative. Sharing valuable health information about the chronic conditions that we treat in our hospitals and clinics every day, as well as the efforts we make to care for our patients who suffer from them, is an important first step toward improving the health of San Franciscans,” said **Dr. Warren Browner**, MD, MPH, CEO Sutter Health’s CPMC.

Chronic diseases and injuries are responsible for 44 million deaths per year, or 80 percent of all deaths worldwide. Many of these are preventable if proven solutions are put into place.

The [Partnership for Healthy Cities](#) is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO) and Vital Strategies.

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