



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health

City and County of San Francisco
London N. Breed
Mayor

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of July 16, 2019

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

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

Governor signs FY19-20 budget with Medi-Cal expansion, insurance mandate, and expanded health insurance subsidies

On June 27th, Governor Newsom signed into law a \$214.8 billion budget bill for Fiscal Year 2019-20. The budget makes significant investments in health and public health, housing and homelessness, paid family leave, early childcare and education, and emergency preparedness. Specifically, the budget includes the following measures to improve affordability and access to health care:

- Expand full-scope Medi-Cal coverage to eligible young adults aged 19 through 25 regardless of immigration status. This expansion will provide full-scope coverage to approximately 90,000 undocumented adults in the first year across state. Initial estimates suggest 1,000-2,000 individuals in San Francisco would become eligible for Medi-Cal.
- Increase Covered California health insurance premium supports for individuals with incomes between 400 and 600 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) as well as reduce out-of-pocket premiums for those with incomes under 138 percent of the FPL over the next three years. Covered California projects that 922,000 people will be eligible to benefit from the new state subsidies.
- Reinstate the individual mandate that was part of the ACA, but revoked in 2017. Similar to the ACA's mandate, individuals opting not to carry insurance coverage will incur a financial penalty under the state-level mandate.

These health-focused measures are scheduled to take effect January 1st, 2020. Details for other budget proposals are still being worked out in trailer bills, including many health-related proposals, and are expected to be decided on in the coming weeks.

State legislation to address hospital balance billing practices and pilot new type of overdose prevention programs stalls

On July 10th, legislation that would prohibit balance billing practices by hospitals, [AB 1611](#) (Chiu), was turned into a two-year bill after stalling in the legislature. Under the legislation, hospitals would be prohibited from billing insured patients, regardless of their plan type, and could not charge them rates higher than their copay or deductible. The bill would also limit payments from insurance



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companies to hospitals to no greater than the “reasonable and customary value” or the “average contracted rate” for services in the geographic area. San Francisco Department of Public Health is supportive of efforts to increase patient protections and has recently proposed new policies for patient billing at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center that strongly align with many of AB 1611’s patient protection provisions. The bill is expected to be re-visited in next year’s 2020 legislative session.

On June 19th, legislation that would allow San Francisco to authorize a new type of overdose prevention program (also known as safe injection services) under a six-year pilot program, [AB 362](#) (Eggman), was turned into a two-year bill after stalling in the legislature. The bill would extend harm reduction strategies already used in California by enabling San Francisco to authorize programs to provide drug users a safe and hygienic space to use pre-obtained drugs under the supervision of trained staff. The bill is expected to be re-visited in next year’s 2020 legislative session.

Covered California announces 2020 health insurance premium rates

On July 9th, Covered California announced the preliminary rates for 2020 insurance premiums purchased in the individual market place. Consumers in state exchange Covered CA, and off-exchange in the individual market, will see an average statewide rate increase of 0.8 percent to their premiums, which is the lowest change since Covered California’s launch. This stabilization in rates is due to new state affordability initiatives and coverage mandate that are designed to lower costs and encourage enrollment. Covered California projects that lowering health care costs and reinstating the penalty on individuals who can afford coverage, yet choose to go without insurance, will result in 229,000 people becoming newly insured. Covered CA also announced that all 11 health insurance companies will return to the market for 2020, and nearly all Californians will have a choice of two carriers, and 87 percent able to choose from three carriers or more.

As of December 2018, there were a total of 33,650 San Francisco residents enrolled in ACA individual market plans.

Introduction of placarding system for food establishments

On June 18th Supervisor Peskin introduced legislation to amend Article 8 of the San Francisco Health Code. The proposed amendments would change the way food establishments are graded following an inspection by the Department of Public Health (DPH). The current law authorizes DPH to award a score at the end of an inspection which can range between 0 and 100 points.



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The proposed amendments would change San Francisco from a score-based system to a color-coded placarding system. The placarding program is based on safe food handling practices and focuses on high risk violations which could contribute to foodborne illnesses. DPH would issue a green “Pass Placard” to food establishments following an inspection in which no more than one major violation is documented provided the violation is corrected by the end of the inspection. A yellow “Conditional Pass Placard” would be issued following an inspection where no more than two major violations were documented provided all violations are corrected by the end of the inspection. Lastly, a red “Closed Placard” would be issued if one or more major violation is documented and not corrected by the end of the inspection. The placard would need to be posted in a visible place to the public.

This is an important change to the way food establishments are scored during an inspection and places the focus on high risk major violations. Currently all other 9 Bay Area counties use a placarding system and this change would make us consistent with the rest of the Bay Area.

Patient Care Incidents at Laguna Honda Hospital

I was joined by Mayor Breed and President of the Board of Supervisors Yee on June 28 to report directly to the community about patient abuse issues involving 23 Laguna Honda residents. This misconduct does not represent who we are as the Health Department and the San Francisco Health Network, and it will not be tolerated. Laguna Honda has had a positive effect on the lives of generations of San Franciscans and continues to be a good place for our residents.

DPH leadership has taken immediate steps to correct the problems, including: notification of all patients and their families/caregivers, wellness checks for all Laguna Honda residents, all-staff training on preventing and reporting patient abuse, improvements in drug dispensing and monitoring policies, separation of the six staff members involved and changes in hospital leadership.

We immediately notified the California Department of Public Health and the San Francisco Police Department, and each agency is investigating.

Acting CEO Maggie Rykowski is now in place to lead the way forward, and the Health Department will present a turnaround plan to the Mayor, Board of Supervisors and Health Commission by September 1.

Eric Raffin as Chief Information Officer



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On July 8th, Eric Raffin joined San Francisco Department of Public Health as Chief Information Officer. Eric comes to DPH most recently from San Mateo County Health where he served as Chief Information Officer for six years. Eric's accomplishments in that role included creating a health information technology governance program, establishing a program and project management office and implementing a Health Information Exchange. Prior to working in local government, Eric spent nearly 17 years with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in several executive leadership roles in both healthcare information technology and healthcare operations. Eric was a leader in VA's reorganization of information technology (IT) services into the nation's largest health IT organization, culminating in his last assignment as the Executive Director of IT Field Operations and Development.

With his strong record of accomplishments, Eric is very highly regarded in his field, and we are fortunate to have someone with such rich experience in health care and government information technology joining us at a pivotal time for the organization. In addition to the pressing matter of the Epic implementation next month, Eric will lend his skills and leadership to IT governance, security, data sharing, developing the IT team, and many other key aspects of IT that enable our organization to do a better job serving our patients and clients, and modernize our workplace.

San Francisco Health Network contracts with Canopy Health

San Francisco Health Network (SFHN) has signed its first commercial contract with Canopy Health. The contract was signed on July 1st and will allow UCSF/Canopy patients access to obstetric services at the Family Birth Center at Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG), the only 24/7 midwife program in San Francisco. Starting July 15th, UCSF/Canopy patients receiving care at Mt. Zion and Mission Bay and interested in a midwife assisted delivery, will be given the option to select ZSFG as their birthing hospital and place to receive outpatient obstetric care related to their delivery.

This new partnership represents a major milestone for SFHN and has been three years in the making, involving several departments and organizations including Finance, Care Coordination, Medical Records, Pharmacy, ZSFG Clinical Operations and Compliance, CPG, IT, Office of Policy and Planning, City Attorney's Office, City's Risk Management, Controller's Office, Communications, Office of Managed Care, UCSF, Canopy Health, and Hill Physicians.

Counting down to Epic Go-Live!



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We are now only a few short weeks away from what will be one of the most pivotal moments in the history at the San Francisco Department of Public Health: the implementation of our Epic Electronic Health Record. This project represents the culmination of years of planning, preparation and hard work, ultimately resulting in a resource for our department that connects our network of care in ways in which we could previously only dream about. After August 3, patient and client records created at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, Laguna Honda Hospital, and our primary and specialty care clinics will seamlessly connect so that the most vulnerable members of our population will be able to receive an even higher level of care. Many of our patients cross between these facilities and clinics, and now their records will do the same with ease. Here's to our Epic future!

Health department surpasses True North Goal for Hypertension Equity for Black/African American patients

The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) met and exceeded their True North Equity Goal for the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year. Rooted in San Francisco Health Network Primary Care, this metric focuses on percentage of Black/African American patients with hypertension whose last blood pressure (BP) was controlled in the past year. From January 2015 to June 2019, hypertension BP control for Black/African American patients has improved from 53 percent to 67 percent. Additionally, the disparity gap between the overall populations compared to Black/African American population has decreased from 8 percent to 3 percent. This is a significant step towards reducing health disparities in the city of San Francisco.

Castro-Mission Health Center temporary relocation

To prepare for an upcoming building remodel, Castro-Mission Health Center temporarily moved this month to 995 Potrero Avenue, Building 80, 1st floor, on the Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG) hospital campus. The Castro-Mission remodel will improve the safety of the building (3850 17th St.) in an earthquake and improve patient areas by adding 16 patient rooms and air conditioning. Updates will be made to restrooms, waiting rooms, patient registration areas, and staff areas. Construction is scheduled to start in late 2019. This year, Maxine Hall Health Center also will be temporarily moved to a manufactured clinic at 1181 Golden Gate Ave. for a similar building remodel. In addition, Southeast Health Center will be under construction in late 2019 for an expansion project. These projects are funded through the 2016 Public Health & Safety Bond, which voters approved by 80 percent.

Health department marches at SF Pride Parade



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On June 30th, the health department's contingent, joined by the President of the Health Commission, Jimmy Loyce, marched together at the SF Pride Parade. We had one of the largest contingents ever, with almost 150 people in our group. Patients from Positive Care at Laguna Honda also participated in the parade, as they do each year. The department played music from their truck, while department staff passed out condoms and materials supporting access to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to prevent HIV infection. Thank you to everyone who donated their time and resources to make this event possible and a success, including the Public Health Foundation, Bridge HIV, Community Health Equity and Promotion, Environmental Health, Laguna Honda, and ZSFG.

Gender Health SF Celebrates Pride 2019

Gender Health SF (GHSF) celebrated PRIDE month by participating in San Francisco's 16th annual Trans March. They hosted a community resource table and promoted wellness and health education resources. GHSF honored all LGBTQ+ people who are living their truth, power and visibility toward inclusiveness and liberation. [Gender Health SF \(GHSF\)](#) is a first-of-its-kind peer-based program whose mission is to increase access to quality gender affirming health care for underserved transgender and non-binary residents in San Francisco, regardless of immigration status and/or lack of income.

DPH in the News (Jun 17 – Jul 11 2019)

KQED, Jul 11 2019, SF universal mental health care ballot measure pushed to March 2020

<https://www.kqed.org/news/11760658/san-franciscos-universal-mental-health-care-ballot-measure-pushed-to-march-2020>

SF Weekly, Jul 11 2019, Universal mental health care ballot measure bumped to March

<http://www.sfweekly.com/news/universal-mental-health-care-ballot-measure-bumped-to-march/>

Contagion, Jul 10 2019, SF homeless have 27-fold greater risk of dying following HIV diagnosis

<https://www.contagionlive.com/news/san-francisco-homeless-have-27fold-greater-risk-of-dying-following-hiv-diagnosis>

SF Chronicle, Jul 9 2019, SFPD officer's miraculous recovery after hit-and-run left him severely brain-damaged

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/crime/article/SFPD-officer-s-miraculous-recovery-after-14080658.php>

SF Chronicle, Jul 7 2019, Needles on wane in BART trains and stations, another sign of fentanyl's



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<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Needles-on-wane-in-BART-trains-and-stations-14076502.php>.

Prairie State, Jul 2 2019, Needle exchange legislation before Pritzker will litter streets

<https://prairiestatewire.com/stories/512691880-needle-exchange-legislation-before-pritzker-will-litter-streets-playgrounds-with-dirty-needles-reports-show>

AP, Jul 1 2019, Mom who tried to kill baby held in his death 11 years later

<https://www.apnews.com/fd8d7fe40a13419eac404b3415f4f3e5>

SF Chronicle, Jun 28 2019, Patient abuse scandal rocks SF's Laguna Honda Hospital

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Patient-abuse-scandal-rocks-San-Francisco-s-14059074.php#photo-13059583>

NBC, Jun 28 2019, Investigation uncovers abuse of 23 patients at SF's Laguna Honda Hospital

<https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/Investigation-Uncovers-Abuse-of-23-Patients-at-San-Franciscos-Laguna-Honda-Hospital-in-511972961.html>

World Journal, Jun 28 2019, SF's public hospital abused patients

<https://www.worldjournal.com/6364004/>

BCN, Jun 28 2019, 23 Patients Abused At Laguna Honda Hospital: Report

https://patch.com/california/san-francisco/23-patients-abused-laguna-honda-hospital-report?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter&utm_term=health%20%26%20fitness&utm_campaign=recirc&utm_content=aol

KGO, Jun 28 2019, Shake up at Laguna Honda Hospital in the wake of a patient abuse scandal

<https://abc7news.com/laguna-honda-hospital-workers-fired-in-the-wake-of-scandal/5370430/>

KQED, Jun 28 2019, Major patient abuse scandal reported at SF's Laguna Honda Hospital

https://www.kqed.org/news/11757925/hurtful-offensive-and-heartbreaking-major-patient-abuse-scandal-reported-at-s-f-s-laguna-honda-hospital?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=kqednews

SFist, Jun 28 2019, Six employees at SF's Laguna Honda Hospital named in patient abuse scandal

<https://sfist.com/2019/06/28/six-employees-at-sfs-laguna-honda-hospital-named-in-patient-abuse-scandal/>



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<http://www.sfweekly.com/news/investigation-uncovers-serious-patient-abuse-at-laguna-honda-hospital/>

AP, Jun 28 2019, 23 patients abused at San Francisco hospital
<https://www.theolympian.com/news/business/article232091222.html>

KPIX, Jun 28 2019, Patients at SF's Laguna Hospital videotaped being abused by staff
<https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2019/06/28/health-officials-patients-at-san-franciscos-laguna-hospital-abused-by-staff/>

Engadget, Jun 27 2019, SF's grand plan to ban online e-cigarette sales
<https://www.engadget.com/2019/06/27/e-cigarette-vape-ban-san-francisco-online-sales-how/>

SF Examiner, Jun 27 2019, SF General program helping HIV survivors to age 'masterfully'
<https://www.sfexaminer.com/the-city/sf-general-program-helping-hiv-survivors-to-age-masterfully/>

The Fix, Jun 25 2019, Meth and opioids: exploring the dual addiction
<https://www.thefix.com/meth-and-opioids-exploring-dual-addiction>

SF Chronicle, Jun 23 2019, Fentanyl rising as killer in SF - 57 dead in a year
<https://m.sfgate.com/health/article/Fentanyl-rising-as-killer-in-San-Francisco-57-14030821.php?t=5e43a62fd6>

SF Chronicle, Jun 18 2019, Breed, board amp up battle over measure to overhaul mental health system
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Breed-board-amp-up-battle-over-measure-to-14016216.php>

NPR, Jun 17 2019, Meth In The Morning, Heroin At Night: Inside The Seesaw Struggle of Dual Addiction
<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/06/17/730803759/meth-in-the-morning-heroin-at-night-inside-the-seesaw-struggle-of-dual-addiction>

Potrero View, June 2019, Caleb G. Clark Potrero Hill Health Center care for the community
<https://www.potreroview.net/caleb-g-clark-potrero-hill-health-center-cares-for-the-community/>

KQED, Jun 17 2019, In California, new drug treatment money also means new rules



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<https://www.kqed.org/news/11754493/in-san-francisco-new-drug-treatment-money-also-means-new-rules>

Baltimore Sun, Jun 17 2019, Baltimore stabilization centers hope to solve heroin crisis

<https://www.ems1.com/careers/articles/394140048-Baltimore-stabilization-centers-hope-to-solve-heroin-crisis/>



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**ZUCKERBERG SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL
HOSPITAL & TRAUMA CENTER**

June 2019
Governing Body Report - Credentialing Summary
(6/20/19 MEC)

	6/2019	07/2018 to 07/2019
New Appointments	6	195
Reinstatements		
Reappointments	93	589
Delinquencies:		
Reappointment Denials:		
Resigned/Retired:	21	193
Disciplinary Actions		
Administrative Suspension		
Restriction/Limitation-Privileges		
Deceased		
Changes in Privileges		
Voluntary Relinquishments	30	154
Additions	13	143
Proctorship Completed	43	309

Current Statistics – as of 8/1/18		
Active Staff	546	
Courtesy Staff	533	
Affiliated Professionals (non-physicians)	281	
TOTAL MEMBERS	1360	

Applications in Process	90
Applications Withdrawn Month of April 2019	0
SFGH Reappointments in Process 05/01/2018 to 07/31/2019	187



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LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL AND REHABILITATION CENTER

June 2019

Health Commission - Director of Health Report

(6/6/19 MEC)

	June	(FY 2018-2019) Year-to-Date
New Appointments	0	16
Reinstatements	0	0
Reappointments	5	56
Delinquencies:	0	0
Reappointment Denials:	0	0
Resigned/Retired	0	12
Disciplinary Actions	0	0
Restriction/Limitation-Privileges	0	0
Deceased	0	0
Changes in Privileges		
Additions	0	0
Voluntary Relinquishments	0	0
Proctorship Completed	2	7
Proctorship Extension	0	0

Current Statistics – as of 07/31/2018

Active Medical Staff	34
As-Needed Medical Staff	17
External Consultant Medical Staff	45
Courtesy Medical Staff	2
Affiliated Health Practitioners	13
TOTAL MEMBERS	111

Applications in Process	4
Applications Withdrawn this month	0