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President

Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Vice President

Sonia E. Melara, MSW
Commissioner

Margine A. Sako
Commissioner

David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.
Commissioner

Steven Tierney, Ed.D.
Commissioner

Catherine M. Waters, R.N., Ph.D.
Commissioner

HEALTH COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
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Department of Public Health



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MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, September 7 2010, 4:00 p.m.

Lady Shaw Senior Center

1483 Mason Street , San Francisco, California , 94133

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner James Illig, President
Commissioner Edward A. Chow, Vice President
Commissioner Steven Tierney, Ed.D.
Commissioner Margine Sako
Commissioner Sonia E. Melara
Commissioner David J. Sanchez

Absent: Commissioner Catherine Waters

Commissioner Illig called the meeting to order at 4:13pm. He explained that the Health Commission strives to hold one meeting a year in a different neighborhood to encourage direct input from the neighborhood's communities and to hear an update on the range of services and issues in that geographic location.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF AUGUST 3, 2010

Commissioner Chow asked that the words, "And Draft Resolution," be removed from page 7 of the minutes which refer to the discussion of the Health Reform Taskforce Update because there was no resolution associated with this item.

Action Taken: The Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes with the correction noted above.

3) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Please see the following link for full text of the Director's Report:
<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

Health Care Reform Task Force Update

Lloyd Dean, Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Healthcare West, and Tangerine Brigham, Deputy Director of Health and Director of Healthy San Francisco, have agreed to co-chair San Francisco's Health Care Reform Task Force with me. Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Department of Public Health, 101 Grove Street, Room 220. Invitations have gone out to stakeholder organizations inviting their participation and requesting that they designate a representative to the Task Force. All meetings will be open to the public and Task Force information will be posted on our website.

\$12 Million Research Grant from NIH

Does HIV pre-test counseling for STD clinic patients reduce new STD infections and is it cost-effective? In a joint effort to answer this question, the DPH and University of Miami received a 12 million dollar research grant from National Institutes of Health to conduct the AWARE study. The study has enrolled 2800 participants in just five months. Grant Colfax, MD, Director of HIV Prevention, is Principal Investigator of the study, along with Lisa Metsch, MD in Miami. City Clinic is one of nine STD clinics throughout the US participating. Study results, which will help inform STD and HIV Prevention efforts, will be available after the study is completed in 2012.

Project Homeless Connect Scheduled for Golden Gate Park

The next Project Homeless Connect will be held on Wednesday, September 29 in Sharon Meadows at Golden Gate Park. Last year, Golden Gate Park Homeless Connect served almost 200 individuals living in and around the Golden Gate Park area, approximately 50% of whom were below the age of 30. This year's Golden Gate Park Connect returns in partnership with the Haight-Ashbury Free Clinic, the Homeless Youth Alliance and Blue Shield of California. Planners intend to assist approximately 500 individuals. Services and programs for this event will include medical, dental, HIV testing, legal services, Healthy San Francisco, and many others. For further information and volunteer opportunities at the upcoming Golden Gate Park Connect event, contact Amy Golsong at 415/503-2190.

Op Ed on Shackling Women While Giving Birth

On August 26, 2010, Carolyn Sufrin, MD, an obstetrician-gynecologist who practices at SFGH and the San Francisco County Jail, wrote an Op Ed in the *Chronicle* about AB 1900, a bill that would require that pregnant inmates are restrained in the least restrictive way possible. I think Dr. Sufrin's comments and observations on this practice are worth review and consideration. Her Op Ed can be found at <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2010/08/26/ED5R1F38HA.DTL#ixzz0yCp8lUrA>).

Study on Over-the-Counter Medication Published

BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making, a peer-reviewed journal, has recently published a new study by Michelle Kirian, Epidemiologist in the Bureau of Environmental Health, *Prediction of gastrointestinal disease with over-the-counter diarrheal remedy sales records the San Francisco Bay Area*, <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6947/10/39>. The work, funded by a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency's Water Security Initiative, evaluated the ability of sales of over-the-counter diarrheal remedies, available from the National Retail Data Monitor, to predict endemic and epidemic gastrointestinal disease in the San Francisco Bay Area. The manuscript concludes that surveillance based on collecting data on activities that are not clinically observed (such as an increase in sales of over-the-counter antidiarrheal medicine) as an early warning that there may be a public health problem may not be useful for this purpose.

National Drinking Water Advisory Council

June Weintraub, Senior Epidemiologist has been appointed to a three-year term on the National Drinking Water Advisory Council. The Council is a Federal advisory committee that provides advice and recommendations on matters related to activities and regulations required by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Fifteen drinking-water experts from across the country representing a wide range of rural, urban, and environmental interests are appointed by the Director of The EPA.

Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center

**August, 2010
Health Commission – Director of Health Report
(August 12, 2010 MEC)**

	8/03
New Appointments	8
Reinstatements	
Reappointments	29
Delinquencies:	
Reappointment Denials:	
Resigned/Retired:	16
Disciplinary Actions:	
Temporary Privileges	4
Deceased	0
Changes in Privileges	0
Additions	
Voluntary Relinquishments	
Proctorship Completed	
Proctorship Extension	

Current Statistics – as of 07/06

Active Staff	87
Applicants	5
Total Members	92

4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5) COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Sako stated that at the August 17, 2010 Community and Public Health Committee, presentations were heard on the COPC Updates and a presentation of the outline for the Annual Report on Healthy San Francisco. The Committee requested regular updates on COPC data and gave feedback to Tangerine Brigham, Deputy Director, regarding the Health San Francisco Annual Report in preparation for the presentation later this fall.

6) FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Tierney stated that the Finance and Planning Committee heard a brief Contracts Report which was approved. It also heard a report on the closure of New Leaf and heard an update on a corrective action plan for Westside Community Services. Ms. Brigham gave the Committee an excellent preliminary Annual Report presentation for Healthy San Francisco.

7) PROPOSITION Q HEARING: CPMC'S PLANNED TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF ITS OUTPATIENT DIALYSIS SERVICES TO DAVITA

Commissioner Illig stated that the Health Commission's responsibility in a Proposition Q hearing is to decide whether the proposed change of service will be detrimental to the health of San Francisco.

Delvecchio Finley, Vice President of Operations, Support and Professional Services gave a presentation on the current plan by CPMC to transfer ownership and management of its outpatient dialysis services to DaVita. Included in the presentation by Mr. Finley were responses to questions about the situation that the Commissioners had voiced during the August 17, 2010 Health Commission meeting.

Commissioner Chow asked if DaVita is committed to maintaining the current number of dialysis chairs that CPMC currently operates in its outpatient dialysis unit. Mr. Delvecchio stated that DaVita is committed to keeping the same number of chairs in operation.

Commissioner Melara asked what measures has CPMC put into place to insure that DaVita will follow-through on this commitment. Mr. Devecchio stated that DaVita's service history and current practice shows they are committed to providing quality care and expanding their market.

Public Comment:

Roland Wong stated that he is a CPMC outpatient dialysis patient and is concerned about the patient-to-staff ratios. In addition he stated that extended nursing shifts can have a negative impact on patient care.

Martha H Dominguez Glumaz stated that she is very concerned about patient safety and quality of care if DaVita takes over the CPMC outpatient dialysis unit. She quoted data that linked DaVita to several deaths of outpatient dialysis patients but stated that she found no such data for CPMC.

Tatiana Kostanian stated that she is concerned that DaVita will not be able to meet the high quality standards that CPMC uses to operate its outpatient dialysis unit.

James Davidson stated that DaVita is a private company and asked that CPMC not transfer its outpatient dialysis services to DaVita.

Cynthia Davidson stated that CPMC made over \$170M last year and that cost-cutting measures like transferring dialysis services to DaVita are not necessary.

Mary Bucknor-Smartt is the mother of someone who is a patient at the CPMC outpatient dialysis unit and stated that CPMC saved her daughter's life through its high quality services and full-hospital resources. She is concerned that DaVita will not be able to keep the same high quality standard.

Serafima Grunia hopes CPMC will continue to operate the outpatient dialysis unit because of its high quality of care. In addition, DaVita will not validate patient parking.

Commissioner Illig introduced the resolution specifying that that the transfer of the dialysis unit at CPMC will not have a detrimental impact on the health care of the community. Commissioner Tierney seconded the motion to discuss the resolution.

The following are highlights of the discussion of this issue:

Commissioner Melara stated that DaVita is a private company and the Health Commission has no authority to determine how it operates or the number of outpatient dialysis chairs it maintains. She stated that she would like to hear a commitment from DaVita about the number of chairs it intends to operate before making a determination of whether the transfer is detrimental to the health of the community.

Commissioner Tierney stated that the data presented indicates that there will not be a quality impact if the transfer takes place; however, there is no guarantee that DaVita would maintain the same number of chairs.

Commissioner Sako agreed with Commissioner Tierney that the data presented indicates that there will not be a change in quality and stated that the Health Commission has no authority over DaVita in regard to the number of chairs it maintains.

Commissioner Sanchez stated that the federal government has strong oversight over quality data and closely monitors the performance of dialysis centers.

Commissioner Illig stated that he is troubled that a non-profit hospital is selling a unit to a for-profit company; data shows that longer nursing shifts negatively impact quality of care; and he is concerned that staff have been offered lower pay by DaVita to do the same work they were performing under CPMC. The reason he leans toward passing the resolution as a "will not cause detriment to the health care of the community" is that no other private hospital provides this service in San Francisco. In addition, he stated that CPMC has done a good job of finding a company to provide the same high quality service.

Commissioners Melara and Chow stated that they would like to hear a commitment from DaVita regarding the number of outpatient dialysis chairs it intends to operate in the foreseeable future.

Action Taken: The Commission voted to table the item until the September 21, 2010 meeting at which time it hopes to hear from a DaVita representative in regard to the issue of the number of chairs it intends to operate.

8) REVIEW OF DPH FUNDED SERVICES IN DISTRICT 3

Links to the presentation material will be maintained until 12/31/10 at:

<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/hc/nextMeeting.asp>

Please contact the Health Commission Executive Secretary at (415) 554-2666 if you would like copies of the presentation material after this date.

CBHS Youth and Children Services: Sai-ling Chan Sew, Director of Children, Youth, and Family System-of-Care, presented information on the CBHS services in the District 3.

The following are highlights of the discussion of this item:

Access to services can be obtained by walking into any participating agency, school referrals, and/or through the central access phone-line. Within the school system, special education and Safe Passage, a collaboration between CBHS and the SF School District, are routes to treatment.

Parents are involved in the treatment of younger youth and must both consent for services and participate in the treatment. Youth who are twelve and older have an option of seeking treatment without parental consent.

Commissioner Sako asked for the figures on the first presentation slide to be checked for accuracy and any corrections sent to the Commission.

Chinatown Health Center: Albert Yu, M.D., Director, gave the presentation on the services offered by the Chinatown Health Center in District 3.

The following are highlights of the discussion of this item:

The Health Center offers primary care, community health education, medical nutrition therapy, integrated behavior health, pediatric dentistry, podiatry, optometry, dementia assessment, TB screening and treatment, Hepatitis B screening and vaccination, and refugee outreach.

Current challenges the Health Center is facing include: access to bilingual/bicultural, primary care services in other district health centers; timely access to primary care services; timely access to specialty/diagnostic services at SFGH; lack of adult dental services; lack of onsite behavioral health services; and lack of access to bilingual/bicultural health education materials.

The Commissioners thanked Dr. Yu for the effective manner in which he and the health center staff balance being a primary care medical home and an excellent center for general public health.

Hepatitis B: Janet Zola, Health Promotions Specialist, gave the presentation on the Hep B Free project.

The following are highlights of the discussion of this item:

The mission of SF Hep B Free is to: create public and clinician awareness of CHBV in the APIA communities; promote routine HBV testing and vaccination within primary care settings; and facilitate access to follow-up care for people who are infected. The program has become a national public health model for helping communities effectively deal with hepatitis B.

Environmental Health: Megan Gaydos, Planning and Policy Analyst, Program on Health, Equity, and Sustainability; Cyndy Comerford, Senior Health Program Planner; and Shaw San Liu, Chinese Progressive Association, made presentations.

The following are highlights of the discussion of this item:

The Restaurant Worker Health Project Survey, to be released on 9/17/10, contains data that shows the percentage of workers reporting fair or poor health has increased. In addition, forty-two percent of workers stated that their pay is reduced when they are sick; another large portion of the respondents stated that they have to make up the work missed when they are out sick.

Dept. of Emergency Management (DEM): Rob Dudgeon, Deputy Director, gave the presentation.

The following are highlights of the discussion of this item:

In trying to reach vulnerable populations, DEM is moving into the area of community capacity building which directly relates to successful disaster planning. DEM is attempting to encourage residents to increase their understanding of the resources available in their community and to get to know their neighbors.

DEM is working to develop MOUs with local businesses to be resources in times of emergency. For example, non-profit food programs that serve meals might be contracted to be a neighborhood food distribution center during a disaster.

DEM coordinates its emergency planning efforts in Chinatown with NICOS.

NICOS: Kent Woo, Executive Director gave a presentation on the gambling prevention project targeting the Chinese community.

The following are highlights of the discussion of this item:

NICOS Chinese Health Coalition is a public-private-community partnership of more than 30 health and human service organizations. The mission of NICOS is to enhance the health and well being of the San Francisco Chinese Community.

The Chinese Community Problem Gambling Project (CCPGP) addresses the problem of gambling in the Chinese community through training of service providers; individual and group counseling and support services for gamblers and their families; and education and outreach to the general public.

Commissioner Chow thanked Dr. Katz for his support for this program. Commissioner Illig acknowledged the important leadership role Commissioner Chow has within NICOS.

CBHS Adult Services: Edwin Batongbacal, Director of Adult and Older Adult Systems-of-Care gave the presentation:

The Following are highlights of the discussion of this item:

DPH provides multi-lingual services in the neighborhood which include psychiatric, case management and general mental health programs provided by predominantly multi-lingual Asian staff.

Capacity for providing services in Vietnamese and Cantonese continues to be a challenge.

Supervisor David Chiu' Office: Victor Lim, Legislative Aide to Supervisor Chiu, thanked all the presenters for the impactful work they are doing and recognized that many of the public health services in District 3 serve people outside the district because of their high quality and cultural/linguistic expertise.

Commissioner Comments:

The Commissioners thanked all the presenters and their colleagues for the excellent presentations and for the impactful work they are doing in District 3.

9) OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Tierney stated that the Commission deeply appreciates the work that Sharon Kotabe oversaw and implemented as DPH Director of Pharmacy. He wishes her well in her retirement.

The Commissioners discussed calendaring the Supervisor Campos-sponsored Health Services Master Plan Legislation item for the September 21, 2010 meeting.

10) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm.

Mark Morewitz
Health Commission Executive Secretary