



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 January 7, 2020

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>

Medi-Cal Expands Coverage to Undocumented Immigrants up to age 26

California's Medi-Cal program has expanded again, and now includes coverage for some undocumented immigrant adults. Governor Newsom authorized the expansion as part of the state's FY 2019-20 budget, providing full-scope Medi-Cal to eligible young adults ages 19 through 25, regardless of immigration status. Statewide, approximately 90,000 people could benefit in the first year of the expansion. Enrollment opened January 1.

Initial estimates suggest the Medi-Cal expansion applies to 1,000 to 2,000 individuals in San Francisco. The San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH) has been working with the Human Services Agency to notify eligible San Franciscans, including transitioning those who qualify from Healthy San Francisco to Medi-Cal. This is a good opportunity to remind residents about the availability of Medi-Cal. Immigrants are not penalized for receiving Medi-Cal benefits when they apply for a green card. There are no changes to the public charge rules as the courts have issued an injunction and the federal government cannot implement or enforce the rule indefinitely at this time.

The Department of Public Health will continue to provide health care services through our clinics and hospitals in the San Francisco Health Network, regardless of immigration or lack of insurance. Everyone is welcome and we encourage all San Franciscans to get the care they need and deserve.

Mayor Breed issues budget instructions to City Departments

On December 16, 2019, Mayor London Breed issued Budget Instructions to department heads to guide the budget process for Fiscal Years 2020-21 and 2021-22. Mayor Breed directed department heads to prioritize identifying funding to help people suffering on the City's streets, and propose targeted efficiencies and reductions to their departmental budgets to address the deficit. The City is projecting a budget shortfall of approximately \$420 million over the upcoming two budget years, out



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of an annual general fund budget of \$6 billion. The shortfall is the result of the rate of revenue growth slowing while costs are rising. The shortfall must be balanced by June 1st, 2020, when the proposed budget is submitted to the Board of Supervisors.

Mayor Breed indicated that a priority for the coming year is to provide housing, shelter and services for people who are struggling on San Francisco's streets. This includes the Mayor's efforts to open 1,000 new shelter beds by the end of 2020. One of Mayor Breed's priorities for the coming year is Mental Health SF, which was approved unanimously by the Board of Supervisors on December 10th. Mental Health SF is an overhaul of San Francisco's mental health system and guarantees mental health care to San Franciscans who lack insurance or who are experiencing homelessness, including a focus on delivering services to the 4,000 people who are homeless and suffering from both mental health and substance use disorder.

The Department of Public Health is currently in the process of developing a set of budget proposals to bring to the Health Commission in February.

Public Health Lab meets all requirements after lab inspection

In December, two Department of Public Health Laboratories were given a Certificate of Compliance after a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) Lab inspection. Inspections took place at City Clinic Lab and the main Public Health Lab at 101 Grove Street. Both labs met all the requirements with no errors and citations. The Certificate of Compliance is valid until 2021 December.

City ensured safety during New Year's Eve celebration

On December 31, 2019, the Department of Public Health's Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA) and Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (PHEPR) collaborated to staff the City and County of San Francisco Emergency Operations Center to support the efforts of law enforcement, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), public works, and public transit personnel who were in the field providing services and ensuring the safety of people and infrastructure during the New Year's Eve celebration. Throughout the New Year's Eve activation, EMSA and PHEPR facilitated communication among partner agencies including regional, state, and federal authorities, monitored and managed surge in the EMS system, and coordinated public health and medical resources when needed.



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City prepared for cold winter weather

As San Francisco continues to experience cold and wet weather, hospitals have started seeing an increase in patients coming in to escape the cold. Some of these patients have displayed the signs and symptoms of hypothermia, including severe cases. Initial data supports an elevated risk to vulnerable populations, particularly those that are unsheltered and/or experiencing homelessness.

The Health Department urges members of the public to bundle up and wear layers if you plan to celebrate the season outdoors. Most at risk for hypothermia are older adults and infants, so be sure to check on those who live alone and keep babies and young children bundled up and close by. DPH is working with the Department of Emergency Management to coordinate messaging outreach.

Health Department educates public about mobile food vendors and food safety

The holiday season attracts a large number of people to San Francisco and calls for celebration with outdoor activities and food. The risk of foodborne-illness becomes greater with the increased amount of unauthorized food vendors and people in the City. To help prevent the risk of food-borne illness, the Environmental Health Branch's Food Safety Team conducted educational outreach to non-permitted mobile food vendors on January 3, 2020. Members of the public can also help prevent food-borne illness by purchasing mobile food vendors displaying a current inspection decal issued by the San Francisco Department of Public Health. This decal signifies that the vendor has passed all code requirements and is permitted to operate within San Francisco.

Flu season update

The 2019-20 influenza season began earlier this season compared to last, with laboratory-confirmed flu detections trending upward starting in early November. Detections have continued trending upward during December. San Francisco has had 2 small flu outbreaks season-to-date, 1 flu death in a person under 65 years of age, and Northern California Kaiser data have shown average rates of Pneumonia/Influenza hospitalizations for this time of year. Vaccination efforts are continuing and those who have not yet gotten a flu shot should still get one. Getting a flu shot is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones against the flu.

Healthy department reminds public to stay healthy, safe and away from the ED during holiday season



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Throughout the month of December 2019, the Health Department urged the public to practice healthy habits and to stay safe during holiday festivities. The Health Department ran a social media campaign on Twitter, highlighting the top 10 holiday health tips, including reducing sugar intake, washing your hands, and practicing gratitude. In addition, the Health Department issued a press release with four more tips any member of the public can adopt such as practicing food safety and staying up to date with vaccinations. Dr. Chris Cowell, Chief Emergency Medicine at Zuckerberg San Francisco General, shared tips on how to stay safe and not need to pay a visit to the Emergency Department during the holidays on a Health Check segment with KTVU.

Voter-approved construction will improve health services at 3 neighborhood clinics serving more than 12,000 San Franciscans

In 2020, three public primary care clinics will be under construction to improve health care services for San Francisco residents at Maxine Hall Health Center in the Western Addition, Castro-Mission Health Center in the Castro, and Southeast Health Center in the Bayview. The clinics are part of the San Francisco Health Network, a division of the San Francisco Department of Public Health. The three capital projects, totaling \$63 million, are mainly funded through the 2016 Public Health and Safety Bond, approved by 79% of San Francisco voters.

The improvements at Maxine Hall Health Center and Castro-Mission Health Center will increase the number of patient rooms, make the buildings safer in case of an earthquake, and improve accessibility for people who have disabilities. Southeast Health Center will move its primary care services to a new, larger 22,000-square-foot facility that will be built next to the existing clinic. Together, these projects will bring updated and modern health care facilities to more than 12,000 San Franciscans of all ages who are patients at the clinics.

Health Department continues to prepare City resilience for emergency disasters

During November and December 2019, the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response team (PHEPR) hosted multiple trainings and exercises. These events and activities included a full Department Operations Center exercise to practice our responses to an extreme heat event, the first-ever city-wide emergency exercise series for all of San Francisco's skilled nursing facilities, a psychological first aid training for community members and any city employee, and the city's first ever Public Safety Power Shut-off (PSPS) drill with NERT volunteers practicing wellness check-ins for power-dependent vulnerable populations.



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By hosting and conducting various types of exercises and trainings, PHEPR continues to deepen and strengthen relationships and preparedness across the health department, other City agencies, and our communities.

DPH in the News (Dec 11 – Dec 31 2019)

SF Chronicle, Dec 30 2019, Suspected fentanyl OD turns night of partying into tragedy for popular Oakland men

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/crime/article/Suspected-fentanyl-OD-turns-night-of-partying-14935302.php>

KTVU, Dec 21 2019, ZSFG doesn't want to see you over the holidays

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MdSF4kytzE8&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR3EBW2UPJedyz_VrNYokRfAK0aqswXt7d7AXvSRfh6TRMj9Us5WlspWk

QUEERTY, Dec 15 2019, These donation-worthy organizations are out to crush HIV. They are getting close.

<https://www.queerty.com/donation-worthy-organizations-crush-hiv-getting-close-20191215>

SF Chronicle, Dec 13 2019, Drug treatment admissions in SF are down. Could that be a good sign?

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Drug-treatment-admissions-dropping-in-SF-even-as-14903016.php>

KHN, Dec 13 2019, San Francisco hopes to improve care for people with mental illness living on streets

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/sns-tns-bc-sanfrancisco-homeless-mentalhealth-qa-20191219-story.html>

SF Chronicle, Dec 11 2019, New online tracking system shows how many SF addiction treatment beds sit empty

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/New-online-tracking-system-shows-how-many-SF-14900246.php>

Helio, Dec 11 2019, MSM, transgender women who use methamphetamine may benefit from mirtazapine

<https://www.healio.com/psychiatry/sexuality/news/online/%7Bf38d6ab5-1169-46bd-8ae8-d2d677fb62e3%7D/msm-transgender-women-who-use-methamphetamine-may-benefit-from->



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[mirtazapine](#)

RideApart, Dec 10 2019, Harley Santa delivers toys

<https://www.rideapart.com/articles/387112/harley-santa-delivers-toys/>

CBS, Dec 8 2019, CBS, Santa rides in on Harley, delivers toys to kids at SF General Hospital

<https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2019/12/08/santa-rides-in-on-harley-delivers-toys-to-kids-at-sf-general-hospital/>



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

December 2019
Governing Body Report - Credentialing Summary
 (12/9/19 MEC)

	12/2019	07/2019 to 07/2020
New Appointments	6	85
Reinstatements		
Reappointments	37	220
Delinquencies:		
Reappointment Denials:		
Resigned/Retired:	3	100
Disciplinary Actions		
Administrative Suspension		1
Restriction/Limitation-Privileges		
Deceased		
Changes in Privileges		
Voluntary Relinquishments	12	46
Additions	6	51
Proctorship Completed	10	88

Current Statistics – as of 12/2/2019		
Active Staff	553	
Courtesy Staff	572	
Affiliated Professionals (non-physicians)	285	
TOTAL MEMBERS	1410	

Applications in Process		18
Applications Withdrawn Month of December 2019		0
SFGH Reappointments in Process 01/01/2020 to 03/31/2020		181



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LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL AND REHABILITATION CENTER

December 2019
Health Commission - Director of Health Report
 (12/5/19 MEC)

	December	(FY 2019-2020) Year-to-Date
New Appointments	1	9
Reinstatements	0	0
Reappointments	2	31
Delinquencies:	0	0
Reappointment Denials:	0	0
Resigned/Retired	1	8
Disciplinary Actions	0	0
Restriction/Limitation-Privileges	0	0
Deceased	0	0
Changes in Privileges		
Additions	0	1
Voluntary Relinquishments	0	0
Proctorship Completed	0	1
Proctorship Extension	1	1

Current Statistics – as of 12/03/2019	
Active Medical Staff	36
As-Needed Medical Staff	15
External Consultant Medical Staff	46
Courtesy Medical Staff	2
Affiliated Health Practitioners	13
TOTAL MEMBERS	112

Applications in Process	1
Applications Withdrawn this month	0