1) **CALL TO ORDER**

Present: Commissioner David Pating, MD, Chair  
Commissioner Cecilia Chung, Member  
Excused: Commissioner James Loyce Jr., Member

The meeting was called to order at 2:04pm.

2) **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF NOVEMBER 15, 2016.**

**Action Taken:** The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.

3) **BRIDGE HIV UPDATE**

Susan Buchbinder, MD, Director, gave the presentation.

**Commissioner Comments:**

Commissioner Pating asked how HIV vaccines are being created. Dr. Buchbinder stated that the vaccines utilize neutralized HIV from a long-term non-progressor. If the vaccine is effective, it will be administered every 6-8 months with the eventual plan to make it last longer.

Commissioner Pating asked why oral medication is also used in the vaccine trials. Dr. Buchbinder stated that oral medication uses a different and proven method to prevent HIV. It is used in case the vaccines are not effective.
Commissioner Chung asked for more information on the differences in PrEP effectiveness for men and women. Dr. Buchbinder stated that research is being done to look into the impact of hormones on PrEP effectiveness. She noted that PrEP is more effective in rectal tissue than vaginal tissue. Women are counseled to take medicine daily or PrEP may not reach effective levels; men are able to miss several doses a week and PrEP will still be effective.

Commissioner Chung asked how PrEP effectiveness can be impacted by the pre or post-surgery status of transgender women. Dr. Buchbinder stated that 14% of the original PrEP study cohort were transgender women. However there was very low adherence in this group. There is currently a state funded study looking into the possible impact of hormones on PrEP effectiveness in this group.

Commissioner Pating asked if the SF Health Network (SFHN) has an issues with the cost of PrEP for its patients. Dr. Buchbinder stated that insurance, including MediCal pays for PrEP; Gilliad, the manufacturer also has a program to cover the medicine co-pay. She noted that youth under 18 are not eligible for any Gilliad programs and this may pose a problem because this cohort may not want to access PrEP while on their parents’ health insurance.

Commissioner Pating asked for more information about the cost of PrEP. Dr. Buchbinder stated that the annual cost of the medicine is approximately $12,000 per year.

4) SFHN PRIMARY CARE UPDATE
Hali Hammer MD, Director, gave the update.

Commissioner Comments
Commissioner Pating asked for more information regarding the goal for the third next patient appointment. Dr. Hammer stated that urgent access for patient appointments has been provided through SFHN. However, the third next appointment slot was the most challenging. The goal is to have the 3rd next new patient appointment with two weeks of a patient request.

Commissioner Pating asked if a patient wants to get on PrEP, can they be seen quicker. Alice Chen MD, SFHN Chief Medical Officer, stated that patients requesting PrEP can be seen within a few days.

Commissioner Pating asked for more information regarding post-hospitalizations. Dr. Hammer stated that patients can schedule a post-discharge primary care appointment.

Commissioner Chung asked if urgent care functions are still at Tom Waddell or only at ZSFG. Dr. Hammer stated that the call center routes all requests and attempts to get 80% of all appointments in the patient’s medical home. Some clinics still have drop in hours.

Commissioner Pating asked if the call center staff are bilingual. Dr. Hammer stated that the call center has staff with language capacity for Spanish, Russian, Cantonese, and several other languages.

5) EMERGING ISSUES
This item was not discussed.

6) PUBLIC COMMENT
There was no public comment.

7) ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 3:27pm.