



City and County of San Francisco
Edwin M. Lee, Mayor

San Francisco Department of Public Health

Barbara A. Garcia, MPA
Director of Health

Director's Report for Health Commission Meeting of August 15, 2017

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>

President Trump's Intent to Declare the Opioid Crisis a National Emergency

Last week, President Trump announced his intent to declare the country's opioid crisis a national emergency. This announcement comes after the release of a draft interim report from the President's *Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis*. The report's first and most urgent recommendation is that the President declare a national emergency under either the Public Health Service Act or the Stafford Act. The report had eight other recommendations which include:

- granting states the ability to use Medicaid funding for treatment in Institutes for Mental Diseases (IMDs);
- eliminating barriers to medication assisted treatment, such as buprenorphine;
- expanding the use of naloxone;
- update patient privacy laws specific to substance use disorder to enable a patient's health care providers to communicate with one another on a comprehensive care plan; and
- increase the ability to detect importation of fentanyl.

In a statement, the White House indicated that President Trump "has instructed his Administration to use all appropriate emergency and other authorities to respond to the crisis caused by the opioid epidemic." Though it is not yet clear what change will result from a declaration of emergency, focused attention and resources to combat the problem have helped in states that have declared similar statewide emergencies. Additionally, it is possible that federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency could be made available, public health workers could be redeployed, and policy change could be expedited.

Safe Injection Services Task Force to Move Recommendations to Board of Supervisors

The Department of Public Health convened the third and final public Task Force meeting on August 10 to explore the feasibility of operating safe injection services (SIS) in San Francisco. The Task Force reviewed the initial set of draft recommendations, including the recommendation

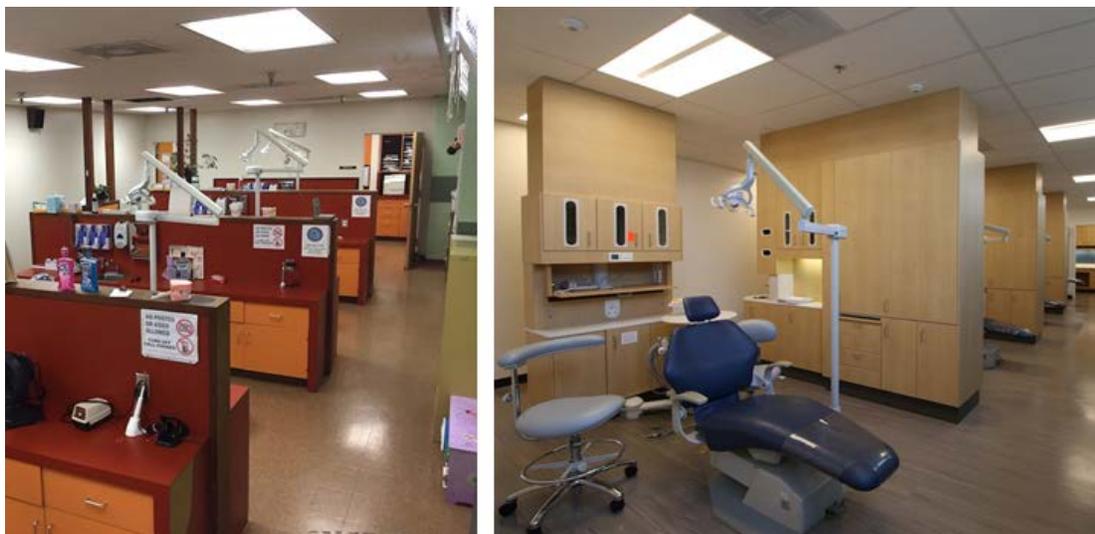
that the Board of Supervisors support safe injection service locations throughout the City. The Task Force comprised 15 members and incorporated a strong public engagement dimension that included two focus groups and surveys with people who inject drugs, people in early recovery, business owners, neighborhood groups, and residents. Surveys and public comment indicate that at least half and up to 81 percent of respondents support SIS in SF. The Task Force recognized that significant legal and siting challenges remain, and those areas will require further investigation moving forward.

DPH will compile all of the draft recommendations and solicit feedback from the Task Force before submitting a final report with policy recommendations to the Board of Supervisors in September 2017. More information on the Task Force's and its progress is located on the [Safe Injection Service Task Force](#) webpage.

Southeast Health Center Completes Renovation of Dental Clinic

Funded by the 2016 Public Health and Safety Bond, the first phase of renovation of Southeast Health Center is substantially complete. This is the first of many 2016 projects to be funded by the bond. The project included a complete renovation of DPH's flagship dental clinic (four chairs) and a major facelift of the waiting area. As the clinic is part of the SF Health Network, the remodeled areas showcase artwork courtesy of Laguna Honda's partnership with Art with Elders.

“I am so happy that the Southeast Health Center community and SFHN patients will be able to receive oral health care in a newly remodeled, state of the art dental clinic,” said Dr. Steven Ambrose, DDS, Director of DPH Dental Services. “We now have the latest, technologically advanced equipment to complement our quality of care and ensure the best patient experience.” Here are before and after pictures of the dental suite.



Big Step Forward in Electronic Health Record Progress

The Health Department issued an RFP in January to find the right vendor who could meet our criteria for an enterprise-wide electronic health record (EHR). We are seeking the ability to share data seamlessly with other health systems, to provide the most robust system that can accommodate the breadth of different DPH sites and functions, and, to deliver a system that is easy to use.

I am happy to report that we issued a Notice of Intent on August 1 to award the contract to Epic. This is an important milestone, and brings us closer to our goal. The notice of intent is a step in the contracting process, but not the final step. There will be a period to allow for negotiations and other procedures that we expect to conclude by our target date of January 2018 to make a final award of the contract.

This is very exciting news and the result of many people's hard work. I greatly appreciate the time, talent and expertise of so many who have contributed to this project.

The new EHR is on schedule to go-live in July 2019. It will be a major initiative that brings the San Francisco Health Network closer together and allows us to provide even better patient care, improve the patient experience and meet our true north goals. Meanwhile, we are continuing to prepare DPH for the new enterprise EHR system through a wide variety of organizational readiness activities.

City Re-affirms Commitment to Health Care Access and Quality with the San Francisco Health Network

Last month the U.S. Congress ceased initial efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA). A positive development that retains access to health care and coverage for thousands of San Franciscans, but it is clear that the story is not over yet. As turmoil continues at the national level, San Francisco reaffirmed its commitment to high quality care and access with an August 10 public announcement.

San Francisco has a long history of supporting and promoting health care for all residents. We want to ensure that all San Franciscans know that the health care system has not changed and they should continue to use their health care services. In particular, immigrants, the uninsured, Medi-Cal and Healthy San Francisco members need to know that their benefits remain in place. The foundation of the City's health care system is the San Francisco Health Network, a community of top-rated clinics, hospitals and programs operated by the Department of Public Health. The Network serves more than 100,000 people in neighborhood clinics and hospitals, such as Castro Mission, Chinatown, and Southeast health centers, Zuckerberg San Francisco General and Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center. The Network welcomes patients with Medi-Cal, Healthy San Francisco, Healthy Kids and Healthy Workers plans. It cares for immigrants and uninsured patients as well, and provides enrollment services to help them access coverage. Today, the Network serves more than 40 percent of the City's Medi-Cal population, and more than 15 percent of San Franciscans.

The Health Department created the Network three years ago, and recently improved the patient experience by solving some of the issues that made the system hard to navigate. For example, we established a Nurse Advice Line and Centralized Call Center. Working with San Francisco-based social innovation and design consultancy Daylight Design, we used design thinking to articulate how the system works and to improve the language and visuals used to communicate with patients. The top priority is to improve patients' navigation of the Network, their experience and health outcomes.

The results of this work are apparent in new street banners, multilingual patient materials, Network posters, and a video that can be viewed at <http://www.sfhealthnetwork.org/>. Visit the website for more information or call 415 206-7800 to enroll.

Laguna Honda Participates in 2017 AIDS Walk

Laguna Honda took part in this year's San Francisco AIDS Walk at Golden Gate Park on July 17. More than 20 residents and 13 staff members (pictured below) were present at the event and were able to complete a modified walk. They also enjoyed several live entertainment performances along their route. Leading up to the event day, Susan Schneider, Social Worker, and Wennie Hoang, Activity Therapist, on the Positive Care neighborhood helped fundraised more than \$1,000 through donations from the entire Laguna Honda community. This contribution will go towards assisting Project Open Hand, Positive Resource Center, the Golden Compass Program at Ward 86 at ZSFG, as well as dozens of other HIV/AIDS programs and services in the Bay Area.



Covered California releases preliminary 2018 rates

Covered California released its preliminary rates for 2018 on August 1st. The average state-wide rate change for 2018 will be a 12.5 percent increase. But, if consumers shop around and switch to the lowest-priced plan in the same metal tier, the increase could be less than 3.3 percent. For San Francisco, the average rate increase is 6.6 percent. In San Francisco, Kaiser Permanente, which holds the largest share of the city's enrollees has a rate increase of 3 to 7 percent for its plans on the marketplace.

Covered California remains a competitive marketplace, with all 11 health insurance companies returning in 2018. However, Anthem Blue Cross of California is withdrawing from 16 regions (out of 19), including San Francisco, and affecting approximately 153,000 consumers in the state. In San Francisco, Anthem Blue Cross EPO had an estimated enrollment of 6.7 percent in 2017 – but these consumers will need to shop around for a different plan in 2018. There are six plans that San Franciscans can choose from in 2018, including the Blue Shield of California HMO and PPO, Chinese Community Health Plan HMO, Health Life Net EPO, Kaiser Permanente HMO, and Oscar Health Plan of California EPO.

There is uncertainty in the federal funding for the cost-sharing reductions (CSR). In California, CSR subsidies help lower copays and deductibles for silver-tier consumers between 138-250 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL). In 2018, health insurance companies submitted two sets of proposed rates for the silver-tier plans on Covered California. One rate assumes secured federal payment to fund CSR subsidies, while the other rate includes a potential “CSR

surcharge” for silver-tier plans, averaging 12.4 percent, if these federal payments are not secured.

Most subsidized silver-tier consumers would see an increase in their gross premiums due to the CSR surcharge, but they will also see an increase in the amount of financial assistance through the Advanced Premium Tax Credit to help offset that amount. Furthermore, Covered California is directing health plans to offer a silver-tier product off the exchange that is virtually identical, but does not have CSR surcharge. Therefore, unsubsidized consumers can buy a silver plan without the CSR surcharge off the exchange or move to a different tier plan that does not have the surcharge.

For more details, the Covered California 2018 Rate booklet can be found here:

http://www.coveredca.com/news/PDFs/CoveredCA_2018_Plans_and_Rates_8-1-2017.pdf

SFDPH in the News:

San Francisco Examiner, 8/11/17 Task Force set to recommend SF provide safe injection services

<http://www.sfexaminer.com/task-force-set-recommend-sf-provide-safe-injection-services/>

San Francisco Chronicle, 8/11/17 Strong support for safe injection centers in SF

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Strong-support-for-safe-injection-centers-in-SF-11749201.php>

Bay Area Reporter, 8/10/17 Team seeks LGBTs for national health study

<http://ebar.com/news/article.php?sec=news&article=72840>

San Francisco Chronicle, 8/9/17 How would SF react to attack by nukes?

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/article/Can-SF-plan-for-surviving-a-North-Korean-nuclear-11743318.php>

California Health Line, 8/9/17 California funds nonprofits to serve food as medicine

<http://californiahealthline.org/news/california-funds-nonprofits-to-serve-food-as-medicine/>

Skilled Nursing News, 8/8/17 Impending SNF closure compounds San Francisco shortage

<http://skillednursingnews.com/2017/08/impending-snf-closure-compounds-san-francisco-shortage/>

San Francisco Examiner, 8/7/17 Women breastfeeding in public celebrated in City Hall photo exhibit

<http://www.sfexaminer.com/women-breastfeeding-public-celebrated-city-hall-photo-exhibit/>

Hoodline, 8/7/17 Supervisors want CPMC to keep inpatient care beds in city

<http://hoodline.com/2017/08/supervisors-want-cpmc-to-keep-inpatient-care-beds-in-city>

Huffington Post, 8/1/17 What the ACA has meant to ZSFG and its patients, by Dr. Susan Ehrlich

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/59809ae2e4b07c5ef3dc1851>

San Francisco Chronicle, 7/31/17 SF Civic Center focus of urgent, coordinated cleanup effort

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/local/article/SF-Civic-Center-focus-of-urgent-coordinated-11718261.php>

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

August 2017
Governing Body Report - Credentialing Summary
(8/17/17 MEC)

	8/2017	07/2017 to 07/2018
New Appointments	15	91
Reinstatements		
Reappointments	63	136
Delinquencies:		
Reappointment Denials:		
Resigned/Retired:	41	63
Disciplinary Actions		
Administrative Suspension		
Restriction/Limitation-Privileges		
Deceased		
Changes in Privileges		
Voluntary Relinquishments	6	20
Additions	10	32
Proctorship Completed	18	45

Current Statistics – as of 8/4/17		
Active Staff	575	
Courtesy Staff	496	
Affiliated Professionals (non-physicians)	265	
TOTAL MEMBERS	1,336	

Applications in Process		43
Applications Withdrawn Month of August 2017		0
SFGH Reappointments in Process 9/2017 to 11/2017		137

LAGUNA HONDA HOSPITAL AND REHABILITATION CENTER

AUGUST 2017

Health Commission - Director of Health Report

(August 3, 2017 Medical Exec Committee)

	August	(FY 2017-2018) Year-to-Date
New Appointments	1	4
Reinstatements	0	0
Reappointments	8	11
Delinquencies:	0	0
Reappointment Denials:	0	0
Resigned/Retired	1	2
Disciplinary Actions	0	0
Administrative Suspension	1	1
Restriction/Limitation-Privileges	0	0
Deceased	0	0
Changes in Privileges		
Additions	0	0
Voluntary Relinquishments	0	0
Proctorship Completed	0	0
Proctorship Extension	0	0

Current Statistics – as of 8/01/2017	
Active Medical Staff	36
As-Needed Medical Staff	9
External Consultant Medical Staff	44
Courtesy Medical Staff	2
Affiliated Professionals	14
TOTAL MEMBERS	105

Applications in Process	4
Applications Withdrawn this month	0