

California Public Health/Prevention Medical Leadership Forum
14th Conference Call Meeting
Tuesday, March 7, 2017, 8:15-9:30 am PDT
MINUTES

Call in: (712) 432-1212, access Code: 457-029-043#
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1. Roll Call by Institution

CAPM: Mark Horton (Chair), Ron Hattis (Secretary), Don Lyman
Department of Health Care Services: Neal Kohatsu
HOAC: Kat DeBurgh
ACPM: Anita Balan
CMA: Samantha Pellon
OPSC and Touro SOM: Alesia Wagner
Loma Linda SOM: Akbar Sharip
Loma Linda SPH: Lori Wilber
Stanford SOM: Rhonda McClinton-Brown
UC Davis: Stephen McCurdy
UC Irvine: Dean Baker
UC LA: Jonathan Fielding
UC Riverside: Brandon Brown
UC SD SOM: Linda Hill
UC SF: George Rutherford
USC SOM: Jonathan Samet
Western U. SOM: Susan Mackintosh

2. Minutes of December 6, 2016 Meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve minutes.

Action: Motion was approved without opposition. Any late corrections can still be submitted after the meeting.

3. What Will Happen in California If/when Affordable Care Act is Repealed?

Mark Horton reviewed an 8-page summary document of the legislative proposal, the American Health Care Act, which he hopes to send to Ron Hattis who will forward it to the members. These are some features of the proposed Republican health care bill:

- Eliminates new enrollees in Medicaid expansion after a certain date
- Federal share of Medicaid expansion costs is to decrease from 90% to the same percentage provided for regular Medicaid (about 50% in California; for other states depending on the poverty rate, up to 75% federal); and later changed to a capitation amount per enrollee for all of Medicaid

- Future Medicaid eligibility for children will be down to 100% of poverty level, from 133%
- Elimination of federal Prevention and Public Health Fund, which currently covers 12% of the CDC budget, and funding to states for vaccines for low-income individuals, epidemiology and laboratories, and chronic disease screening and prevention
- Decrease in funding for vaccines for low-income population
- Elimination of standards for basic coverage
- Individual mandate to be replaced by tax incentives for purchasing health insurance on the private market
- State subsidies for exchanges to come from a “Patient and State Stability Fund” which will have much less money than current subsidies provide; one of the purposes would be to subsidize high-risk pools
- Affordable Care Act provisions that will be retained include no lifetime cap, pre-existing conditions still covered, and offspring can remain on parents’ policies till age 26
- Not apparently addressed are free preventive services and Accountable Care Organizations
- The overall cost of the program has not been calculated; the estimate of how many Americans will lose coverage is pending from the Congressional Budget Office

Anita Balan of ACPM has posted a statement on the impact of ACA repeal and is involved in coalitions. Neal Kohatsu said there are complaints about a lack of hearings prior to planned voting in 3 weeks. He predicted an unfavorable estimate from the Congressional Budget Office.

4. Health Officers Report

Kat DeBurgh gave a brief report including mention that consideration of a possible survey on core public health gaps is continuing. So far, no satisfactory content for a survey has been determined.

5. Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California Issues: Alesia Wagner

Alesia Wagner reported that OPSC just had its annual convention in San Diego. The new president works at Western University. Public health issues were mentioned in poster presentations, including global health; a poster winner involved schistosomiasis in Tanzania. The Education Committee will have a subcommittee drawing up a 3-year plan on covering all essential topics in curricula. Epidemiology, risk, and community impacts of diseases are included in many current presentations at Touro and Western Universities.

6. California Medical Association: Samantha Pellon, Don Lyman

Samantha Pellon reported that the Council on Legislation meets March 17. Don Lyman announced that he would be present, representing CAPM.

In follow-up of a CMA resolution on including prevention, epidemiology, etc. as diseases were taught in curricula, Ron Hattis reported that there are apparently no statewide or nationwide conference calls on curriculum. There are supposed to be conference calls just for the UC schools, but he has been unable to find anyone in charge, so it is not clear that these are active. Ron suggested inviting officials

from the schools involved in curriculum to participate in a future Forum conference call. They could also discuss how dual degree programs are working. We could ask for an exchange of information on how prevention is taught at the various schools. Stephen McCurdy thought it was a “great idea” to invite the assistant/associate deans involved with curriculum. Susan Mackintosh Western was interested in participating for Western. Alesia Wagner said she is on the Touro Curriculum Committee and could represent the subject in the absence of a dean. Rhonda McClinton-Brown said that she would probably be delegated to represent Stanford for curriculum as well as the dual degree program. Samantha Pellon suggested that this be discussed further before implementation. George Rutherford suggested getting the issue to the attention of the UC system-wide Vice-President for Health Affairs. There is one annual meeting with participation from all of the health-related schools at all campuses, and he suggested getting on the agenda of this annual meeting.

Samantha also reported that, in follow-up of last year’s passage of Proposition 64 and 3 bills the previous year on cannabis, medical cannabis regulations are expected by spring 2017, which may also provide a framework for recreational cannabis regulations to follow, or the regulations might be combined. The Bureau of Medical Cannabis is recruiting public health experts and researchers to work in this area. Don Lyman will discuss this with Samantha this afternoon. Mark Horton said that the California Public Health Association-North has been discussing what the public health message about recreational cannabis should be.

CMA has received a grant on diabetes education in partnership with AMA, to increase awareness of diabetes and pre-diabetes, including the evidence base for screening for pre-diabetes. Conferences and a Webinar are planned, starting in April. Anita Balan said that ACPM has a grant on a similar area, from CDC, to engage physicians in screening, testing, and referrals related to diabetes.

A CMA Firearms Violence Prevention Committee will convene in April, in follow-up of resolutions passed last year. It will review the physician’s role in firearm violence prevention. Recommendations should go to the Board of Trustees in summer. Anita Balan said that ACPM has published a policy on firearms injury prevention on its Website.

7. Updates from Schools of Public Health

John Balmes from UC Berkeley has sent his regrets for today’s meeting due to medical reasons. Mark Horton, who is on the Dean’s Policy Advisory Council, reported that UC Berkeley is having significant budget challenges, and cuts are being distributed to all schools including Public Health. Despite this, funding has been found to maintain the MD-MPH program in cooperation with UC San Francisco and Stanford. Also, progress is being made on a new building for the School of Public Health, and it may open by as early as January 2018.

Lori Wilber developed a special track for “Population Medicine” at the Loma Linda School of Public Health designed for physicians, including Preventive and Occupational Medicine residents.

8. Updates from Schools of Medicine

Stephen McCurdy reported from UC Davis. He is planning to retire at the end of 2017, and his course work will be taken over by a Dr. Patrick Romano. He will discuss this Forum with Dr. Romano, and will in addition still be part-time and may be able to continue to attend these conference calls.

UC Davis has returned to a defined course in epidemiology rather from the current practice of longitudinal integration in “Doctoring 1 and 2” over two years. He will follow up to encourage discussion of epidemiology and prevention as diseases are taught, in addition to the free-standing course. He thanked Mark Horton and Don Lyman for consultation. There are 37 students in the graduate MPH program, increased from 20 last year. A Department of Public Health Sciences has been established.

Brandon Brown reported that this year, UC Riverside started a course on public health topics.

Alesia Wagner said that a van for diabetes screening and diabetes and exercise training will be available very soon at Touro. All medical students are being trained as lifestyle/diabetes trainers.

9. Clinical Practice by Physicians with MPH Degrees and/or Training in Preventive or Occupational Medicine

Ron Hattis suggested the following aspects of this for discussion, and Stephen McCurdy suggested that it be an early agenda item for the next or a future meeting:

- Are Preventive Medicine and Occupational Medicine primary care-related specialties?
- What should be special or different about clinical care delivered by Preventive Medicine specialists, or by those with MPH degrees?
- What roles can physicians with Preventive Medicine training or MPH degrees play in systems of primary or other clinical care?
- Do MPH programs provide relevant information for physicians?

10. CDC’s “6/18” Program and ACPM “Listening Sessions”

CDC has identified 6 costly health conditions and 18 interventions for them, called the “6/18” initiative. Anita Balan of the American College of Preventive Medicine mentioned that she had coordinated several “listening sessions” about the CDC 6/18 proposal, which have just concluded. Mark Horton would like to discuss this CDC initiative at the next meeting.

11. Next Meeting

This will tentatively occur on a Tuesday morning early in June 2017. Ron Hattis will determine feasibility of including some curriculum-involved officials from the schools of medicine and public health, and item 8 may be included.

Submitted by Ronald P. Hattis, MD, MPH, Secretary

Approved with one correction (entered above) on 6/6/17.