

California Public Health/Prevention Medical Leadership Forum
11th Conference Call Meeting
Tuesday, September 6, 2016, 8:15-9:15 am PDT
MINUTES (draft, 11/10/16)

Call in: (712) 432-1212

Access Code: 457-029-043#

“Handouts”: Links were posted on meeting “wall” for this meeting at
www.freeconferencecall.com/wall/457029043.

1. Attendance by Institution

CAPM: Mark Horton (Chair), Ron Hattis (Secretary), Don Lyman
CMA: Samantha Pellon
Western U.: Susan Mackintosh, Maryam Othman
USC: Richard Watanabe
UC San Diego: Margaret Ryan
UCLA SPH: Jonathan Fielding

2. Proceeding with Meeting Despite Low Attendance

Ron Hattis asked whether the meeting should be rescheduled. Mark Horton proposed going ahead with an informational meeting, shorter than usual, without taking votes on issues. All participants agreed.

3. Minutes of June 7, 2016 Meeting

Mark Horton recommended that these be deferred till the next meeting, with hopefully a larger attendance.

Action: Formal action was deferred to the next meeting.

4. Follow-up, Preventive Medicine Residency Funding Challenges

Margaret Ryan reported that UCSD obtained HRSA funding for two residents. Final budget action by Congress on the nationwide funding is still pending. Ron Hattis said that Loma Linda has obtained funding from its medical center and from the various rotation sites. See also item 6 below.

5. California Medical Association (CMA): Samantha Pellon

- a. Major Topics at House of Delegates: In her role with the Center for Health Policy, Samantha staffs the Council on Science and Public Health (CSPH), of which the Chair, Don Lyman, is again

participating in today's call. This October's House of Delegates (HOD) will convene October 15-16, and will focus on six major topics, two of which will be in reports issued by the Council on Science and Public Health (CSPH). These are the development of a five-year public health plan for CMA, and a policy statement on opioids, both of which will be posted on the CMA Web site on 9/15/16.

- b. Resolutions: Testimony on fourth quarter CMA resolutions has just closed, and the next step is for the six policy councils including CSPH to review the resolutions and the testimony and prepare recommendations. Those recommendations, usually with amended versions of the resolutions, will again be posted for comment before going on to the Board of Trustees. Ron Hattis noted difficulty in finding final actions by the CMA Board of Trustees on the CMA Website. Samantha said someone would send Ron an email on how to locate these.

Ron Hattis reviewed the following fourth quarter CMA resolutions related to public health and prevention, and positions on them that CAPM took; a document with the full text was supplied:

- Supporting the stocking of naloxone in schools
- Calling for substance abuse treatment programs to maintain a tobacco-free environment
- Urging eliminating the need for prior approval for treatment of urgent/emergent occupational injuries
- Calling for inclusion of naloxone in all drug formularies
- Supporting and calling for continuation of the Joint Medical Program of UC Berkeley and UC San Francisco, which was threatened with dissolution due to funding cuts (see item 7 below)
- Urging prevention of medical student mistreatment; this resolution was supported by the Academic Forum, chaired by Forum member Michael Nduati

Second and third quarter CMA resolutions, "resolved" clauses after review by Don and Samantha's Council on Science and Public Health, were also supplied for review but not discussed in detail.

- C. Letter to Schools of Medicine: In follow-up of the two 2015 resolutions relating to medical schools which have been discussed at several past meetings of this Forum, Ron Hattis recapped that the Forum officers hope to draft a letter, polling medical school deans or designees on their current practices on teaching of prevention and on acquainting students with the full range of specialties, and to assemble a list of the appropriate persons to receive it. Forum members may be consulted about the latter. The plan is for Samantha and other appropriate CMA staff to then review and edit the letter and send it out on behalf of CMA. Mark Horton expressed appreciation for the attention CMA has devoted to public health issues and said that we would look forward to future updates from CMA including the actions of the CSPH. Alesia Wagner noted that occupational and environmental medicine are included in one of the 7 core osteopathic competencies, and suggested including a query on how medical schools how they are addressing this.

Action: Samantha will review the draft letter with CMA staff. The issue will be brought back to the next Forum meeting.

6. Updates from Schools of Medicine

Margaret Ryan reported that the UC San Diego Preventive Medicine residency is still “cobbling together” funding to cover all of the residents and activities. See also item 4 above. Ron Hattis noted that at Loma Linda, the Preventive Medicine residency and a joint Family and Preventive Medicine residency, receive some funding from the university medical center, and are mostly funded by the institutions hosting rotations for residents. Western University and USC had nothing to report.

7. Update from Schools of Public Health

John Balmes was not present. Mark Horton reported that the Joint Medical Program of UC Berkeley and UC San Francisco, which was threatened with closure due to inadequate funding, has just been saved by obtaining funding from external sources. This was summarized by Dean Bertozzi on 9/1/16 at the Dean’s Policy Advisory Committee. See item 5b regarding a CMA resolution supporting the program, which has just obtained a positive review from the Council on Science and Public Health. Dr. Horton said that the funding crisis is a delayed effect of drastic state funding cuts to the entire UC system. Although the Joint Medical Program has had a reprieve and is off the “cutting block,” the undergraduate public health program and the DrPH program are still endangered. Dean Bertozzi told the committee that UC Berkeley School of Public Health will attempt to address these and other funding shortfalls by boosting enrollment. Ron Hattis has updated the spreadsheet about medical school prevention and public health training, to show the Joint Medical Program as a separate medical school, since reportedly the MD degrees are issued by UC Berkeley rather than UC San Francisco.

Jonathan Fielding said that UCLA’s Fielding School of Public Health is also suffering financially, particularly with respect to paying fully for employee benefits. Ron Hattis asked whether there has been any progress in setting up a joint Family and Preventive Medicine residency, but no information was available. The Los Angeles Department of Public Health offered to support a couple of resident rotations, prior to Jonathan’s retirement there.

8. Legislative Update Related to Public Health

Ron Hattis posted and discussed an updated written update on legislation of interest, which Don Lyman had initiated and Ron had kept up to date. The Legislature in 2016 passed a remarkable assortment of tobacco bills, including extending current tobacco restrictions to electronic cigarettes, and expansion of coverage of smoking cessation (which Mark Horton noted. The Legislature also passed multiple gun safety-related bills including requiring a waiting period/background check for purchase of ammunition, and banning of magazines containing more than 10 bullets, that should have a positive effect on public health.

Also passed were bills banning powdered alcohol; to study HIV testing in hospital emergency departments; to reduce black carbon and other short-lived climate pollutants; and to permit the newborn screening program to be expanded to meet future national recommendations.

Money was inserted into the state budget to establish a center for gun violence research at UC Davis, to partially make up for the Congressional ban on such research by CDC. In addition, a resolution was passed urging Congress to reverse that federal ban.

Mark Horton mentioned a bill that will require greenhouse gases to be reduced to 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. This went beyond previous requirements to reduce to 1990 levels by 2020, setting a “more aggressive” target. A plan has also been agreed on between the Legislature and the Governor on spending of at least \$1 billion in accumulated cap and trade income, distributing this money around the state for climate-related projects.

Bills that did not pass would have set up a fund for chronic disease and injury prevention; and to require a tax on sugary drinks (this failed for the second time). Jonathan Fielding mentioned a local soda tax passed only by the City of Berkeley.

Ron mentioned that since 2014, primary care clinics, especially including those at academic institutions, have been required to offer HIV testing if no baseline test is on record and if other blood drawing is planned. However, information about this law (AB 466 or 2013) was never adequately disseminated.

Action: Ron Hattis will send information about this law to Forum members from medical schools.

Jonathan Fielding mentioned legislation requiring physicians to consult the CURES database prior to prescribing opioids (with a few exceptions). Samantha Pellon said that after privacy concerns were addressed, CMA opposition was removed and replaced by neutrality. CMA does support prescription opioid monitoring. CURES 2.0 is more user-friendly and functional than the initial version. Jonathan Fielding said that CURES needs to be integrated into electronic health records, so that “one click” will transfer back and forth. Ron Hattis agreed and added that the Immunization Registry likewise needs to be integrated with EHRs.

Mark Horton mentioned the bill to change annual TB screening at community colleges. A questionnaire will be used, and TB testing done only if it shows a risk factor. This is in compliance with current CDC recommendations for TB control, and Ron noted that it was supported by HOAC and the state TB controllers. Ron Hattis noted that some private universities such as Loma Linda have not yet made the change.

August 31 was the end of the session, and the deadline for bills to pass the second house of the Legislature and move on to the Governor’s desk. All bills that failed to meet that deadline are dead. The Governor has hundreds of bills on his desk to sign or veto within the next few weeks. Some of the bills listed above as having passed may be vetoed by Governor Brown.

The ballot initiatives for the November ballot in the written report (not discussed orally) include the following of public health interest:

- Tax Extension to Fund Education and Healthcare Initiative (Prop. 55), which would extend the Prop 30 tax until 2030
- Cigarette Tax to Fund Healthcare, Tobacco Use Prevention, Research, and Law Enforcement Initiative (Prop. 56) that would raise the tobacco tax by \$2 per pack
- Condoms, Health Requirements Initiative (Prop. 60) that would require the adult film industry to use condoms
- State Prescription Drug Purchases, Pricing Standards initiative (Prop. 61) that would prohibit the state from paying more for drugs than the Veterans Administration pays; an Adult Films
- Firearms, Ammunition Sales Initiative that would expand gun control measures to ammunition and tighten other controls
- Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bag Referendum (Prop. 67) to reaffirm the plastic bag ban that the Legislature passed but which the bag industry has challenged

9. Next Meeting

Ron Hattis suggested a Tuesday morning in early December, possibly the 6th, for our next quarterly call. In the absence of alternative proposals, the date will be selected by Chair Mark Horton and Ron.

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