



**Health Equity and Quality Committee Meeting**  
**June 8, 2022**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**Transcript**

**Health Equity and Quality Committee Members in Attendance:**

Dr. Palav Babaria, California Department of Health Care Services  
William Barcellona, America's Physician Groups  
Dannie Ceseña, California LGBTQ Health and Human Services Network  
Dr. Alex Chen, Health Net  
Dr. Alice Chen, Covered California  
Dr. Cheryl Damberg, RAND Corporation  
Diana Douglas, Health Access California  
Stesha Hodges, California Department of Insurance  
Tiffany Huyenh-Cho, Justice in Aging  
Dr. Edward Juhn, Inland Empire Health Plan  
Julia Logan, California Public Employees' Retirement System  
Dr. Jeffrey Reynoso, Latino Coalition for a Healthy California  
Dr. Richard Riggs, Cedars-Sinai Health System  
Dr. Bihu Sandhir, AltaMed  
Kiran Savage-Sangwan, California Pan-Ethnic Health Network  
Rhonda Smith, California Black Health Network  
Robyn Strong, California Department of Healthcare Access and Information  
Kristine Toppe, National Committee for Quality Assurance  
Doreena Wong, Asian Resources, Inc.  
Silvia Yee, Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund

**Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) Staff in Attendance:**

Mary Watanabe, Director  
Nathan Nau, Deputy Director, Office of Plan Monitoring  
Dr. Chris Jaeger, Chief Medical Officer  
Sara Durston, Senior Attorney

**Sellers Dorsey Staff in Attendance:**

Sarah Brooks, Project Director  
Alex Kanemaru, Project Manager  
Dr. Andy Baskin, Quality Subject Matter Expert (SME), MD  
Ignatius Bau, Health Equity SME  
Janel Myers, Quality SME

**California Health and Human Services (CalHHS) and Center for Data Insights and Innovation (CDII) Presenters:**

John Ohanian, Chief Data Officer, CalHHS and Director, CDII  
Rim Cothren, Independent Health Information Exchange Consultant, CDII

## **Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions**

(Transcript, P. 5-12)

Sarah Brooks, Project Director, called the meeting to order, conducted a roll call, gave an overview of the fourth Committee meeting, walked through the agenda, meeting materials, and Committee timeline. Janel Myers, Quality SME, reviewed housekeeping notes for in-person and virtual Committee members and members of the public.

## **Agenda Item 2 – [Review of May 18, 2022 Meeting Summary](#)**

(Transcript, P. 12-13)

Ms. Brooks asked if there were any changes to the May 18, 2022, meeting summary. There were no changes to the May 18, 2022, meeting summary.

## **Agenda Item 3 – Data Exchange Framework Presentation**

(Transcript, P. 13-29)

John Ohanian, Chief Data Officer for CalHHS and Director of CDII and Rim Cothren, Independent Health Information Exchange Consultant for CDII, presented on the vision and purpose of the Data Exchange Framework initiative, timeline for implementation, and capabilities as it relates to the work of the Health Equity and Quality Committee.

## **Agenda Item 4 – Complete Discussion on Measures and Disparities by Focus Area** (Transcript, P. 29-88)

Ms. Brooks gave a brief overview of the goal and audience for the measures selected, the process for measure selection, guiding principles, focus areas, and how the measures for the Committee’s review and discussion were identified. Ms. Brooks also reviewed the measures identified for further discussion by the Committee during the April 20 and May 18 meetings for the prevention, chronic conditions, mental health, substance use, and birthing persons and children focus areas. Ignatius Bau, Health Equity SME, and Dr. Andy Baskin, MD, Quality SME provided overviews of disparities and measures for the utilization, specialty, appropriateness of care, and patient experience focus areas, respectively.

After a robust discussion, the Committee recommended the measures below for each focus area.

### Utilization Focus Area:

- Avoidable Emergency Room Visits

### Appropriateness of Care Focus Area:

- Transitions of Care: Medication Reconciliation Post-Discharge
- Plan All-Cause Readmissions (PCR)
- Timely Follow-Up After Acute Exacerbations of Chronic Conditions

It was determined further discussion of the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers & Systems (CAHPS) Health Plan Survey is required at the June 22

Committee meeting to discuss the following composite measures to address the specialty, appropriateness of care, and patient experience focus areas:

- Getting Needed Care
  - Q9. Easy for respondent to get necessary care, tests, or treatment
  - Q18. Respondent got appointment with specialists as soon as needed
- Getting Care Quickly
  - Q4. Respondent got care for illness/injury as soon as needed
  - Q6. Respondent got non-urgent appointment as soon as needed

**Agenda Item 5 – Break**

(Transcript, P. 88)

Ms. Brooks commenced a 15-minute break at 2:40 p.m.

**Agenda Item 4 (Continued) – Complete Discussion on Measures and Disparities by Focus Area** (Transcript, P. 88-121)

Mr. Bau and Dr. Baskin provided overviews of disparities and measures for the population health focus area, respectively. Mr. Bau separately reviewed the proposed measures for Committee discussion for the health equity focus area. The Committee recommended the measures below for the population health and health equity focus areas.

Population Health Focus Area:

- Adult Immunization Status
- Body Mass Index (BMI) Screening and Follow-Up Plan
- Obesity Prediabetes and Diabetes A1c Control

Health Equity Focus Area:

- Meaningful Access to Health Care Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency
- Patients Receiving Language Services Supported by Qualified Language Services Providers
- Cultural Competency Implementation Subdomain: Quality improvement

It was also determined the final report will include language recommending the Health Equity Index measure proposed by Dr. Cheryl Damberg and National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) Health Equity Accreditation (HEA).

**Agenda Item 5 – Narrow Measures to Final Set**

(Transcript, P. 121-130)

Ms. Brooks briefly reviewed the process to narrow the measures to the final set. The Committee discussed the number of measures that may be included in the final set.

**Agenda Item 7 – Public Comment**

(Transcript, P. 130)

Ms. Brooks asked if there was anyone who wanted to give public comment. There was none. Ms. Brooks noted members of the public may submit comments until 5 p.m. on June 15, 2022, to [publiccomments@dmhc.ca.gov](mailto:publiccomments@dmhc.ca.gov).

**Agenda Item 8 – Closing Remarks**

(Transcript, P. 130-131)

The meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2022.