

Academic Rigor on a Legislature's Timeline



Letter From The Director

Greetings! Welcome to CHBRP's Summer Quarterly Newsletter.

While the Legislature is formally on Summer recess (though much work continues behind the scenes), it offers CHBRP staff a brief opportunity to catch our breath and reflect on some of the lessons learned during the legislative session thus far. The past few months have been eventful and exciting, and we were able to return to the Capitol much more often in recent months. We were able to offer warm welcomes to many new legislators and staff, and help orient many new users to CHBRP's resources and reports. The new members and staff brought lots of energy, ideas, and interest to the process, and the number of health-related legislative bills in both houses were very high this year. CHBRP rose to take on a very intense workload, and that continues into the Summer. In case you missed it, we submitted an analysis on a very abbreviated timeline in June on pediatric hearing aids, and also completed an update to our naloxone analysis. We're also working on two late-season requests. We are hard at work on a broad analysis of prior authorization at the request of both Health Committees, and in the coming months, we will be turning to undertake an analysis of the Obesity Treatment Parity Act (SB 839).



We continue to track legislation that we analyzed this spring or in recent years, and respond to inquiries from the Legislature, stakeholders, and the media. We have also begun our own outreach, convening a number of our annual stakeholder meetings. These informative meetings are an opportunity for us to hear feedback about our

recent analyses and learn what topics are top of mind for stakeholders. We continue to learn from our readers, and CHBRP's team deeply appreciate the insights and feedback from the interested parties who read and leverage our work. We also are getting terrific support from a talented duo of Health Career Connection students who are working with us this Summer.

We hope that all of our readers stay cool this Summer, and that you all find time to downshift and recharge.

Until next time!
Garen

Updates from CHBRP

Staff Updates

CHBRP bid farewell to **Victor Garibay**, CHBRP's Policy Associate, in early June. Victor began with us as a Health Career Connections Undergraduate Intern, stayed on as a student assistant during his senior year at UC Berkeley, and joined us full time after he graduated with his Bachelors in Public Health. During his time at CHBRP, Victor was instrumental in helping CHBRP operate and update our design. We are thrilled for him as he continues his professional journey with Transform Health in Sacramento.



Welcome to CHBRP's Summer Interns

Welcome to CHBRP's Health Career Connections Undergraduate Interns! Brianna and Valerie joined CHBRP in June for their 10 week internship.



Brianna Harris is an undergraduate student at the University of California, Davis, majoring in Sociology and minoring in Public Health. Through her educational experiences at UC Davis, she has been inspired to gain a further understanding of the various mechanisms utilized to improve public health. In order to help her reach this goal, Health Career Connections paired Ms. Harris in a summer internship with



Valerie Lobato is a recent graduate from the University of California, Berkeley with a bachelor's in public health. Ms. Lobato's coursework has prepared her to think about health policy more critically and understand the impacts of the Affordable Care Act. Through Health Career Connections, she was matched with CHBRP for a summer internship. She is originally from Bell, California.

CHBRP's 2023 Analyses

CHBRP has completed **20 analyses** so far in 2023. Many of the bills were heard in Assembly and Senate Health Committee hearings, and CHBRP was on hand to answer questions from the Legislature. Since the last newsletter, CHBRP has completed an updated analysis of AB 1060 Naloxone Hydrochloride and a new analysis for SB 635 Hearing Aids.

Looking ahead, CHBRP has been [requested](#) to provide a report examining prior authorization in state-regulated commercial plans and policies and to complete an analysis of SB 839 (Bradford) Obesity Treatment Parity Act. Both of these reports will be available later this year.

Status of Bills Analyzed by CHBRP			
As of July 14, 2023			
	Passed First Chamber	Passed Second Health Committee	Passed Second Appropriations Committee
AB 85 Social Determinants of Health*			
AB 620 Metabolic Disorders*			
AB 716 Emergency Ground Medical Transport*			
AB 874 Out-of-pocket Expenses			
AB 907 Coverage for PANDAS and PANS*			
AB 1048 Dental Benefits and Rate Review*			
AB 1060 Naloxone Hydrochloride*			
AB 1157 Durable Medical Equipment and Services*			
AB 1288 Medication-Assisted Treatment*			
AB 1451 Behavioral Health Crisis Treatment*			
AB 1645 Cost Sharing*			
SB 70 Prescription Drug Coverage*			
SB 90 Insulin Affordability*			
SB 339 HIV Preexposure Prophylaxis and Postexposure Prophylaxis*			
SB 427 Antiretroviral Drugs, Devices, and Products*			
SB 621 Biosimilar Drugs*			
SB 635 Hearing Aids			
SB 694 Medi-Cal: Self-Monitored Blood Pressure Devices and Services*			
SB 729 Treatment for Infertility and Fertility Services*			

*Amended since CHBRP published its analysis

As these bills move through Committees, CHBRP updates the "**Status of Bills**" page to indicate the portions of CHBRP analyses that remain relevant after amendments are made to analyzed bills. This is available on CHBRP's website under Completed Analyses.

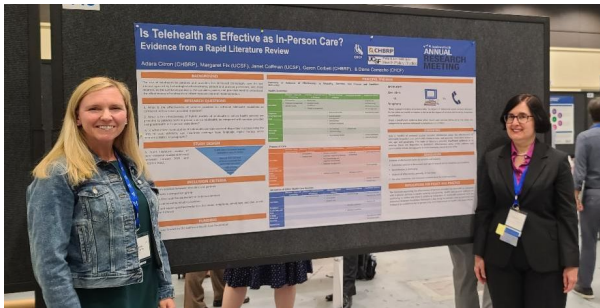
Videos on Key Topics

Do you wish you could watch a short (1-2 minute) video about CHBRP, health insurance benefit mandates, or the sources of health insurance in California? Now you can!



CHBRP has posted the first batch of short videos providing key information in a visual format. Let us know if you have an idea for our next video.

[View Videos](#)



CHBRP at AcademyHealth's Annual Research Meeting

Many of CHBRP's Task Force members attended AcademyHealth's Annual Research Meeting in June to present research related to CHBRP analyses as well about their own research.

- Nadereh Pourat of UCLA
 - Who are High-Cost High-Need Populations?
 - Impact of Care Coordination on Outcomes for High Cost, High Need Populations
 - Interventions and Policies to Improve Perinatal and Infant Health
- Timothy Brown of UC Berkeley
 - The Impact of Hospital Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations on the Quality of Inpatient Mental Health Follow-up, and Geographic-Based Racial Disparities
 - The Effect of Psychological Distress on Chronic Pain, Medical Care Utilization, Substance Use, and Suicidal Ideation: A Mendelian Randomization Analysis
- Adara Citron (CHBRP), Margaret Fix (UCSF), Janet Coffman (UCSF), and Garen Corbett (CHBRP).
 - **Is Telehealth as Effective as In-Person Care? Evidence From a Rapid Literature Review**
 - Margaret and Janet pictured above presenting the **poster**
- Jacqueline Miller (UCSF), An-Chi Tsou (CHBRP), Emily Shen (UCSF), Bethney Bonilla (UCD), Sylvia Guendelman (UCB), and Janet Coffman (UCSF)
 - **The Impact of Unlicensed Providers from Pregnancy Through the Fourth Trimester**

Congratulations to all with accepted poster or podium presentations!

New CHBRP Explainer

CHBRP's **newest explainer** aims to provide an overview of health insurance in California for those new to health insurance and health policy. This explainer includes an explanation of CHBRP, an overview of health insurance coverage in California, vocabulary to know for a better understanding of health policy legislation, and useful links to several other resources and organizations that provide additional useful health policy information.

HEALTH INSURANCE 101

What is CHBRP?
Overview of Health Insurance in CA
Key Terms
Useful Links and Resources

[Read the Explainer](#)

Task Force Spotlight

Each newsletter, CHBRP features two Task Force members and the important work they do outside of CHBRP. See more information about all of our Task Force members on CHBRP's [website](#).

Julia Huerta, BSN, RN, MPH

Julia Huerta is a research analyst for UC Davis' Center for Healthcare Policy and Research (CHPR) and a pediatric nurse at the UC Davis Children's Hospital. Ms. Huerta's work at the children's hospital is the most rewarding work for her. She enjoys making connections with the kids and their families, advocating, and doing her best to provide the most positive experience possible in the hospital. Through her research and health policy work, Ms. Huerta feels connected to public health by providing knowledge and insight to people in the communities, which is difficult to do in the hospital.

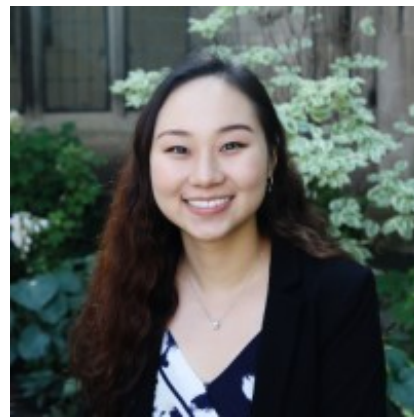


At the Center for Healthcare Policy and Research, Ms. Huerta supports the UC Davis team in writing the public health and medical effectiveness sections of the CHBRP analyses. Fun fact: Ms. Huerta worked with CHBRP in 2011, before going to nursing school in Baltimore. She returned to UC Davis after completing her Master's in Public Health, and rejoined CHBRP. Ms. Huerta finds working with various team members the most rewarding part of her contribution. She explains that it is truly a collaborative process and finds all team members amazing. Additionally, she admires the completion of great work with limited time.

Through her career in nursing, Ms. Huerta is most proud of the families and patients she has worked with. Ms. Huerta is proud of her ability to maintain multiple roles as a registered nurse, health policy analyst, a contributor to both her career passions/interest and a working mom.

Emily Shen

Emily Shen is a research analyst at the Healthforce Center at UCSF, where she conducts research focused on multiple professions in the medical, dental, nursing, and behavioral health workforces. Ms. Shen conducts literature searches, interviews stakeholders, and analyzes data on various topics related to the health workforce.



Additionally, Ms. Shen also works on projects focused on evolving project practice models, the educational capacity, racial diversity and equity as well as the well-being of healthcare workers. The most rewarding part of her current work is the ability to use her research skills to conduct literature reviews and data analysis. Ms. Shen loves being able to use her research skills to impact broader groups of people and feels fortunate to conduct her work.

Ms. Shen is a part of the Medical Effectiveness team at CHBRP. A highlight of her work is conducting literature reviews on the efficacy of a certain proposed change to state laws around health insurance. She describes her role as conducting literature reviews, reading and analyzing studies to determine whether there is evidence of effectiveness. Ms. Shen admires how it comes from an unbiased, scientific perspective. The most rewarding and interesting part of her work is the impact the analysis holds for numerous stakeholders.

Prior to joining UCSF, Ms. Shen worked as a research assistant at the Center for Health and The Social Sciences at the University of Chicago, and as an oral health policy fellow at Children Now. Through her fellowship, Ms. Shen became aware of the importance for Public Health and the need to understand the needs of differing communities. Through her experience growing up abroad and becoming exposed to different health care systems, she became interested in Public Policy. Ms. Shen is most proud of the work she has conducted in the recent years centered on wellbeing and professional burn out. Ms. Shen will be returning to her alma mater in the fall to attend the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy.

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California Health Benefits Review Program

University of California, Berkeley MC 3116

Berkeley, CA 94720-3116

Phone: (510) 664-5306

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