

Academic Rigor on a Legislature's Timeline



Letter From The Director

Greetings! Welcome to CHBRP's Winter Newsletter.

I hope that this new year is healthy, prosperous, and fulfilling for all of our readers.

The Winter months are often eventful and unpredictable for the CHBRP team, as they are for many of our policy and legislative colleagues. Activities ramp up externally and internally, and final preparations are being rushed to completion. Given the rapid analytic deadlines we operate under, we generally have to immediately dive into each analysis request that arrives on our electronic doorstep, often without notice. We're ready to roll up our sleeves!

We've been on the road more and back in the Capitol in recent weeks. We have been delighted to meet several legislators and numerous staff colleagues in the Capitol in-person, and we are offering an in-person as well as virtual legislative briefing in February. See below for more information.

I wanted to take a moment to remind our readers that CHBRP offers many resources for information on a wide-array of health insurance-related topics. Even some of our veteran readers forget that on our (www.chbrp.org) website under Issue Briefs, Resources, and Explaners you'll find many useful materials. And of course, there are more than 20 years of legislative analyses that can be found under "Completed Analyses" of our website. All of these resources are available to you at any time.



Amidst the many seasons of change, I wanted to recognize one important person. I wish to recognize and thank Naomi Hillery, MPH from UC San Diego's Medical Effectiveness and Public Health Team for her many years of dedicated CHBRP service. She has recently moved into a new exciting professional role within the university, which we're thrilled for her. But we're going to miss her unwavering dedication, reliability, and skills in the seasons to come.

Until next time!
Garen

Updates from CHBRP

Join us at a legislative briefing!

If you're working on legislation that is related to health benefits, come find out more about CHBRP, tips on working with us, and how our work helps support the the policymaking process with evidence-based analyses. **Our first briefing is tomorrow, February 1 at the State Capitol.** Register for either briefing below! Content will be the same across events.



In-Person Briefing

Thursday, February 1, 2024
10-11am

Sacramento State Capitol
Room 126

[Register for Feb 1 event \(in-person\)](#)



Virtual Briefing

Thursday, February 29, 2024
1-2pm

Register below
for webinar link

[Register for Feb 29 event \(virtual\)](#)

CHBRP's Analyses

CHBRP completed 21 analyses in 2023, most recently publishing the analysis of **SB 839 (Bradford) Obesity Treatment Parity Act**. All previously completed analyses are available on CHBRP's website.

Take a look at the **'Status of Bills'** page to see the portions of CHBRP analyses that remain relevant after amendments are made to analyzed bills. As several bills from 2023 have been reintroduced, CHBRP's analyses remain useful when discussing potential impacts. This is available on CHBRP's website under Completed Analyses.

With the bill introduction deadline fast approaching, CHBRP is ready to analyze bills when requested by the Legislature. All requests will be posted to the "**Recent Requests**" page. Interested parties are able to submit relevant information CHBRP may find useful in its analysis of legislation.

Recent Requests

Welcome to CHBRP's New NAC Members!

CHBRP is pleased to welcome two new members of its National Advisory Council. A subset of NAC members review each CHBRP analysis, and we are looking forward to benefiting from Rachel and Osula's expertise. Learn more about these two new members on CHBRP's [website](#).

Rachel Nuzman, MPH, is senior vice president for Federal and State Health Policy at the Commonwealth Fund, where she is responsible for developing and implementing the Fund's national policy strategy for improving health system performance, ensuring that the work of the Fund and its grantees informs the policy process in both the legislative and executive branches of state and federal government.

Osula Evadne Rushing, MPH, is Senior Vice President for Strategic Engagement at KFF. She is responsible for development, joint ventures, and the strategic use of KFF's conference centers.

National Advisory Council

Recent Publications

CHBRP has recently published or updated a number of documents:

Explainers

- Network Adequacy and Health Care Access Regulations in California
- Systemic Racism and CHBRP's Health Policy Analysis
- What is Cost Sharing in Health Insurance?

Resources

- Health Insurance Benefit Mandates in California State and Federal Law

Additionally, CHBRP's **Year in Review** highlights all that was accomplished in 2023.



Presentations

CHBRP has been sharing findings from recent analytic work at conferences around the country.

- **Adara Citron** of CHBRP Staff presented findings from CHBRP's independent study on **Prior Authorization** to AcademyHealth's State-University Partnership Learning Network in November 2023
- **Margaret Fix** of UCSF and CHBRP's Medical Effectiveness Team presented a poster about **the effectiveness of telehealth** at the American Public Health Association's Annual Meeting in November 2023

Additionally, **Garen Corbett**, CHBRP's Director, was part of a breakout session on **translating research to policy** at the California Breast Cancer Research Program's virtual conference in January 2024.

[View Presentations](#)

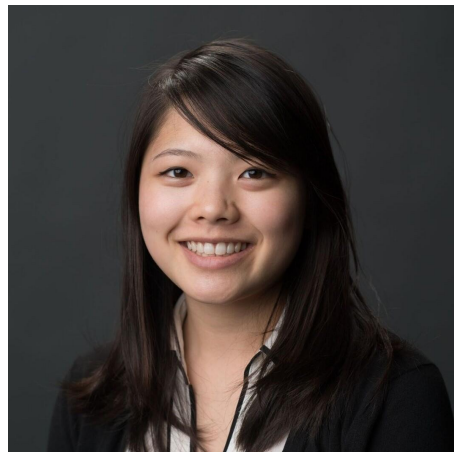
Task Force and NAC Spotlight

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

Amy Quan, MPH

Amy Quan is a research analyst at the Institute for Health Policy Studies and Healthforce Center at the University of California, San Francisco. She also serves as a Task Force member for CHBRP's Medical Effectiveness team.

Ms. Quan's research focuses on the health workforce and health policy. She has studied nurses, physicians, behavioral health workers, and other health professions. Her current projects include surveying California nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, and licensed midwives about their practice, the populations they serve, facilitators and barriers to their work, and the potential impact of regulatory changes on their intentions for future practice. Additionally, she is currently involved in the development of an evaluation framework that will measure the effectiveness of different programs that aim to address the shortage of healthcare workers in the state.



In her work with CHBRP, Ms. Quan reviews and synthesizes literature related to the medical effectiveness of proposed legislation. She finds her work with CHBRP rewarding because of the opportunity to collaborate with individuals from a diverse range of health professions across the UC campuses. The ability to work with such knowledgeable individuals provides her with new

perspectives that enable her to further her own expertise. Additionally, it is gratifying contributing to high quality, academic level, and unbiased research that, in turn, provides policy professionals with resources to make informed decisions.

Richard Roberts, MD, JD

Richard Roberts served 20 years as a member of the CHBRP National Advisory Council (NAC), from 2004 through 2023. Forty years as a busy family physician, medical school professor, and global healthcare leader enabled Dr. Roberts to provide a perspective that extended from individual patients to national policy makers to global health agencies.



Prof. Roberts said, “It was an honor and delight to serve on the NAC. As one of the early members of the NAC, it’s been a joy to watch CHBRP blossom into a unique resource that links teams of California university experts in multiple disciplines who provide analyses of the potential impact of health insurance mandates under consideration by the California Legislature. The result is better health policy decisions and better health care that helps patients and improves health equity. Having observed, taught, and consulted in the healthcare systems of more than 100 countries, I have found no one that does a better job than CHBRP of weaving together evidence-based thoughtful reviews of the clinical and public health effects, economics, and insurance impacts of health insurance coverage proposals.”

Dr. Roberts is a Professor Emeritus and past Chair in the Department of Family Medicine for the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health in Madison, Wisconsin. He spent 35 years teaching medical students, other health professional trainees, and Family Medicine residents. He cared for multiple generations of families in his rural academic practice. After retirement from the University, he has been a consultant to several national and international projects, including the 2019 launch of a new Family Medicine residency in Ukiah, California.

Dr. Roberts stepped down from CHBRP’s NAC at the end of 2023. CHBRP is grateful for his 20 years of contributions and wishes him well as he continues in his retirement. Dr. Roberts has provided a thoughtful and unique voice to the NAC and the staff and Task Force will certainly miss working with him.

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