



# See What's Happening With The California Health Benefits Review Program!

See What's  
New



## Academic Rigor On A Legislature's Timeline

### Letter From The Director

Welcome to CHBRP's Spring Newsletter.

Despite limited rain, the flowers are in full bloom here in the Bay Area, and the grass remains green. While we all are navigating through a tumultuous time economically and geo-politically, we are gradually finding our footing in the "new normal" as we learn to live with COVID-19.

The bill analysis topics CHBRP has completed this legislative cycle reflect some of the many complexities and friction points in our health financing system. The proposed legislation runs the gamut from mental health, pain management, out of network billing for emergency ground medical transport, pharmacogenomics, insulin, prescription drugs, perinatal services, single payer, and more. Policymakers must consider how best to address the continued challenges of balancing health care affordability with comprehensiveness of benefits and affordability of cost sharing. These topics will likely be debated for many years to



benefits and affordability of cost sharing. These topics will likely be debated for many years to come.

As the CHBRP Team complete our remaining analyses, I wanted to first thank all of our readers and our primary *clients*, the elected members and staff of the California Legislature. Without the trust of our clients and readers and the broadly shared commitment to evidence-based policymaking, we would not exist. And similarly, without the commitment of each CHBRP contributor (many of whom juggle other projects, research, and teaching along with CHBRP), this work would not be possible. I remain humbled by the talents and dedication demonstrated by so many under extremely tight timelines as we continue to refine and improve our work each year. Remarkably I believe that the caliber of our reports continues to improve each year.

Wishing all of our readers well.

Until next time,

Garen

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## Completed Analyses in 2022

In 2022, the Legislature requested that CHBRP analyze 17 bills.

- AB 933 Prescription Drug Cost Sharing
- AB 1400 Guaranteed Health Care for All
- AB 1859 Mental Health Services
- AB 1930 Medi-Cal: Comprehensive Perinatal Services
- AB 2024 Breast Imaging
- AB 2029 Health Care Coverage: Treatment for Infertility
- AB 2516 Health Care Coverage: Human Papillomavirus
- AB 2585 Health Care Coverage: Nonpharmacological Pain Management Treatment
- AB 2709 Emergency Ground Medical Transportation
- SB 473 Insulin Cost Sharing
- SB 853 Prescription Drug Coverage
- SB 858 Health Care Service Plans: Discipline: Civil Penalties
- SB 912 Biomarker Testing
- SB 974 Breast Imaging
- SB 1191 Medi-Cal: Pharmacogenomic Testing
- SB 1337 Coordinated Specialty Care for First-Episode Psychosis
- SB 1338 Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program

All completed analyses are available on CHBRP's website.

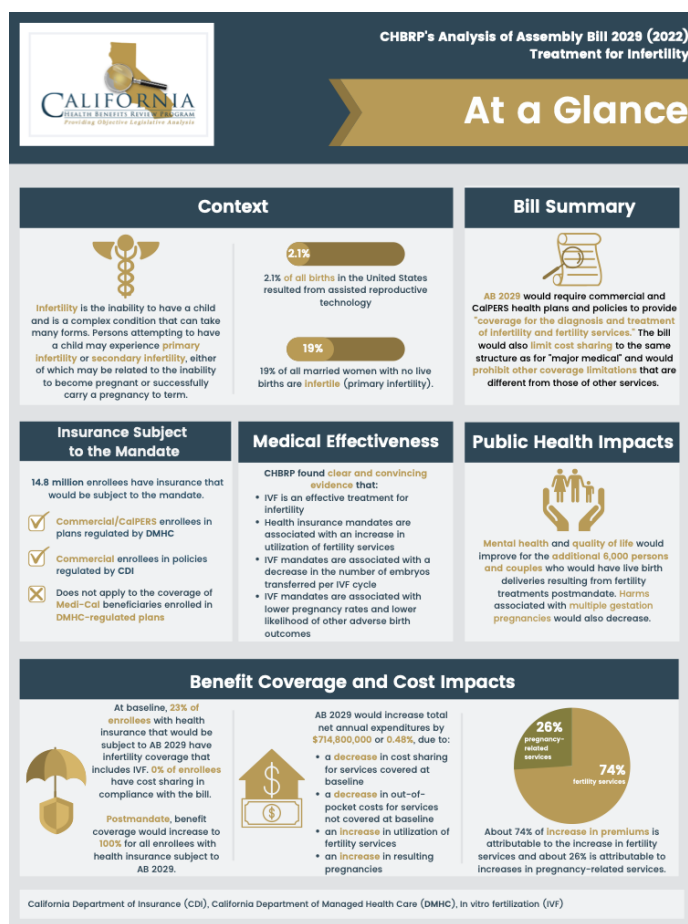
As these bills move through Committees, CHBRP publishes an "Amendment Status" document ahead of key hearings that indicates the portions of CHBRP analyses that remain relevant after amendments are made to analyzed bills. This is available on CHBRP's website and CHBRP will

amendments are made to analyzed bills. This is available on CHBRP's website and CHBRP will also notify readers when a new version is posted via our email listserv. CHBRP remains available to answer questions about completed analyses.

Completed Analyses

## Infographic Pilot

This year, CHBRP is piloting a new infographic resource for several analyses. An example infographic for AB 2029 Health Care Coverage: Treatment for Infertility is below.



The infographics are intended to help readers absorb the key details of the bill and findings quickly. These documents are also available on CHBRP's website under Completed Analyses. Feel free to provide feedback to [info@chbrp.org](mailto:info@chbrp.org)!

## CHBRP Staff Transitions

This summer, CHBRP is saying farewell to one

staff member,





while welcoming another!

Sabrina Woll has been with CHBRP for about three years. She joined CHBRP as an undergraduate student assistant, and once she



graduated with her Bachelors in Public Health, continued with us as a Policy Associate. Sabrina has helped keep CHBRP running and has assisted with multiple analyses of bills. We are forever grateful she chose to work with us and will miss her. We wish her the best of luck as she begins medical school this fall!



Victor Garibay will be stepping into Sabrina's shoes. Victor came to us as a Health Career Connection undergraduate intern in the summer of 2021. He has stayed on as an undergraduate student assistant and is planning to join CHBRP full time as a Policy Associate once he graduates with his Bachelors in Public Health in just a few months. Victor's attention to detail and willingness to take on any project we send his way make him a valuable team member. We look forward to him starting with us full time this summer!

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## Recently Published Documents

CHBRP has recently published or updated the following documents, available on CHBRP's website under Other Publications:

- **Resource: Estimates of Sources of Health Insurance in California for 2023.** This resource will discuss CHBRP's 2023 estimates of sources of health insurance in California.
- **Resource: Estimates of Pharmacy Benefit Coverage in California for 2023.** This resource will note the presence or absence of a pharmacy benefit among Californians enrolled in health plans regulated by the California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) and health policies regulated by the California Department of Insurance (CDI).
- **Resource: 2023 Estimates, Deductibles in State-Regulated Health Insurance.** This resource discusses deductibles and their interaction with other forms of cost sharing, as well as estimates regarding their presence among state-regulated health insurance, potential impacts of new prohibitions on their application, and related state and federal law.

[Other Publications](#)

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## AcademyHealth's Annual Research Meeting

Adara Citron, CHBRP's Principal Analyst, along with multiple faculty and task force members will be attending AcademyHealth's Annual Research Meeting in June in Washington, DC. Adara will also be

presenting at the meeting, discussing analyses of recent legislation that have aimed to limit cost sharing for insulin in a session titled "The Impact of Costs and Prices of Prescription Drugs and Other Health Care Services". If you see any of them, be sure to say hello!

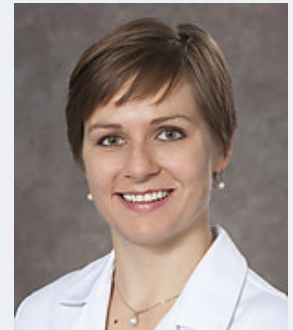
## Task Force Spotlight

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.

### CHBRP's Task Force

#### Elizabeth M. Magnan, MD, PhD

Dr. Magnan is an Associate Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine at UC Davis, a family physician, and a health services researcher. Remarkably, Dr. Magnan cares for her patients in the clinic and the hospital, supervises resident physicians in their clinical care, teaches residents and medical students, and conducts research on chronic conditions. Her research focuses on the quality of care received by patients with chronic conditions, such as diabetes, depression, and chronic pain, the role of social determinants of health and life context in patient health, and stigma in healthcare.



As Co-Vice Chair for Medical Effectiveness and Public Health at CHBRP, Dr. Magnan conducts the Medical Effectiveness and Public Health Impact sections for CHBRP's bill analyses. Through her work, Dr. Magnan aims to improve the lives of others, either directly by a change to their clinical care or insurance coverage, or indirectly through teaching and dissemination of research findings. She finds the contribution to CHBRP rewarding due to its fast impact on the lives of millions of people and loves working with the interdisciplinary teams of people at CHBRP.

Prior to her faculty position at UCD, Dr. Magnan attended medical school at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health followed by family medicine residency in Houston, Texas. She then completed a T32-funded Health Services Research fellowship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. During her fellowship, she earned a PhD in Clinical Investigation with a minor in Population Health. Dr. Magnan accredits her introduction to health policy to her experience in medical school, residency, and fellowship. She gained an in-depth foundation of health policy when asked to join CHBRP by Dr. Joy Melnikow. Since joining CHBRP as a faculty member in 2016, Dr. Magnan has enjoyed every minute of it.

Thus far in her career, Dr. Magnan is most proud of all the patients who have called her their primary care physician and the medical learners she has watched develop in their skills and enjoyment of their medical careers. She is extremely honored to be part of the wonderful work

CHBRP does to support evidence-informed policy decisions as it is vital for her that everyone has good health care that is rooted in evidence of its medical effectiveness and the impact on people's health and public health.

## Mark A. Peterson, PhD

Dr. Peterson is a Professor in the Department of Public Policy in UCLA's Meyer and Renee Luskin School of Public Affairs, with joint appointments in Political Science and Law, as well as a Senior Fellow at the Center for Health Policy Research; a Faculty Associate at the Center for Healthier Children, Families, and Communities; and a member of the Internal Advisory Board for the Clinical and Translational Science Institute. His scholarship mainly involves the interactions among the Presidency, Congress, interest groups, and public opinion, as well as the ways in which research evidence influences policy decision-making, all with a significant focus on health policy. He is also currently completing his book exploring the politics of U.S. health care reform through a political science and empirical lens. Dr. Peterson especially enjoys working at a mutually reinforcing intersection of teaching, researching, writing, and informing policy applications outside of academia. He loves being able to have a foot in the real world of policy, to have a voice in writing and in teaching, and to have his teaching reflect his mix of experiences while also continuing to learn from his students.



Dr. Peterson recently joined CHBRP as a reviewer on the Cost Team, and he looks forward to bringing his perspective and expertise on health policy and the legislative process to CHBRP's endeavors. He finds it particularly rewarding to participate in work outside of academics that has the potential to influence people's health status and the quality of their lives. Dr. Peterson also appreciates the opportunity to gain a better understanding of California's legislative process compared to Congress, and to work with a legislature that values analytical support.

Growing up during the Civil Rights Movement and Vietnam War, Dr. Peterson has always been interested in politics and government. He first became curious about health policy when he lived in Sweden for a year at age 11, where he experienced a universal health care system and was puzzled as to why the US had such a different system. He then went on to study political science, and received his PhD in Political Science from the University of Michigan. While on sabbatical from Harvard University, he served as a Legislative Assistant for Health Policy in the Office of U.S. Senator Tom Daschle. Soon after coming to UCLA, Dr. Peterson was a founding team member of the Blue Sky Health Initiative, which sought to transform the U.S. health and health care system. He also spent nine years as editor of the *Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law*, during which he engaged with health policy researchers from a multitude of disciplines. In addition, Dr. Peterson served on the National Academy of Social Insurance's Study Panel on Medicare and Markets,

chaired national advisory committees for Robert Wood Johnson Foundation programs, and served on the faculty advisory committee for the Institute for Social Science Research and the Center for

on the faculty advisory committees for the Institute for Social Science Research and the Center for American Politics and Public Policy at UCLA.

Dr. Peterson is most proud of his career working with people across myriad disciplines and in various kinds of institutions, and with connections to the policymaking process. He has benefited from diverse experiences in both the scholarly and policymaking worlds, leading to a portfolio of work much more varied and enriching than he had anticipated. He finds it especially satisfying to be able to speak on and write about issues from the variety of perspectives he has gained through his career.

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