Public Hospitals and Health Systems During the COVID-19 Pandemic

WEBINAR

JULY 10, 2020
California’s public hospitals and health systems: A vital part of the safety net

• 21 public health care systems across state
• Serving 2.85 million patients annually regardless of ability to pay or insurance status

While public hospitals make up only 6% of state’s hospitals:

They provide 40% of all hospital care to the remaining uninsured in California.

And provide nearly 35% of all hospital care to Medi-Cal enrollees in the communities they serve.

Source: California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems, Fast Facts about California’s Public Health Care System
Public hospitals and health systems:

- 35% of patients speak a primary language other than English
- Primary care provider for more than 500,000 Medi-Cal expansion enrollees
- Half of all California’s top-level trauma and burn centers
- 10 million outpatient visits each year
- Train half of all new doctors in hospitals across the state

Source: California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems, Fast Facts about California’s Public Health Care System
COVID-19: The response

- Building surge capacity
- Expanding testing capacity
- Caring for essential frontline workers with low incomes, homeless individuals, and those with other complex medical and social needs
- Building off foundation of Whole Person Care program.
- Ramping up telehealth
Emerging challenges

- Will state coverage and payment policies for telehealth continue as is?
- How to predict and prepare for future surges?
- Financial stability
- Mental health of workforce
- Increasing number of uninsured, increased social needs of patients
- Continuing to address systemic racism and health disparities in context of pandemic
Housekeeping

- All lines are muted.
- Submit questions through the Q&A platform at the bottom center of your screen (NOT the chat function).
- This session will be recorded; you will receive an email once it’s available.
- To hide non-video participants:
  - When you are in gallery view, right-click on any participant that either has their video off or dialed in via telephone. Or click on the 3 dots at the upper right of their participant box.
  - Choose ”Hide Non-Video Participants” to hide all users with their video off.
Panelists

- Tangerine Brigham, MPP, chief administrative officer, population health, Alameda Health System
- Jennifer Cruikshank, RN, MBA, CEO, Riverside University Health System
- Susan Ehrlich, MD, MPP, CEO, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center