



California  
Health Care  
Foundation

# Public Hospitals and Health Systems During the COVID-19 Pandemic

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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.



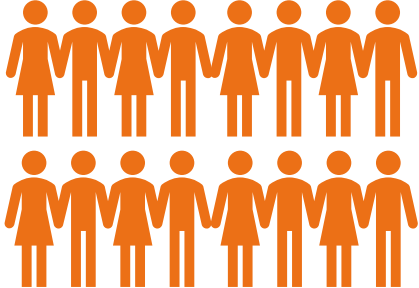
And provide nearly 35% of all hospital care to Medi-Cal enrollees in the communities they serve.

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



The image shows a screenshot of a Health Affairs blog post. At the top, the "HealthAffairs" logo is on the left, and navigation links for "TOPICS", "JOURNAL", and "BLOG" are on the right. Below the logo, a blue banner reads "HEALTH AFFAIRS BLOG". Underneath, a section for "RELATED TOPICS" lists "COVID-19", "RATING", "HEALTH DISPARITIES", "MEDICAID", "BENEFICIARIES", "PANDEMICS", and "INTEGRATING SOCIAL SERVICES & HEALTH". The main title of the article is "How California Counties' COVID-19 Response Benefited From The 'Whole Person Care' Program", written by Nadereh Pourat, Emmeline Chuang, and Leigh Ann Haley. The date "APRIL 28, 2020" and a URL "10.1377/hblog20200427.341123" are also visible. The featured image is a white surgical mask with a red stripe at the bottom, featuring the California state seal (a bear) and the text "CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC".

# 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 Bringham, 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