



Health Equity and Quality Committee Meeting
August 17, 2022
Meeting Summary
[Meeting Transcript](#)

Health Equity and Quality Committee Members in Attendance:

Dr. Anna Lee Amarnath, Integrated Healthcare Association
Dr. Palav Babaria, California Department of Health Care Services
William Barcellona, America's Physician Groups
Dannie Ceseña, California LGBTQ Health and Human Services Network
Dr. Alex Chen, HealthNet
Dr. Alice Chen represented by Taylor Priestley, Covered California
Dr. Cheryl Damberg, RAND Corporation
Diana Douglas, Health Access California
Stesha Hodges, California Department of Insurance
Tiffany Huyenh-Cho, Justice in Aging
Dr. Edward Juhn, Inland Empire Health Plan
Julia Logan represented by Crystal Esparza, California Public Employees' Retirement System
Dr. Jeffrey Reynoso, Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
Dr. Richard Riggs, Cedars-Sinai Health System
Dr. Bihu Sandhir, AltaMed
Kiran Savage-Sangwan, California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
Rhonda Smith, California Black Health Network
Robyn Strong, California Department of Healthcare Access and Information
Kristine Toppe, National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)
Doreena Wong, Asian Resources, Inc.
Silvia Yee, Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund

Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) Staff in Attendance:

Mary Watanabe, Director
Nathan Nau, Deputy Director, Office of Plan Monitoring
Dr. Chris Jaeger, Chief Medical Officer
Sara Durston, Senior Attorney

Sellers Dorsey Staff in Attendance:

Sarah Brooks, Project Director
Alex Kanemaru, Project Manager
Dr. Andy Baskin, Quality Subject Matter Expert (SME), MD
Ignatius Bau, Health Equity SME
Janel Myers, Quality SME

Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and Introductions (Transcript, P. 5-12)

Sarah Brooks, Project Director, called the meeting to order, conducted a roll call, gave an overview of the seventh Committee meeting, walked through the agenda, meeting materials, and Committee timeline. Janel Myers, Quality SME, reviewed housekeeping notes for Committee members and members of the public.

Agenda Item 2 – Review of July 13, 2022 Meeting Summary (Transcript, P. 12)

Ms. Brooks asked if there were any changes to the July 13, 2022, meeting summary. There were no changes to the July 13, 2022, meeting summary.

Agenda Item 3 – Regulation and Enforcement Process (Transcript, P. 13-27)

Director Mary Watanabe presented on the DMHC's regulation and enforcement process.

Agenda Item 4 – Benchmarking (Transcript, P. 27-32)

Ms. Brooks gave an overview of the materials for the benchmarking discussion, provided a recap of the July meeting, shared definitions, and reviewed the voting process. Dr. Andy Baskin, Quality SME, MD, and Ignatius Bau, Health Equity SME reviewed examples and strengths and challenges for each of the benchmarking options under the Committee's review. For all the recommended measures, the Committee recommends using annually adjusted Quality Compass®¹ 25th or 50th percentile national Medicaid data for all health plans (regardless of line of business). The Committee had an evenly split vote on recommending either the 25th or 50th percentile as the benchmark.

Agenda Item 5 – Break (Transcript, P. 32-68)

Ms. Brooks commenced a 15-minute break at 2:19 p.m.

Agenda Item 6 – Measure Stratification (Transcript, P. 32-68)

Mr. Bau gave an overview of measure stratification, NCQA stratification categories, and federal standards. For measure stratification, the Committee recommends that, in addition to the eight HEDIS measures that already require stratification by race and ethnicity, the remaining five measures also be stratified by race and ethnicity using the NCQA race and ethnicity methodology. Further, as additional demographic data become available, the Committee recommends stratification be required on additional demographic points.

¹ Quality Compass® is a registered trademark of the NCQA.

Agenda Item 7 – Public Comment

(Transcript, P. 161)

Ms. Brooks asked if there was anyone who wanted to give public comment. There were no public comments. Ms. Brooks noted members of the public may submit comments until 5 p.m. on August 24, 2022, to publiccomments@dmhc.ca.gov.

Agenda Item 8 – Closing Remarks

(Transcript, P. 161)

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2022.