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Informational Hearing
Assembly Health Committee
Telehealth Policy in California Post-Pandemic
Tuesday, February 23, 2021 - 2:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Assembly Chambers

BIOGRAPHIES

Mei Kwong, JD, Executive Director, Center for Connected Health Policy

Mei Wa Kwong, JD has over two decades of experience in state and federal policy work. She is the Executive Director for the Center for Connected Health Policy (CCHP), the federally designated National Telehealth Policy Resource Center. She has written numerous policy briefs, crafted state legislation and led several coalition efforts on a variety of issues and assisted states in their telehealth efforts, particularly in Medicaid and public health. Ms. Kwong is recognized as a national expert on telehealth policy. She helped create the model statute language that became the basis of the 2011 California state legislation that updated California telehealth law, published several articles on telehealth and telehealth policy in various peer reviewed journals and is the co-author of CCHP's 50 State Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement Survey. She has been consulted by state and federal lawmakers on telehealth legislation and policy and is sought out by the media to provide insight on telehealth issues. Ms. Kwong is a sought-after speaker who has spoken to a variety of audiences including health industry executives, physicians, journalists, attorneys and various national organizations. Prior to joining CCHP, Ms. Kwong was the Policy Analyst for Children's Home Society of California where she worked on education and early childhood issues. She was recognized for her work by the Child Development Policy Institute. Ms. Kwong is a graduate of the George Washington University Law School and has a BA in International Affairs.

Garen Corbett, MS, Director, California Health Benefits Review Program

Garen has led the California Health Benefits Review Program (CHBRP), at the University of California since 2011. CHBRP provides independent, evidence-based analysis for health policy legislation before the Legislature. Previously, he was Deputy Director of The Health Industry Forum, which works on health payment, quality, and technology issues. His research and policy analysis has focused on federal and state health policy efforts, health reform, and effective benefit design strategies. Earlier in his career, Garen provided strategic health care and management consultant services to Liberty Healthcare Group and for The Segal Company. Garen was also Assistant Director for Legislation and Policy at the Massachusetts Group Insurance Commission (GIC). Garen earned an M.S. in Public Affairs from the University of Massachusetts, Boston and a B.A. in Sociology and American Studies with honors from Brandeis University. His professional experience and credentials may be viewed at <http://www.linkedin.com/in/glcorbett>.

Ateev Mehrotra, M.D., M.P.H., Associate Professor, Department of Health Care Policy, Harvard Medical School

Ateev Mehrotra, MD, MPH is an Associate Professor in the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School and a practicing physician at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Dr. Mehrotra's research focuses on the impact of telehealth on costs, quality, and access to care. He has published over 200 articles in the peer-reviewed literature and is regularly asked to advise on regulations and payment policy for telehealth. Dr. Mehrotra receives his medical degree from the University of California, San Francisco and completed his residency in internal medicine and pediatrics at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Children's Hospital of Boston.

Yohualli B. Anaya, MD, MPH, Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Family Medicine, Family Medicine Clerkship, Co-Chair, David Geffen School of Medicine UCLA

Yohualli B. Anaya MD, MPH is an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Anaya is a faculty expert for the Latino Policy and Politics Initiative and collaborates on research with the Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture. Her research interests include health disparities of vulnerable communities, racial/ethnic and gender physician workforce diversity, and the application of research to promote policies and programs that improve the health and healthcare of underserved and marginalized communities. As a core faculty member, Dr. Anaya teaches residents and medical students at both the MidValley Comprehensive Medical Center (LA County DHS) and the UCLA Family Health Center, and has a continuity practice at each as well.

Will Lightbourne, Director, Department of Health Care Services

Will Lightbourne was appointed Director of the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) by Governor Gavin Newsom effective June 16, 2020. Before his appointment to DHCS, Mr. Lightbourne served on Governor Newsom's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors, and previously as Director of the California Department of Social Services from 2011 through 2018. Before his state service, he was director of the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency, director of the Human Services Agency of the City & County of San Francisco, director of the Santa Cruz County Human Services Agency, and general director of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of San Francisco. Mr. Lightbourne earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from San Francisco State University.

Jacey Cooper, Chief Deputy Director for Health Care Programs and State Medicaid Director, Department of Health Care Services

Governor Gavin Newsom appointed Jacey Cooper as Chief Deputy Director for Health Care Programs and State Medicaid Director at the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) effective January 31, 2020. Ms. Cooper is responsible for the overall leadership of Health Care Benefits and Eligibility, Health Care Delivery Systems, Health Care Financing, Behavioral Health, and Legislative and Governmental Affairs. As State Medicaid Director, Ms. Cooper represents California's Medicaid program (Medi-Cal) with federal partners at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Ms. Cooper served as Senior Advisor for Health Care Programs starting January 2019. Prior to that, she served as the Assistant Deputy Director for Health Care Delivery Systems beginning in April 2016. In these roles, Ms. Cooper led the planning, implementation, evaluation, and management of various programs and policies at the Department. Prior to her work at DHCS, Ms. Cooper was Vice President of Administrative Services at Kern Medical Center and a health care consultant. Through that work, she gained more than 10 years' experience in health care policy, operations, integrated delivery models, managed care, business development, and quality monitoring.