



California Initiative to Advance
Precision Medicine

California Precision Medicine Advisory Council Meeting Summary, February 21, 2025

VIRTUAL

1215 O Street, 11th Floor, California Health and Human Services Agency | Sacramento, CA 95814 US

Opening Remarks from the Chair

Clara Lajonchere, PhD, Chair

- The impact of the wildfires in California has brought a lot of loss to communities but also brought communities together for humanitarian support.
- Chair Lajonchere had the opportunity to hear updates in the precision medicine space at the Precision Medicine World Conference earlier this month and connect with the CIAPM team. The landscape is changing in precision medicine with emerging, paradigm-shifting advances in AI, big data, and technology.
- Federal funding landscape of precision medicine research is changing, with significant impact and consequences for our research communities; groundbreaking advancements in gene therapy and infectious disease research that came a long way have abruptly stopped.
- Reduced funding will have detrimental effects on the national economy and biomedical workforce. Academic institutions are feeling immediate budgetary effects, especially smaller ones who had to cut programs and larger ones that need to reconcile priorities with federal demands.
- Chair Lajonchere expressed gratitude that California is committed to the life-saving work of precision medicine and commends CIAPM's work overseeing projects within the ACEs and Depression Research programs, with site visits and regular check-in meetings.
- Moving forward in 2025, CIAPM looks forward to drawing on the expertise of the Council to forge new partnerships or strengthen existing ones and make recommendations to CalHHS regarding priorities in precision medicine research.

Updates from the Governor's Cabinet

Richard Figueroa, MBA, Deputy Cabinet Secretary

- Governor's Office is exploring legal options regarding compliance with the language in the federal executive orders (EOs), much of which are philosophical as opposed to statute changes.
- Governor's Office also working with individual departments in collaboration with other state governments to identify impacts of EOs and inform communities

about what state services are being affected and what is not, with the goal of publishing public resources on what is legally enforceable from these EOs.

- Governor's Office is counseling with the State Attorney General, passing information from individual departments about which grants/programs were frozen/inaccessible (frontline effects) and counseling with like-minded State Attorneys General on legal avenues to continue federal fund flows for critical research/trials so they are not abruptly stopped.
- California's budget has become more difficult because of the wildfires and tariffs since our geographical location is affected by international trade. California leadership is working with White House and Congress to mitigate these effects to the Los Angeles area, all of which leads to a cautious and uncertain outlook on the state budget if federal funds are withdrawn.
- While some of CIAPM's equity work isn't tied to federal funding sources, our partners naturally have dependencies on federal funds. The state is exploring ways to ensure this work can continue.

Administrative Business

Previous Meeting Summary (December 16, 2024)

Kenneth: Motion to approve the meeting summary

Hala: Second the motion

No oppositions, the motion passes

Major Program Updates

1) Team updates

- Two student assistants, Laura Adame and Suhani Amin, have been hired through University Enterprises Inc, and started in January 2025.

2) Maintaining and Expanding the CIAPM Network

CIAPM is involved in ongoing activities to maintain our networks in the precision medicine enterprise

- Precision Medicine World Conference (PMWC) – CIAPM staffed a booth to exhibit the exciting advancements from state-funded precision medicine research.
- Pediatric Academic Societies – CIAPM-funded ACEs investigators will collectively host a roundtable at the conference in April 2025. CIAPM Chief Science Officer, David Reiner, will be attending and chairing the session.
- *Upcoming networking:* Lawrence Livermore National Labs reached out to CIAPM and David has been invited to meet with them and learn more about their ongoing precision medicine work
- Council Member's advice on how CIAPM can prioritize networking efforts and what outcomes they would like to see:
 - Big Databases - Kaiser Permanente has a large biobank that CIAPM can connect with and leverage.
 - Explore opportunities that arise as a result of the *All of Us* partnership.

- Additional Council Comments:
 - With the federal funding situation, planning for future research, services, and the natural networking connections that arise from that can be difficult.
 - Participation and community engagement in research are already heavily impacted because participants are not showing up to clinical trial appointments because of uncertainty in service availability and being fearful of giving away their information. CIAPM should think about how to keep vulnerable communities engaged during this time. This hesitancy may also affect current grantee research plans.

3) Revisiting CIAPM's Data Integration Working Group

- Data Integration Working Group formed in 2020 with CIAPM staff and 8 Council Members, met 12 times 2020-2023.
- Recommended new focus is to acknowledge and recognize changes in the scientific research landscape and what this means for SDOH/non-medical determinants of health, which are some of the biggest predictors of health outcomes. Think about how to help our grantees and researchers access this data in California.
- When website is updated, ensure that the user interface is tailored to the populations of interest and driving people to the information as a pathway of building trust. Cataloguing where this data is accessible.

Communications Updates

1. PMWC – CIAPM staffed a booth in the exhibition hall
 - Met with Advisory Council Members
 - Staff attended many talks and sessions that spanned across the drug industry, healthcare, and academia
 - Made over 40 connections at the CIAPM booth with members from pharmaceutical companies, health systems, coordination firms.
 - Focused on showcasing California as a novel funder of outcomes-based research, one-pagers distributed of CIAPM research portfolios and NIH asset *All of Us* tri-fold brochure to illustrate CIAPM's first in the nation partnership.
 - *Takeaways from CIAPM booth:*
 - Many attendees, even California locals, did not know state offices are involved in precision medicine.
 - Attendees did not realize the whole-person approach can be considered the precision medicine paradigm.
 - Some industry was interested in the concept of public-private partnerships with state-precision medicine efforts if it harmonized with their goals.
 - *General takeaways from staff at PMWC sessions:*

- Patients are still being heavily relied on to advocate for access/use of precision medicine tools.
- Multiple stakeholders want open and unified data systems for AI to analyze but:
 - Paywall barriers (e.g., health systems) prevent these unified schemes
 - Private industry is trying to replicate some of the coordinating work CIAPM does without government component
- AI is a huge component in precision medicine now (e.g., drug discovery in 'dry lab' setting before committing resources, mine EHR data and connecting patients with trials or preventative tools, determine efficacy vs. cost for insurance to make coverage decisions)
- 2. Website – now hosted on CalHHS website
 - New Council Member bios now updated
- 3. Communications materials
 - 2023 Annual Report in its final stages, will be published under OPR/LCI since it is reflective of work under that office
 - Cancer Evaluation Report draft in progress with estimated completion in early 2025, including one-pagers the team is making to showcase each demonstration project visually.

Demonstration Projects Updates

1. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)/Depression Research Project Updates
 - ACEs – David conducted site visits at UCLA, UCSF, Stanford, and Children's Hospital LA.
 - Depression collaborations harmonizing on common study measures
 - Across three projects: Beck Depression Inventory, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Questionnaire
 - Across two projects: dried blood spot tests, Depression Anxiety and Stress scale, SDoH healthy places index, Patient Health Questionnaire-9, Everyday Discrimination Scale
2. Tentative Agenda for 2025 Current Grantees Meeting
 - Scheduled for May 30 in Sacramento
 - Bring CIAPM-funded ACEs and Depression research teams together
 - Tentative agenda:
 - 10-minute presentations for Depression PIs +15-minute group Q&A
 - 15-minute presentations for ACEs PIs + (2) 15-minute group Q&A
 - Two 45-minute discussion sessions on two of three topics here: community partnerships, connections between research community and policy, sustainability

- Opportunities for Council Members to moderate Q&A discussion sessions

Council Member Suggestions for additional topic planning, opening and closing remarks:

- Council Members would like to understand how the current grantees are impacted by federal changes and steps they are taking to mitigate those impacts; prioritize pragmatic strategies that promote “adaptability”
 - Get concrete discussion on direct impacts ACEs/Depression grantees are facing in their research
 - Council Members would like to hear from grantees how they are ensuring their work is engaging the community; plans to ensure disruptions don’t occur in their research or community org. services
 - Translation of work and impacts – how grantees plan on communicating and sharing their results tangibly to the community

Public Comment

No public comments.

Closed Session: Representative Research Collaborative

No action was taken.

Closing Comments

CIAPM welcomes feedback from current and new Advisory council on ways to better design Advisory Council meetings that fully leverages member’s expertise and further CIAPM goals.

Meeting adjourned and Council will reconvene in Q2 2025.