



California Initiative to Advance  
**Precision Medicine**

## California Precision Medicine Advisory Council Meeting Summary, February 25, 2026

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

- Acknowledged CIAPM's major milestone of celebrating 10 years of the precision medicine program.
- Recognized that California's support for science and medicines continues to be a powerful driver of both innovation and impact and it really stands as a testament to our state's commitment to advancing health for all Californians.
- Highlighted that the CIAPM team has been compiling an impact assessment of their 10 years of funded research in important discoveries from genomics, to precision oncology, to population health, that can hopefully be translated into better care.

### Updates from the Governor's Cabinet

Richard Figueroa, MBA, Deputy Cabinet Secretary

- 2026 is Governor Newsom's last year as CA governor
- CA is generating more revenue than expected, but as is, it is difficult to predict stability in the economy.
- Waiting for May revision to understand what the budget looks like for the coming year.
- Governor Newsom is prioritizing the fiscal situation of CA given the uncertainty in the federal budget.

### Administrative Business

Previous Meeting Summary (December 2025)

*Leigh Ann Simmons: Motion to approve the meeting summary*

*Hala Madanat: Second the motion*

*No oppositions, the motion passes*

### Major Program Updates

1) Impact Assessment Overviews:

- CIAPM staff is compiling an impact assessment of CIAPM’s work as the program has been in place for 10 years.
- High-level Impact assessment metrics:
  - Research funding: \$49 million in CIAPM-funded research, generated \$102 million in additional funding from private sector, philanthropic, institutional, and federal awards.
  - Research output: 315 peer-reviewed publications, 544 presentations, 86 press articles, 6 patents, 11 clinical trials, 33 validated technologies or approaches, and 14 new web resources and toolkits.
  - CIAPM grantees trained and mentored 220 students, fellows, and community health workers, and developed 13 novel curricula and training programs.
  - CIAPM grantees have established partnerships with 216 organizations across industry, academic, and community sectors.
  - 222,585 Californians were engaged, with 10,085 participants in direct study and 212,500 people screened or tissues analyzed.
- Key accomplishments across CIAPM portfolios:
  - Dr. Charles Chiu from UCSF revolutionized infectious disease diagnostics and later helped identify and track COVID-19 variants, including the first known U.S. case of the COVID-19 omicron variant,
  - Dr. Pratik Mukherjee from UCSF conducted AI research that can detect impacts from traumatic brain injuries, qualifying by the FDS as a medical development device tool,
  - Dr. Manali Patel from Stanford University found that patients were 3-times more likely to receive tumor testing and 5-times less likely to be hospitalized when community health care workers were integrated into cancer care delivery,
  - Dr. George Slavich from UCLA found that a scalable precision stress management program, tailored to a person’s primary stressor, reduced self-reported stress by roughly 20%,
  - Dr. Greg Hajcak from Santa Clara University is conducting ongoing research to develop and test the ability for an identify-affirming digital mental health platform paired with peer counseling to reduce or prevent depressive symptoms in youth, including LGBTQ+ youth.
- CIAPM staff will work on public release of key accomplishments for the 2025 Annual Report.
- Council Member Dr. Leigh Ann Simmons recommends focusing on impact assessment that focuses on engagement of communities, orienting their understanding of CIAPM-funded work and its impact on the general public.

## 2) Planned Activities for 2026

- Grantmaking and Grant Management
  - Representative Research RFAs and program launch
  - Depression Research Program continuation
  - ACEs Research Program close out
- Communications & Events
  - Precision Medicine World Conference, March 4-6, 2026

- 10-year anniversary celebration - April 10<sup>th</sup> 2026.
  - CIAPM events and convenings, including site visits and symposia
  - 2025 Annual Report and ACEs Research Program Evaluation Report
- 3) Exploring Council Contributions for 2026
- CIAPM would like to table the Council's suggestions at the December 2025 meeting for developing open data approaches as this would require additional infrastructure
  - Improving and focusing communications
    - Council Member Hala Madanat echoed Council Member Leigh Ann Simmons's priorities on focusing on community and public uptake for CIAPM communications

## Communications Updates

### 1) Newsletter

- In the January 2026 Newsletter, CIAPM announced the Cancer Disparities Research Program Evaluation Report and the 2024 Annual Report. CIAPM also highlighted the Depression Research Program site visits, the Depression Research Program roundtable, welcomed new Council Member Dr. Leigh Ann Simmons and said farewell to outgoing Council Member Dr. K Jones.

### 2) Reports

- The 2024 Annual Report has been published and was submitted to the CA Legislature December 2025
- The Cancer Disparities Research Program has been published and was submitted to the CA Legislature January 2026
  - Highlights: the Cancer Disparities Research Program established partnerships with 13 community-based organizations and 3 academic collaborators
  - Across three research projects, investigators:
    - Developed advanced tools and educational materials for diverse Latina populations to identify cancer risk (UCSF, Dr. Elad Ziv),
    - Developed an AI platform to guide the prediction of possible tumor treatments (UCSD, Drs. Tamayo and Kim),
    - Used culturally-astute community health workers to successfully improve on preventative and acute cancer care (Stanford, Dr. Patel).
  - The three demonstration projects engaged in dissemination of their results across 126 presentations, 55 scientific manuscripts, 17 press releases, and produced 5 additional research projects. The teams also contributed to workforce development, training 21 research trainees and 33 community health workers.
- Council Chair Dr. Clara Lajonchere encouraged presenting CIAPM's accomplishments to the CA Legislature.
- Council Member Dr. Fatima Munoz highlighted barriers to accessing trustworthy information for the general public through social media, which CalHHS should consider to disseminate quality research information. Academic conferences can be a good audience for academics, the National Community Health Centers annual conference can be excellent for disseminating to health workers,

California Primary Care Association's annual conference also brings in leaders from the healthcare system and policy makers.

- There are also community conferences that are more local that could reach different stakeholder groups. Council Member Dr. Fatima Munoz also recommended engaging with local public health organizations.
- Council Member Ms. Gay Grossman recommended social media posts of CIAPM's 10-year impact assessment. Language barriers can be reduced with technology translating social media posts

## Representative Research Updates

### 1) Doctoral Student Representative Precision Medicine Research RFA.

- Doctoral student representative precision medicine research: to support ~15 doctoral students for 2.5 years (\$62,000/year/student, \$2.3 million total).
- Applications due January 30, 2026, at 12pm (Noon) PT.
- The applicant must be a current PhD, DrPH, MD-PhD, or other doctoral-level student conducting research at a non-profit California academic research institution and in good academic standing.
- The application must describe how the proposed research uses a precision medicine approach to include representative research and reduce health disparities.
- Out-of-state expert selection committees have begun review.
- 35 applications were received, representing 12 academic institutions.
- Notification of awards is planned for April 2026, with awards starting May 2026 and Ending November 2028.

### 2) Representative Precision Medicine Research Through Partnerships RFA

- Representative precision medicine research through partnerships (academic-community or academic-academic partnerships): to support 3-5 research projects for 2.5 years (\$1.2-2 million/project, \$6 million total).
- Letters of Intent were due November 21; eligible applicants have been notified.
- Initial Applications due January 23, 2026, at 12pm (Noon) PT.
- The application must be for representative precision medicine research in California that leverages academic-community or academic-academic partnerships.
- The application must describe how the proposed research uses a precision medicine approach to include representative research and reduce health disparities.
- Out-of-state expert selection committees have begun review.
- 98 letters of intent were received and 68 initial applications were received from 17 institutions.
- Finalists will be notified March 13, 2026, full application deadline is April 24, 2026. The notification of awards will be May 2026, with a June 2026 start, ending December 2028.

## Demonstration Project Updates

- CIAPM will recruit out-of-state subject matter experts to evaluate ACEs research program.

- Evaluations will be a collaborative process with researchers, evaluators, and CIAPM staff.
- CIAPM staff will spearhead the development of content for evaluation report, focusing on importance, accomplishments, evaluation, and impact of ACEs research, aimed for a public audience.

## Public Comment

No public comments.

## Closing Comments

CIAPM welcomes feedback from the Council to fully meet CIAPM's goals.

Meeting adjourned and Council will reconvene in Q2 2026.