



California Initiative to Advance
Precision Medicine

California Precision Medicine Advisory Council (CPMAC)

Meeting Summary, May, 13, 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

- Reflected that over the course of the 6 years of her time as Chair with CIAPM that we faced many leadership changes, major national and international events, while also launching major grant-funding demonstration projects.
- Expressed excitement to welcome new Council Members in the future and to see new accomplishments by CIAPM.
- CIAPM's 10-year anniversary event brought old and new faces together to discuss the accomplishments of CIAPM's portfolio of funded research projects.
- The team attended the Precision Medicine World Conference in March and will continue to make a presence in other precision medicine and policy events.

Opening Remarks from the Vice Chair

Keith Yamamoto, PhD, Vice Chair

- At the federal level, science and innovation funding remains negatively impacted or stalled at previous funding levels.
- Leadership changes at major science organizations create further instability at a national level, but legislative policymakers have been making bipartisan efforts to preserve funding to further scientific progress.

Updates from the Governor's Cabinet

Richard Figueroa, MBA, Deputy Cabinet Secretary

- Expressed gratitude to the entire Council, bidding farewell to the Council Members who are cycling out of their terms.
- Expressed honor to have learned from the current CPMAC and admiration for the Council's continued commitment to research and public service to advance the health of Californians.

Administrative Business

Previous Meeting Summary (February 2026)

Eliza Bradley: Motion to approve the meeting summary

Hala Madanat: Second the motion

No oppositions, the motion passes

Major Program Updates

1) 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 (PMWC), March 4-6, 2026
 - 10-year anniversary celebration - April 10th 2026.
 - CIAPM events and convenings, including site visits and symposia
 - 2025 Annual Report and ACEs Research Program Evaluation Report
 - Exploring Council suggestions for other events
 - E.g., California Primary Care Association Annual Conference
 - 2027 Precision Medicine World Conference

Council Members recommend CIAPM staff speak at a panel and further highlighting CIAPM's work beyond tabling at PMWC. Council Members also recommend looking into conferences that grantees are presenting at.

2) 10 Year CIAPM Anniversary Event

- Event featured speakers: Dr. Charles Chiu (grantee, lead investigator), Dr. George Slavich (grantee, lead investigator), Ysabel Duron (former Council Member, co-investigator of a funded project), Dr. Neeta Thakur (grantee, lead investigator)
- Attendance: ~25 in-person and ~70 virtual attendees
- Highlights: Panelists shared stories about the impact of the novel diagnostics and tools developed with CIAPM funding, lessons learned in engaging with community, and the unique niche CIAPM has been able to fill supporting cross-sector precision medicine research and community engagement.
- Question from the audience: How can faculty from undergraduate regional institutions from low-income communities, where the representation is low within precision medicine, get involved?
 - Creating regional networks (e.g., across UC, CSU, and private institutions in that specific region)
 - Creating networks with 'feeder schools' (e.g., 4-year universities) with local community college that have health profession 'pipeline' programs
 - Publicly available 'Precision Medicine 101' curriculum housed by CIAPM website for educators to adapt precision medicine into lessons (e.g., an available online lecture for faculty to adapt to teach in their class)

Communications Updates

1) Newsletter

- In the March and May 2026 Newsletter, CIAPM announced the CIAPM 10-Year Anniversary Event, summarized some discussions both at that event and at the 2026 Precision Medicine World Conference, featured interviews with Dr. Robin Randall and Jane Samaniego both of whom work for community health organizations that partner with the Depression researchers, and attendance at the California Biotechnology Foundation 20th Anniversary event.

2) Blog and Social Media

- Posts have highlighted the celebration of the 10-year anniversary of CIAPM, 10-year impact assessment metrics, and CIAPM's attendance at PMWC

3) Webpage

- Depression grantees project descriptions have been added to the CIAPM webpage

4) Annual Report

- CIAPM staff is compiling the 2025 Annual Report
- To Include:
 - Metrics on research output, assets, and participant reach
 - Notable accomplishments
 - Quotes from the teams, community collaborators, and participants on impact

5) Upcoming Priorities

- Recap of the 10th Anniversary Event
 - CalHHS Newsletter
 - Social Media Posts
- July Newsletter
 - RFA awardee announcements and Council Farewells
- Press Releases on Webpages and E-Mail
 - RFA Awardee Announcements

Representative Research Updates

1) Doctoral Student Representative Precision Medicine Research RFA.

- Doctoral student representative precision medicine research: to support ~12 doctoral students for 2.5 years (\$62,000/year/student, \$1.8 million total).
- Applications were due January 30, 2026, at 12pm (Noon) PT., and selected at the meeting on March 19th.
- 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.
- 12 awards will be granted, representing 7 academic institutions
- Tentative plans for Doctoral Student Cohort Professional Development
 - In-Person Cohort Launch

- Regular Professional Development Sessions with Outside Speakers
 - Annual Symposium
 - Convenings with Representative Research Partnership Cohort
- 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, including selecting the pool of finalists for a Full Application on March 9th.
 - 91 letters of intent were received and 68 initial applications were received from 17 institutions.
 - 17 full applications were received, representing 12 institutions
 - 3-5 awards will be granted
 - The notification of awards will be June 2026, with a July 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

Joe Monforte, Precision Medicine practitioner, research and clinic interface non-profit to train certified precision medicine navigators. Interest in training life scientists with 100+ hours of career training and certification to learn about health care and industry roles for Doctoral Students, underwrite newly minted PhDs with a new category of health service with focus on Precision Medicine.

Closing Comments

CIAPM welcomes feedback from the Council to fully meet CIAPM's goals.
Meeting adjourned and Council will reconvene in Q3 2026.