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**June 2021**

While our lives transition to a post-emergency world, our work providing and improving health care is also shifting gears from pandemic response and vaccination efforts to addressing the residual impacts of COVID-19, particularly deferred preventive and chronic disease care. As CQC works to ensure that Californians have access to and receive Advanced Primary Care, closing deferred gaps resulting from COVID-19 are integral to that effort. In California, the rates of pediatric immunizations, especially among adolescents, have not returned to pre-pandemic levels and data show we need to re-engage patients with chronic disease.

This month, CQC is spotlighting how health plans and provider groups can partner to close the gaps in pediatric immunizations, how to identify and support practices implementing Advanced Primary Care and how to improve experience and outcomes for vulnerable populations such as mothers and children. - [Crystal Eubanks](#)

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**Valley Health Plan Joins CQC**



We welcome [Valley Health Plan](#) as one of CQC's twelve 12 health plan sponsors. In addition to Kati Phillips, Valley Health Plan's Strategic Improvement Manager, Dr. Joyce Nuesca, [Oscar Health's](#) West Region Medical Director, and Karen Driskill, [Cigna's](#) West Region Nursing Executive, have joined the CQC Steering Committee, which. The Committee sets common priorities for ambulatory care quality improvement across the state and guides delivery system improvement initiatives. This month, the Steering Committee defined the next phase of its Advanced Primary Care work to pilot practice-level data collection and identified opportunities for collective action to reduce health disparities. - [Crystal Eubanks](#)

[View CQC Steering Committee Members Here](#)

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**Spotlight: Closing the Gap on Pediatric Vaccinations**



Since 2020's shelter-in-place orders, pediatric immunizations across California have dropped significantly: 12% fewer children under three years of age received a dose of Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) and 19% fewer children ages four to six received a dose of MMR, as compared to 2019, according to data shared by the California Department of Public Health. Pediatricians and family practitioners need to increase vaccination activity today to close the gap on missed doses. To highlight the urgency and share successful tactics to get children the shots they need, this May CQC hosted CDPH Public Health Medical Officer Dr. Cora Hoover and pediatrician Dr. Eric Ball, who shared statewide data trends, quality improvement projects that improve vaccination results and successful communication tactics for patients and families. Additionally, to marshal resources for providers doing this essential and difficult work, CQC synthesized a [list of key actions](#) that health plans can and should take to support improved completion of pediatric immunizations and help close California's gap today. - [Kristina Mody](#)

[Access Webinar Here](#)

## Update: Identifying Advanced Primary Care



CQC's efforts to define a shared standard of [Advanced Primary Care](#) (APC) have advanced with the finalization of a focused outcomes-based measure set with state-wide alignment and endorsement. Now purchasers, patients, and providers can use the measure set to identify practices that have implemented the [attributes of APC](#).

Defined over the last 12 months with input from CQC's multi-stakeholder community, APC measures reflect implementation of the attributes and span a suite of measurement domains representing high quality, high value care including: health outcomes, patient-reported outcomes, patient experience, patient safety and value. The measure set is intentionally aligned across major payors both within California and beyond to leverage existing performance reporting. - [Peter Robertson](#)

[Learn more about the APC Measures](#)

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## Update: Improving Maternity Care With Midwives



Each year in California, approximately 450,000 babies are born—about 1/8 of all births in the US annually. PBGH’s [Transform Maternity Care](#) program promotes high-value equitable maternity care strategies, including expanding the use of midwives. Women [consistently voice](#) that they would like to work with midwives during the perinatal period, especially Black birthing people seeking a more supportive and affirming model of care. Midwives improve maternal and infant outcomes, while giving patients increased options in a shortage of perinatal health providers. Integrating midwives answers many challenges facing practices today: demanding call shifts, consumer preferences for a non-medicalized delivery experience, and hectic balancing of inpatient and outpatient time.

For practices aiming to integrate and partner with midwives, learn more about how to logistically and financially adopt midwifery-led care for improving outcomes through this [webinar recording](#) and [business planning guide](#). Reach out for more information about how PBGH can help you integrate midwives into your maternity care services. - [Blair Dudley](#)

[Access Maternity Care Resources](#)

# Upcoming Events

Tuesday, June 29, 12:00-1:00PM (PT)

**Webinar: Using Immunization Data to Identify Gaps in Care and to Inform Strategic Planning**

**CQC Featured Speaker: Crystal Eubanks**, Senior Director, Care Redesign and the California Quality Collaborative, a program of the Purchaser Business Group on Health

CQC will highlight the impact of using statewide data to stimulate action with providers and to marshal resources from health plans and payers to address pediatric immunization gaps in a [Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement](#) session with the Strategic Health Information Exchange Collaborative.

[Register Here](#)

## PARTNER UPDATES

- **Global Learning**  
**Partners:** CQC embraces Dialogue Education, a participatory learning design methodology created by [Global Learning Partners \(GLP\)](#). Recently CQC team-members Crystal and Kristina became [Certified Dialogue Education Practitioners](#), demonstrating proficiency in Dialogue Education principles and practices as learning designers. Learn more about the power

of silence in learning events in this [GLP blog post](#) penned by Kristina.

- **Primary Care Collaborative:** PBGH's CQC was among contributors who helped shape new recommendations on increasing shared decision making in integrated care settings, highlighted in a recent [Primary Care Collaborative](#) webinar. Access the [webinar recording](#) and read the recommendations [here](#).

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