



CALIFORNIA

Health Policy Forum

Implementing Health Reform: An Emphasis on Prevention

Speaker Biographies

Sana Chehimi, MPH

Sana Chehimi, Program Manager at Prevention Institute, oversees projects related to healthy eating and active living, developing tools and strategies to promote healthier, more equitable food environments. She manages Prevention Institute's technical assistance and training work for Communities Creating Healthier Environments, a national initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation supporting diverse, community-based organizations and tribal groups in developing local policies that build food and recreation equity and address social injustice. Ms. Chehimi oversees national media advocacy efforts supporting prevention and health reform. She provides guidance and support for the Strategic Alliance and its statewide Rapid Response Media Network, providing tools and resources for effective media advocacy to promote healthy eating and active living.

Ms. Chehimi is co-editor of *Prevention Is Primary: Strategies for Community Wellbeing*, one of the first academic texts on primary prevention. Prior to joining Prevention Institute in 2003, she worked in the HIV field. She speaks fluent Swedish and French as well as conversational Tunisian. Ms. Chehimi received her MPH in Health and Social Behavior from UC Berkeley.

Anne C. Haddix, PhD

Anne Haddix has served as the Chief Policy Officer at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) since May 2006, and she is a principal advisor to both the Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer and the CDC Director on a wide range of health policy issues. Dr. Haddix co-founded and successfully cultivated Prevention Effectiveness as a scientific discipline at CDC, establishing the first set of methodological guidelines for cost-effectiveness analysis of public health interventions. She also helped to create the Prevention Effectiveness Postdoctoral Fellowship program. As a result, there are now more than 50 practicing economists working at CDC across a diverse array of programs.

Dr. Haddix is the author or co-author of numerous scientific publications, and editor of *Prevention Effectiveness: A Guide to Decision Analysis and Economic Evaluation*. Dr. Haddix received her PhD in Agricultural Economics from the University of Georgia. She received her MS in Agricultural Economics and BA in Biology from California State University Fresno.

Joy Melnikow, MD, MPH

Joy Melnikow is the Director of the Center for Healthcare Policy and Research and Professor of Family and Community Medicine at the University of California, Davis. She serves on the executive committee for the UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center and is a member of the US Preventive Services Task Force. Her research focuses on cancer prevention and women's health, particularly with regard to decision making and patient preferences, comparative effectiveness, and cost effectiveness. With funding from private foundations, the American Cancer Society, the California Breast Cancer Research Program, and the National Cancer Institute, she has led research projects on effectiveness, preferences, decision making, and cost-effectiveness of preventive interventions related primarily to breast and cervical cancer.

Dr. Melnikow received her MD from UC San Francisco and her MPH in epidemiology from UC Berkeley. She completed her residency in Family Medicine at the University of Massachusetts, worked for the Indian Health Service, and was on the faculty of MetroHealth Medical Center/Case Western University before coming to UC Davis in 1992.

Mary A. Pittman, DrPH

A nationally recognized leader in improving community health, addressing health inequities among vulnerable people and promoting quality of care, Dr. Pittman assumed the reins at the Public Health Institute (PHI) in 2008, becoming the organization's second president and CEO since its founding in 1964. Dr. Pittman's overarching goal is for PHI to become known for leadership in creating healthier communities. To this end, PHI continues to work closely with the state on many programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the California Cancer Registry. She advocates that all PHI projects take the social determinants of health into account to better address health disparities and inequities. Under her leadership, PHI has emphasized the integration of new technologies, creating Dialogue4Health.com, the online platform for conferencing and social networking that aims to build communities of interest for health. Other top priorities are: increasing advocacy for public policy and health reform, addressing health workforce shortages and the impacts of climate change on public health, and increasing recognition of PHI as a preferred place to work.

Dr. Pittman has deep, varied, and multi-sectoral experience in local public health, research, education, and hospitals. Before joining PHI, she headed the Health Research and Educational Trust, a Chicago-based affiliate of the American Hospital Association, from 1993 to 2007. Previously, she was president and CEO of the California Association of Public Hospitals and a director of the San Francisco Department of Public Health. Dr. Pittman has authored numerous peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals and two books. She has served on the PHI board of directors since 1996 and also serves on numerous other boards and committees, including the World Health Organization's Health Worker Migration Global Policy Advisory Council and the National Patient Safety Foundation's board of governors.

Karen Shore, PhD

Karen Shore is vice president for planning and health policy at the Center for Health Improvement (CHI) and has 20 years of experience in health policy and health services research. Dr. Shore's expertise includes project direction, study design, literature reviews, development of data collection materials such as interview guides and surveys, quantitative and qualitative data analysis, and making recommendations on changes in policies to improve program and organizational effectiveness. Among her projects at CHI, she leads the California Health Policy Forum, which provides an independent platform for education, idea sharing, and conversations among legislative and executive branch staff on health policy issues. She previously directed a project supporting 24 communities across the U.S. that were working to improve health care quality and manage costs.

Prior to joining CHI, Dr. Shore was a principal research scientist with the American Institutes for Research's Health Program, a consultant at Reden & Anders, a senior project manager at the Pacific Business Group on Health, and a health policy analyst for the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission in Washington, DC. She has a Master of Health Services Administration degree from the University of Michigan and a PhD in health services and policy analysis from UC Berkeley.