



California Program on Access to Care

University of California, Office of the President
School of Public Health, UC Berkeley
CPAC 10th Anniversary Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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California Program on Access to Care Celebrates Ten Years of Healthcare Reform Activities

Long before *Sicko* there was CPAC.

In fact, the California Program on Access to Care (CPAC) is celebrating ten years of promoting healthcare reform in the State of California. CPAC's achievements include revitalizing the Healthy Families Program, a low-cost insurance program for California's low-income children and teens, to promoting social responsibility standards in California's for-profit healthcare insurance mergers.

CPAC is a policy research program administered by the UC Berkeley School of Public Health and has a direct relationship with the University of California Office of the President. CPAC's system-wide role allows it to rally the resources and expertise of one of the nation's most prestigious academic institutions to fund investigative reports on key healthcare issues and make legislative policy recommendations based on research findings.

Created in 1997 at the behest of the California State legislature, CPAC pays special attention to healthcare access for low-income workers, including immigrant workers and their families as well as households in agricultural and rural areas.

"The most valuable part of CPAC's work," said CPAC Director, Gil Ojeda, "is tapping into the public policy momentum in any given year to effect healthcare reform. CPAC is a catalyst; its actions set healthcare policy in motion."

CPAC selects academic researchers both inside and outside the University of California to conduct studies on healthcare issues important to all Californians. The results of the CPAC-funded research are summarized in reports and the findings are presented at live policy briefings in Sacramento. State legislators, executive staff, healthcare providers, and research institutions attend these CPAC briefings, which generate informed healthcare policy discussions.

CPAC's 10th Anniversary event at Fort Mason's Officers' Club will feature three panels of prominent politicians and individuals active in our State's healthcare policies. These panelists will discuss several cutting-edge healthcare issues germane to California's healthcare reform measures. CPAC panels and participants are listed below.

The Role of Public Regulation Over Health Insurance: Case Studies from 2004 & 2005

- **Gil Ojeda** Director, CPAC, University of California (lead presenter)
- **Saeed Ali**, Chief of Staff, Los Angeles City Council, Seventh District (moderator)
- **Manny Diaz**, President, Diaz Associates and Former Assemblyman, Santa Clara County, 98-04
- **Jerry Flanagan**, Assistant Director, Foundation on Taxpayer Rights
- **Peter Hansel**, Principal Health Consultant, Senate Health Committee

Establishment of a UC Medi-Cal Research Institute as Partner to Medi-Cal

- **Andrew Bindman**, Professor, Medicine Epidemiology & Biostatistics, UCSF (lead Presenter)
- **E. Richard Brown**, Director, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research (moderator)
- **Stan Rosenstein**, Chief Deputy Director, Health Care Programs, California Department of Health Care Services
- **Christopher Perrone**, Senior Program Officer, Public Financing and Policy Program—California HealthCare Foundation (invited)
- **Gilbert Ojeda**, Director, CPAC, University of California

The Passage and Implementation of California's Drug Discount Plans

- **Ramon Castellblanch**, Associate Professor, San Francisco State (lead presenter)
- **John Gilman**, Consultant, Assembly Committee on Health (moderator)
- **Dario Frommer**, Former State Assembly Majority Leader, Los Angeles, 2000-06
- Prominent Healthcare Advocate on the Elderly
- **Jodi Reid**, Executive Director, California Alliance (Senior Advocacy Organization)
- **Toby Douglas**, Assistant Deputy Director, Medical Care Services—CA Department of Health Services (pending)

CPAC's research and reports are an important part of California's healthcare reform process. The independent research provided by CPAC continually contributes to informed policy discussions and legislative debates.

For more information about CPAC contact Yovana Gomez at (510) 642-7815 or visit the CPAC web site at www.ucop.edu/cpac/