


January 24, 2025

Welcome to America's Physician Groups' *California Update*. Each week APG reports the latest on health care happenings in the Golden State.

Here's what you'll find in this week's edition:

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APG Members Impacted By SoCal Wildfires

APG's CMO, Dr. Susan Huang, reports the following information. The Pacific Palisades and Eaton fires combined have burned over 40,000 acres over the past 2 weeks in Southern California. The scale and speed of these and multiple other wildfires in Los Angeles County are unprecedented and have resulted in significant impacts on APG's Southern California member organizations, their staff, and patients in the region.

- Clinics destroyed
- Offices closed and medical centers prepared to evacuate
- Disaster command centers and response plans reactivated/implemented with proactive patient outreach and increased use of telehealth for care access and continuity
- Organizations and staff navigated intermittent loss of internet access, power, water, and poor air quality; some now mitigating and managing smoke damage
- Many clinicians, clinical staff, and care workforce directly impacted by evacuations, loss of homes, and displaced families
- Large populations of patients displaced or affected

There are untold numbers of patients affected in the region. UCLA and SoCal Kaiser Permanente both estimate thousands to tens of thousands of patients affected directly by the fires or by evacuations. While health

care professionals across the region have prioritized continuing to work and care for their patients, many suffered direct and personal losses in the fires. UCLA, Cedars-Sinai, Providence, SoCal Permanente Medical Group, AltaMed, Astrana Health, and others have had hundreds of physicians and staff who have lost homes, suffered major damage to homes, were evacuated or displaced.

One of AltaMed Health Services' primary care clinic sites in Pasadena was destroyed in the Eaton fire, and several of their other Pasadena clinic sites remain temporarily closed. Providence Southern California's Saint John's Physician Partners site was completely lost in the Pacific Palisades fire. UCLA Health's Family Medicine clinic in Pacific Palisades was also destroyed along with several of its community clinics temporarily closed due to power outages and proximity to evacuation zones. The Eaton fire threatened direct destruction of Astrana Health's headquarter locations and affected its operations with significant electricity, internet, and other utility outages. Several of Astrana's primary care and specialty care sites have also had to close temporarily. Cedars-Sinai is managing smoke damage to several of its clinical sites; all patients of temporarily closed sites have been cared for virtually or at alternative locations. Providence offices in Santa Monica closed temporarily, and its Saint John's Medical Center prepared to evacuate though did not have to do so in the end. Providence's clinical operations have otherwise resumed. Southern California Kaiser reactivated its disaster command center and had several sites temporarily closed. During the height of the fires, several major medical centers postponed elective surgeries, though most are now back to full operations.

To support relief responses, Astrana Health set up a volunteer day program and a charity matching program. AltaMed established the [2025 Fire Relief Fund](#) to support relief efforts for impacted patients, employees, and communities. Cedars-Sinai's [donation site](#) is providing support to their staff and physicians. California Governor's Office of Emergency Services has also set up a [CA donations site](#).

Several APG member leaders noted significant need for ongoing/long term management of environmental exposures, trauma, and mental health, in parallel with community rebuilding challenges, given the degree of utilities, business, and community infrastructure losses. Please reach out to us for help with issues, and tell us your stories.



California State Assembly Announces Committee Assignments For The 2025-26 Session

This week, California State Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas announced legislative committee assignments for the 2025-26 Session. The Assembly Health Committee, which has jurisdiction over most of the legislation of interest to APG, includes a number of new legislators on the committee.

Below is a list of the Assembly Health Committee assignments and the Districts they represent. Please reach out to [Bill Barcellona](#), or [Norma Springsteen](#) if you would like help in coordinating a tour or district “meet and greet” with any of the Legislators listed below.

Assembly Health Committee 2025-26 Membership:

- **Assembly member Mia Bonta (D) (Chair.)** Assembly District 18: Oakland, Alameda County. Website: [Official Website - Assemblymember Mia Bonta Representing the 18th California Assembly District](#)
- **Assembly member Joe Patterson (R) (Vice Chair.)** Assembly District 5. Rocklin. Website: [AD05 | PATTERSON - Assemblyman Joe Patterson](#)
- **Assembly member Dawn Addis (D.)** Assembly District 30. Morro Bay, Monterrey, San Luis Obispo. [Official Website - Assemblymember Dawn Addis Representing the 30th California Assembly District](#)
- **Assembly member Aguiar-Curry (D.)** Assembly District 4. Winters, Davis, Woodland, St. Helena. [Official Website - Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry Representing the 04th California Assembly District](#)
- **Assembly member Joaquin Arambula (D.)** Assembly District 31. Fresno. [Latest News | Official Website - Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula Representing the 31st California Assembly District](#)
- **Assembly member Juan Carillo (D.)** Assembly District 39. Palmdale, Lancaster, Hesperia. [Official Website - Assemblymember Juan Carrillo Representing the 39th California Assembly District](#)

- **Assembly member Heath Flora (R.)** Assembly District 9. Modesto, Lodi, Galt, Rancho Murieta, Ione. [AD09 | FLORA | Assemblyman Heath Flora](#)
- **Assembly member Mark Gonzalez (D.)** Assembly District 54. Los Angeles, Montebello. [Official Website - Assembly Majority Whip Mark González Representing California's 54th Assembly District](#)
- **Assembly member Maggy Krell (D.)** Assembly District 6. Sacramento. [Official Website - Assemblymember Maggy Krell, Representing California 6th Assembly District](#)
- **Assembly member Darshana Patel (D.)** Assembly District 76. San Diego. [Official Website - Assemblymember Dr. Darshana Patel, California Assembly District 76](#)
- **Assembly member Celeste Rodriguez (D.)** Assembly District 43. Los Angeles, San Fernando. [Official Website - Assemblymember Celeste Rodriguez, California Assembly District 43](#)
- **Assembly member Kate Sanchez (R.)** Assembly District 71. Rancho Santa Margarita, Temecula, Mission Viejo. [Official California Assembly Website | AD71 | KATE SANCHEZ](#)
- **Assembly member Pilar Schiavo (D.)** Assembly District 40. San Fernando, Santa Clarita. [Official Website - Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo Representing the 40th California Assembly District](#)
- **Assembly member LaShae Sharp-Collins (D.)** Assembly District 79. San Diego. [Official Website - Assemblymember Dr. LaShae Sharp-Collins, California Assembly District 79](#)
- **Assembly member Catherine Stefani (D.)** Assembly District 19. San Francisco. [Official Website - Assemblymember Catherine Stefani, California Assembly District 19](#)
- **Assembly member David Tangipa (R.)** Assembly District 8. Fresno, Mariposa, Sonora. [Official State Assembly Website | AD08 | David Tangipa](#)



2025 APG California Policy & Advocacy Meeting Dates

Members, please mark your calendars for APG's California Policy Forum and California Medi-Cal Forum meetings. You can download APG's 2025 events calendar [here](#).

California Policy Forum

2:00 - 3:00 pm

- February 13
- April 10
- June 12
- November 12

California Medi-Cal Forum

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

- May 20
- October - TBD



APG California Advocacy Member Resources

- **Tracked Health Care Bills 2025-26:** bills we're following in the California State Legislature
- **Digital Exchange Framework** [APG member tool kit](#), [QHIO webinar](#) and [DxF Program summary slide deck](#)
- **Office of Health Care Affordability** [regulations](#) and [explanatory slide deck](#)
- APG, Moss Adams, Sheppard Mullin **CMIR Regulation** [webinar](#) and [slides](#)
- **DMHC SB 510** [All Plan Letter](#) on Health Plan payment responsibilities
- **DMHC Quality and Equity Reporting** program [All Plan Letter](#)
- **DHCS Medi-Cal Medical Loss Ratio** [Implementation Summary](#)
- **DHCS Medi-Cal Connect** [Population Health Program](#) Information

For more news and resources, please visit APG's [website](#) or contact a member of APG's California advocacy team.

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