

Join Us!

California Alignment for Hospital Quality (Cal HQ)

A statewide hospital improvement collaborative

January 29, 2026

AGENDA

- 01** Welcome
- 02** Building the Future Together
- 03** Our Vision
- 04** Reducing HAs Together
- 05** Next steps
- 06** Q&A



Welcome

Getting to Know the Team

Building the Future Together



Steering Committee

Hospitals

Adventist Health
CommonSpirit Health
Community Memorial Healthcare
Kaiser Permanente

Health Plans

BlueShield
HealthNet
Inland Empire Health Plan
LA Care
Sharp

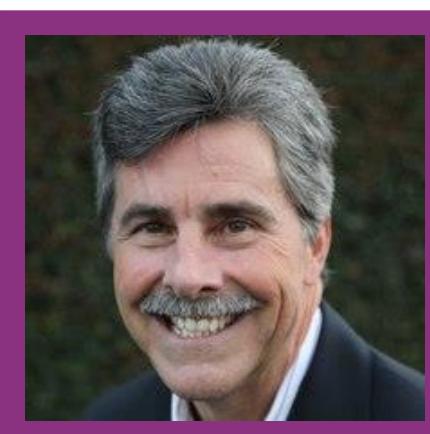
Other Partners

California Hospital Association
California Department of Health Care Services (DCHS)
California Quality Collaborative
Department of Healthcare Access and Information (HCAI)
Health Services Advisory Group
Helen Macfie (SME)
Hospital Quality Institute
PFCC Partners

Cal HQ Team – Today's Speakers



**David Campa, MD,
MPH**
Senior Medical
Director
Covered California



Bruce Spurlock, MD
Executive Director
Cal Healthcare
Compare



Natalie Graves
Improvement Advisor
Cal Healthcare
Compare



AJ Rolle
Senior Program Manager
Cal Healthcare Compare

Cal HQ Team



Monica Soni, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Covered California



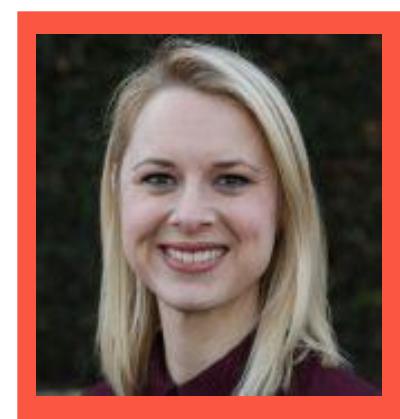
Kelly Saephan
Health Equity & Quality
Transformation
Covered California



Tony Linares, MD
Medical Consultant
CalPERS



Claire De Castro
Clinical Policy and Programs
CalPERS



Alex Stack
Director
Cal Healthcare
Compare



Tracy Fisk
Program Manager
Cal Healthcare
Compare

...and YOU!

Name

Title

Organization

What drives your commitment
to improving quality?

Our Vision

Where are we headed?

Our Unified Path to Excellence

Organization-led quality improvement

- Hospital-focused Improvement Initiatives (Federal, State, Internal, etc..)
- Health Plan Value-Based Payment & Quality Improvement Programs
- Cal Healthcare Compare Honor Rolls

Regional collaboration/State-wide Goals

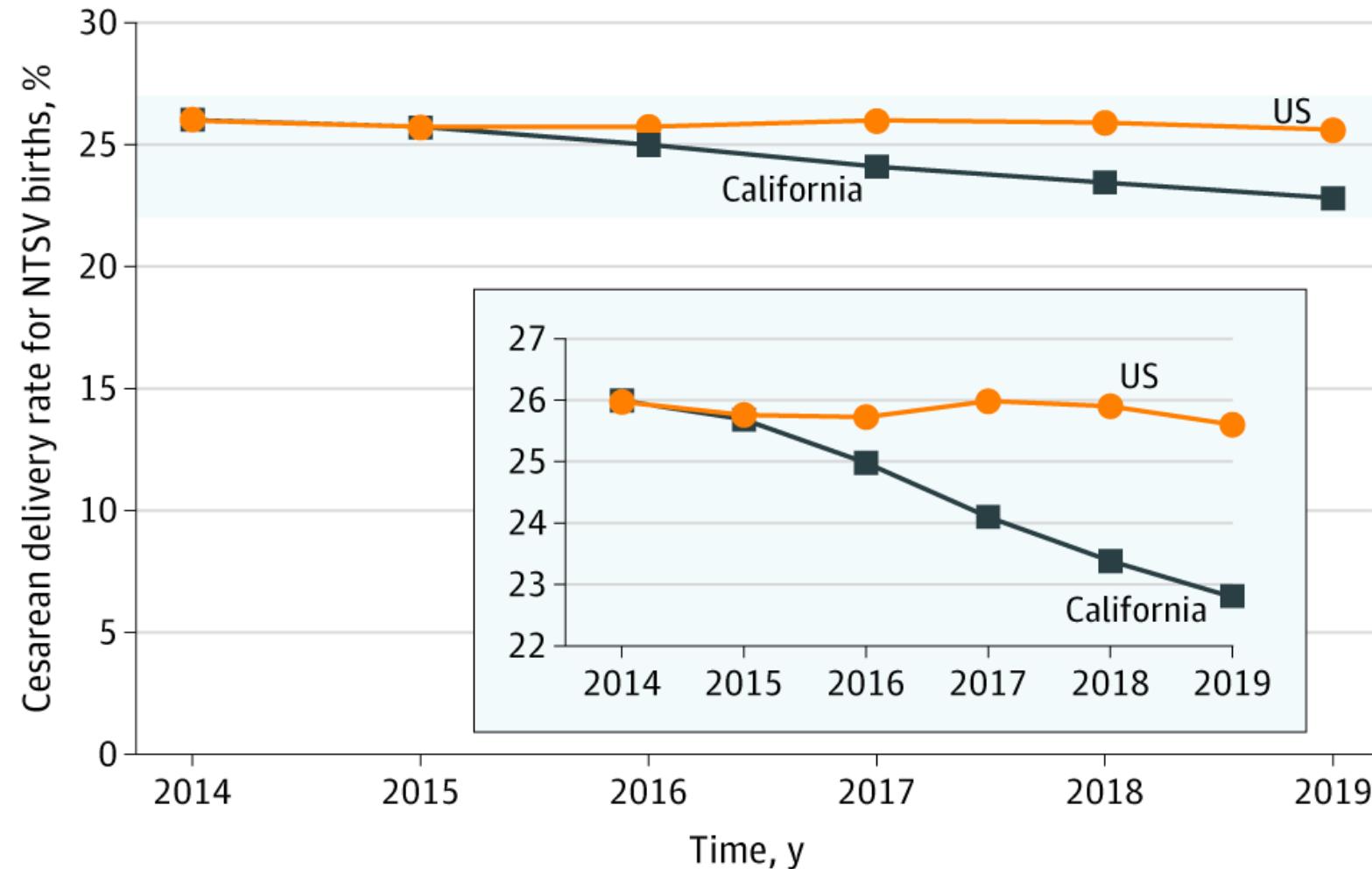
- LA Health Plans led collaboration to engage hospitals around a core set of quality measures
- State-wide goal to reduce NTSV C-section rate below 23.6%

Cal HQ

- Engage all hospitals across California to achieve state-wide improvement goals
- Organizational alignment across the state
 - Purchasers, state agencies and other stakeholders
 - Regional health plan efforts

Alignment Strategies Work!

Impact of California Initiatives on NTSV C-Section



Klein, K., Grobman, W. A., & Rhee, K. (2021). Hospital Quality Improvement Interventions, Statewide Policy Initiatives, and Rates of Cesarean Delivery for Nulliparous, Term, Singleton, Vertex Births in California. *JAMA*, 325(16), 1631–1639. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2021.3816>

Cal HQ's Vision



Elevate Patient Care for ALL Californians



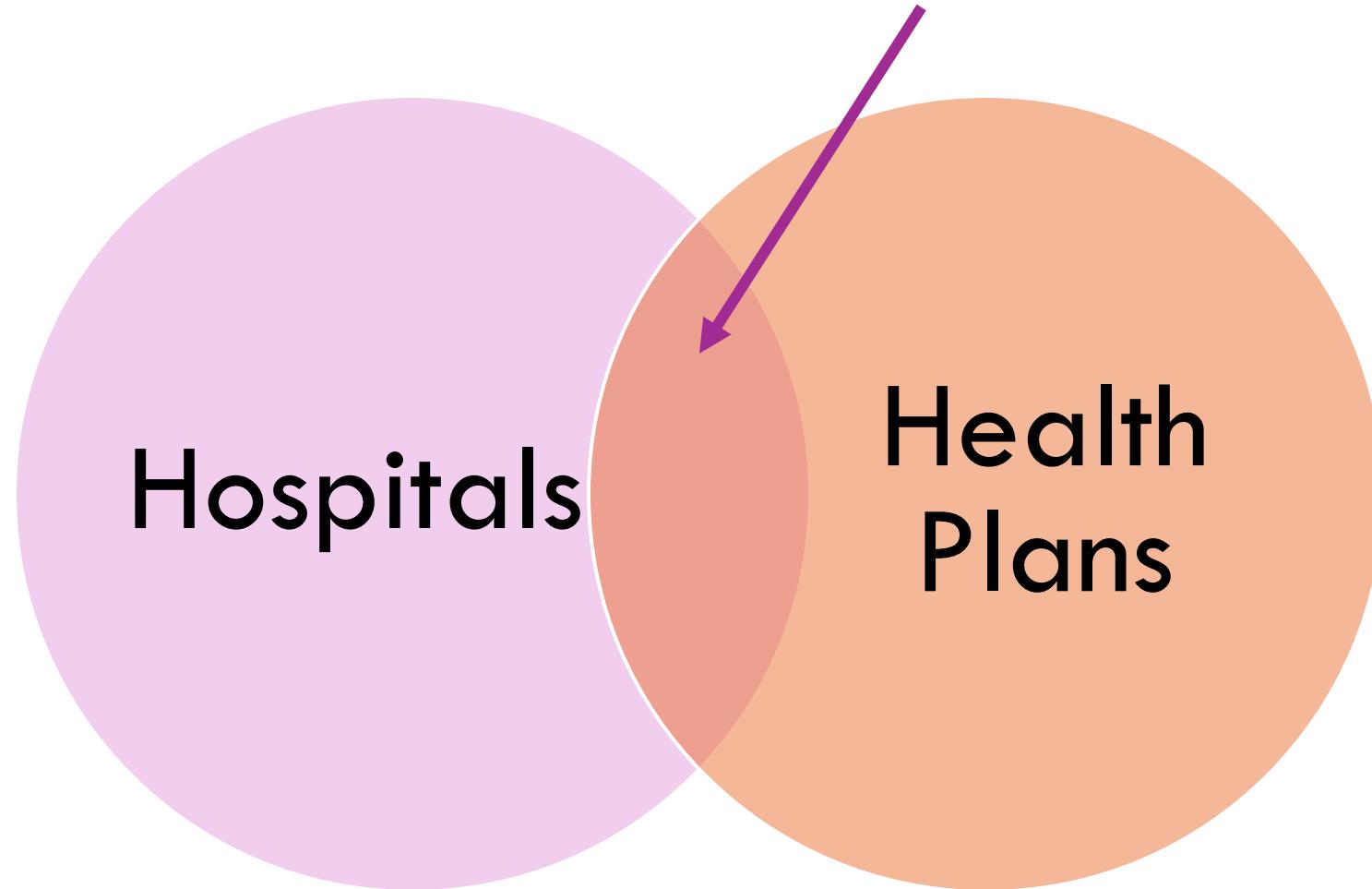
Unlock the Power of Data: Accelerating Digital Quality Measures



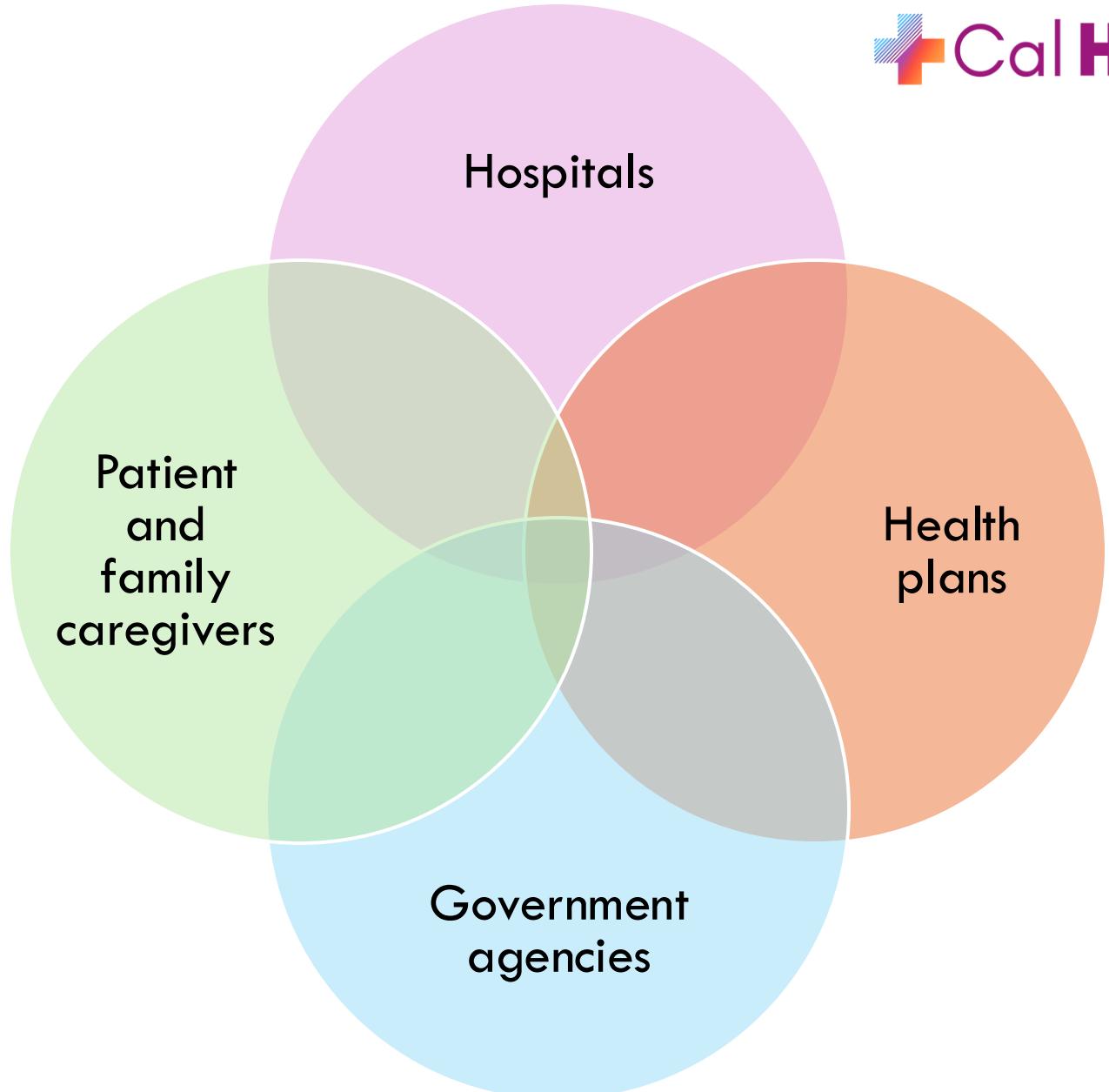
Build a Network of Excellence



What Actions Can We Take to Drive Improvement?



**What roles,
responsibilities,
and resources do
we each bring to
improvement
efforts?**



Cal HQ's Bold Goal

By December 31, 2027

Prevent over 2,000
infections

Save ~100 lives

Save \$64,000,000*



“What will it take for
California to be the
healthiest state in the
nation?”

Cal HQ's Measure Selection Framework



Alignment

Addresses largest patient population (all payers)

Federal Programs (VBP, HAC, 13th SOW)

Health Plan VBP and QI programs

Reflects feedback from stakeholders



QI Actionable

Least amount of data lag

Upcoming NHSN dQMs: CDI, HOB

Studies have shown improvement over time



Meaningful

High impact: Lives saved/Cost reduction

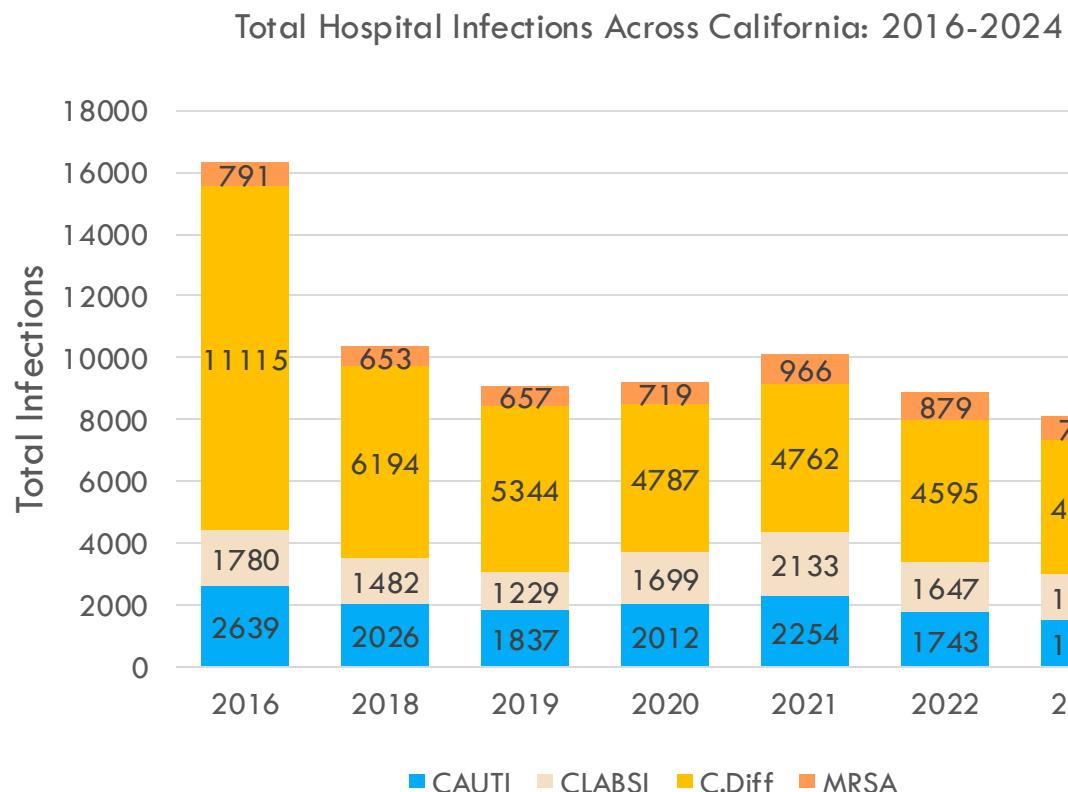
National and State Targets

Alignment with federal program goals

Included in various recognition programs

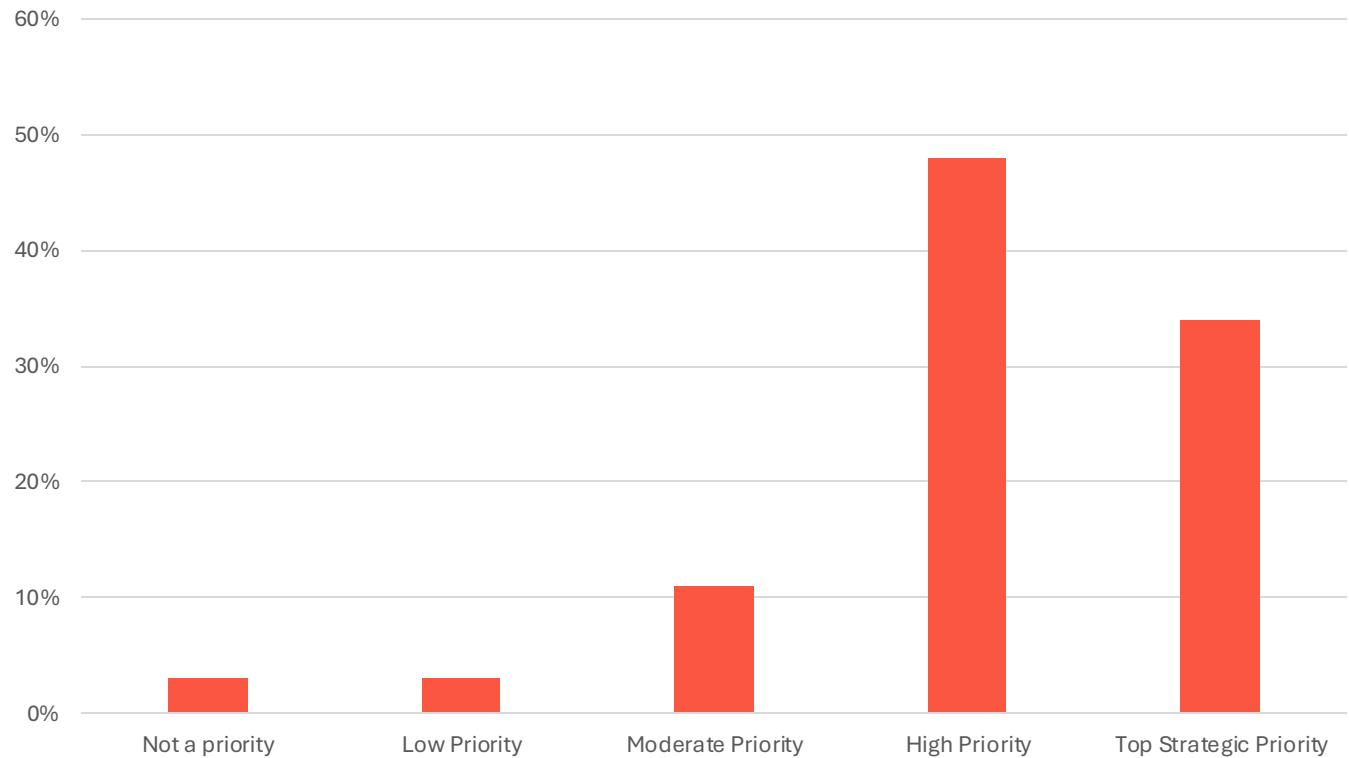
Continued Need to Reduce HAIs

More than 70% of CA hospitals have at least one HAI greater than US average SIR



HAI	2024 CA SIR	2024 National SIR
C diff	0.41	0.37
CAUTI	0.58	0.52
CLABSI	0.58	0.64
MRSA	0.63	0.70

To what extent are HAs a strategic priority for your organization in 2026?



Source: Poll from Cal HQ Informational Webinar poll, 12/16/2026

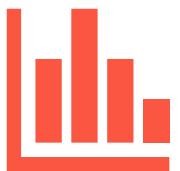
Our Game Plan

How will Cal HQ accelerate HAI reduction across the state

Learning Collaborative 101



Evidence-based
practices



Translating
analytics to action



Focus on
implementation



Facilitating peer-
to-peer learning



Interactive Learning

Improvement sprints
Affinity groups



Customized Support

Improvement advisor coaching
Data sensemaking



Responsive Curriculum & Network

Community of sharing
Listening sessions



Practical Tools

Change packages
Discovery Tools
Improvement Calculators
QI Basics & Templates

Getting Started

Focus on the Fundamentals

- Evidence-based practice review
- QI fundamentals

Specialized Support

- Reduce catheter utilization
- CDI testing protocols
- Establishing digital measure infrastructure

Adapt to Emerging Priorities

- Enrollment questionnaire
- Feedback in webinars
- Data analysis

Focus on the Fundamentals



Foundational Infection Prevention Practices

Cal HQ Change Package 2026



About Cal HQ
About this Change Package

Definition & Scope
Measurement
How to Improve
Fundational Practices

- 1. Leadership Support
- 2. Healthcare Personnel Education & Training
- 3. Patient, Family and Caregiver Engagement
- 4. Surveillance
- 5. Hand Hygiene
- 6. Environmental Cleaning & Disinfection

Conclusion & Action
Planning
Appendices
References

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Preventing Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI)

Cal HQ Change Package 2026



About Cal HQ
About this Change Package

Definition & Scope
Measurement
How to Improve
Primary Drivers & Change Ideas

- 1. Prevent Unnecessary Urinary Catheter Use
- 2. Ensure Proper Technique
- 3. Optimize Prompt Catheter Removal
- 4. Practice urine Culture Stewardship

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Preventing MRSA Transmission & Infection

Cal HQ Change Package 2026



About Cal HQ
About this Change Package

Definition & Scope
Measurement
How to Improve
Primary Drivers & Change Ideas

- 1. Identify Infections
- 2. Promote Antibacterial Stewardship
- 3. Prevent Transmissions

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Specialized Support

Cal HQ Listserv

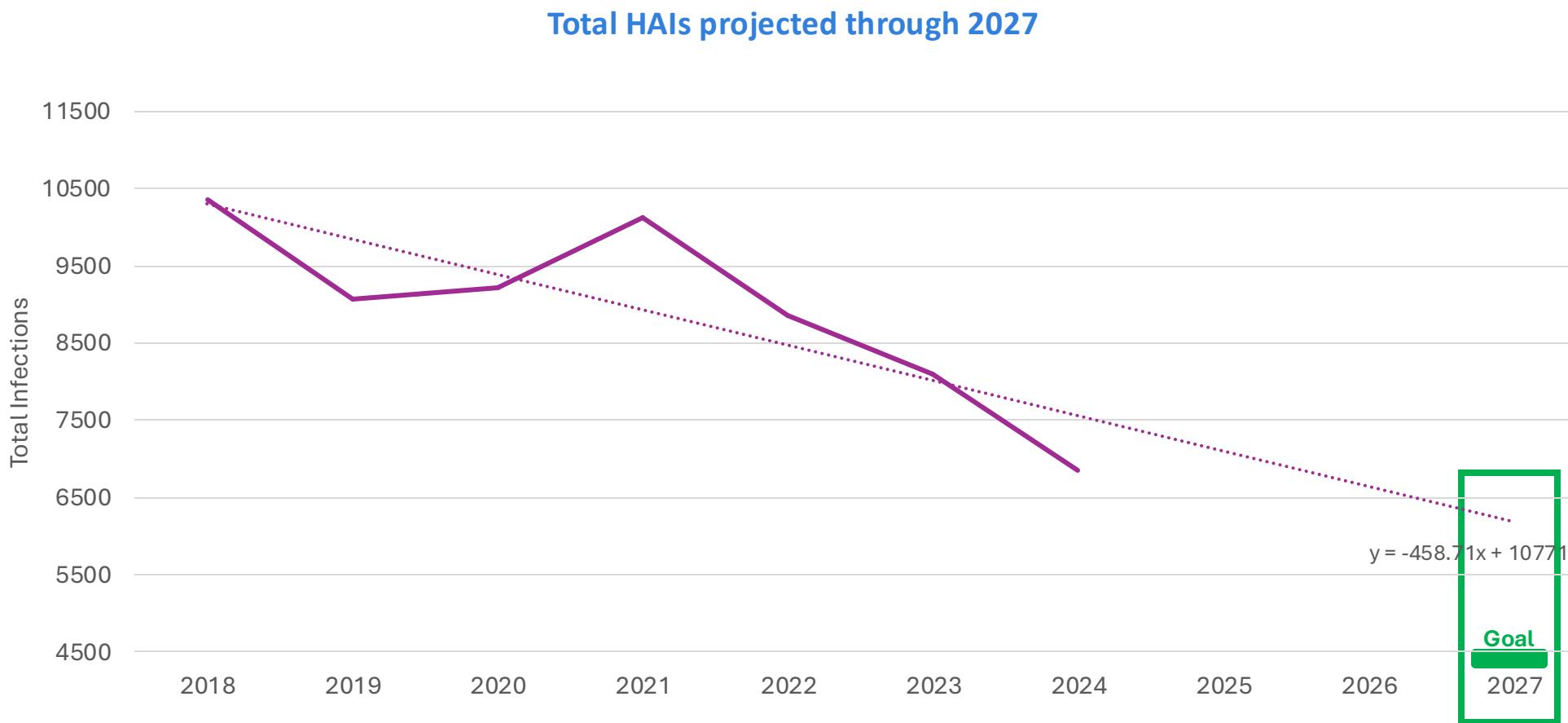
- Peer-to-peer conversation
- Resources and learning opportunities
- Connection to subject matter experts

Affinity Groups

- Grouped by organization type or by focus area

What about health equity?

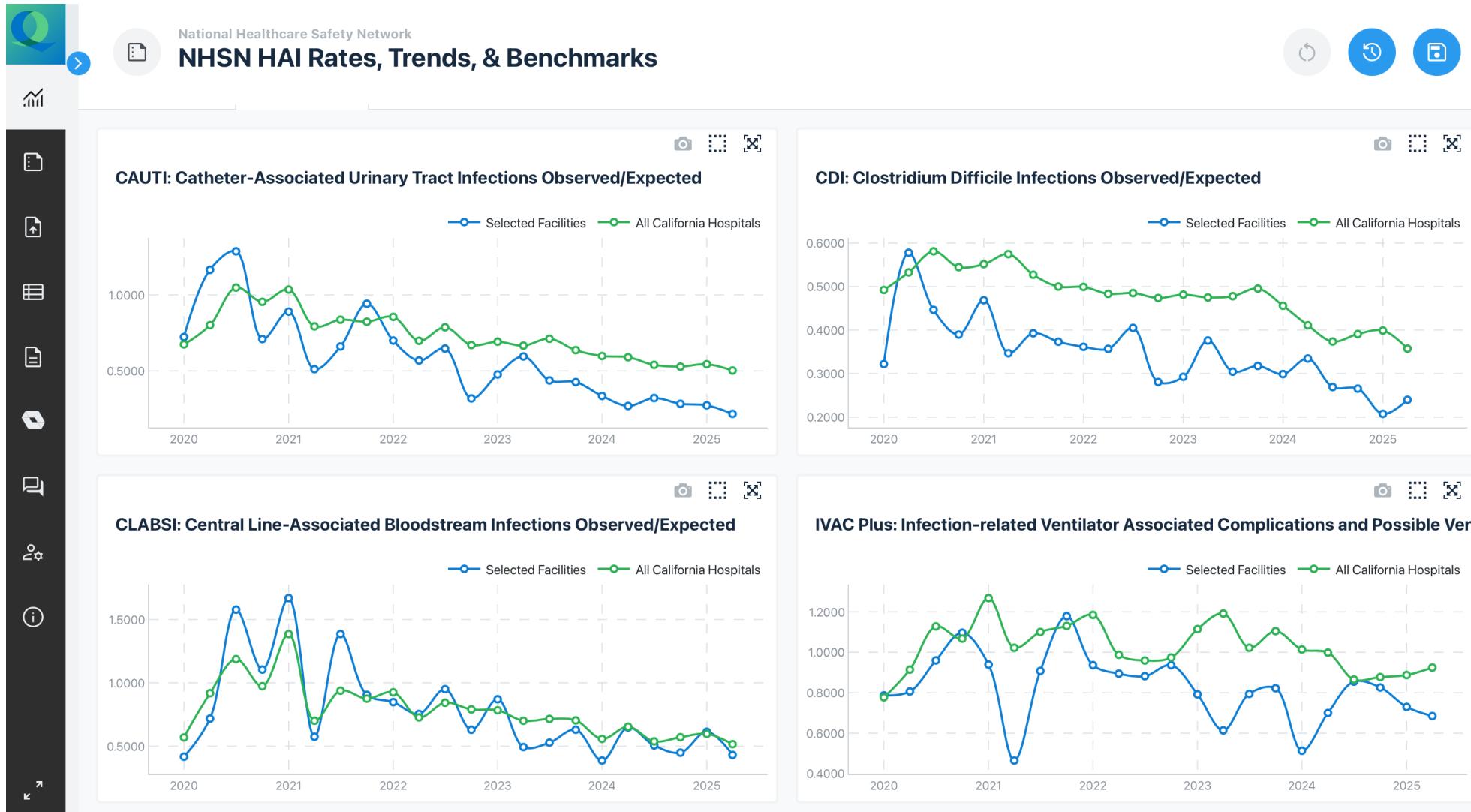
How Will We Know if We Are Improving?



No intervention: Total HAIs projected to decrease to ~6,200 by the end of 2027

Cal HQ Goal: Reduce to 4,500 total HAIs by the end of 2027

Using Data to Drive Improvement



Let's get started.



Complete the Cal HQ Enrollment Form to be added to the Cal HQ hospital listserv and receive information about upcoming events and new tools.

Watch for events and new resources.

Join us for an in-person kick-off meeting in Long Beach or Sacramento.

Enroll today!

Join us in April!



Northern California

April 30, 2026 | 8:30 – 3:00

CalPERS Offices, Sacramento

Southern California

April 14, 2026 | 8:30 – 3:00

The Grand, Long Beach

Register [HERE](#)

Cal HQ Kickoff: *Partnering for Progress*

A convening for quality, patient safety, and infection prevention leaders from hospitals and health plans across California.

Session Title	Objectives
<i>Breakfast</i>	
Welcome	Networking and Introductions
Keynote	Libby Hoy , Founder & CEO PFCCpartners
Connecting to Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Understand the goals and strategies of Cal HQ, define our collective north star and align with your organization's strategic priorities
<i>Lunch</i>	
Collaborating to Tackle HAIs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Explore and test Cal HQ resources and engage in peer to peer conversation about technical, cultural and cross-industry strategies to reduce HAIs
Co-designing Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Facilitated creation of a project plan to guide efforts to reduce HAIs and to build the infrastructure to address additional measures in the future (e.g. care transitions)

Let's get started.



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Watch for events and new resources.

Join us for an in-person kick-off meeting in Long Beach or Sacramento.

Enroll today!

Questions & Suggestions?

We'd love to hear
from you.



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Thank
you!