

OUR COMMITMENTS TO STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

The Common Health Coalition is uniting America's leading health organizations in pursuit of a reimagined health system: one in which the nation's health care and public health systems work hand in hand.

Our founding members, the **Alliance of Community Health Plans (ACHP)**, **American Hospital Association (AHA)**, **AHIP**, **American Medical Association (AMA)**, and **Kaiser Permanente** are taking action at the intersection of health care and public health to help ensure that our nation's health system is ready to confront the public health emergencies of tomorrow.

Advancing progress at the intersection of public health and health care

Our work is informed by an advisory council of health leaders who help ensure the Coalition's work is accountable to public health — and provide input grounded in deep implementation experience spanning local, state, and federal levels. With their guidance, we have developed a set of **six** shared commitments, and our **five** founding members are committing to action in **four priority areas (CARE)**. These actions are meant to model the spirit of partnership needed at the intersection of health care and public health. For too long, these fields have operated in parallel. Therefore, our strongest commitment is to change that — to work hand-in-hand across sectors and organizations, toward the common goal of health.

Our commitments

Coordination between health care and public health with clearly aligned goals, roles, and responsibilities.

COMMITMENT: Create and support formal mechanisms for strategic collaboration and communication between health care organizations and public health agencies

EXAMPLE ACTIONS:

- All five founding organizations will work to develop or participate in Memorandas of Agreements for voluntary use in data and resource sharing, operational partnerships, and technical assistance provision between local hospitals/health systems, physician groups, and local/state public health agencies
- AHA, ACHP, and AHIP will encourage members to work with health system partners to build on existing public-facing maps and/or dashboards, or develop new ones using health data
- Kaiser Permanente and AHA will encourage participation in or establish formal working groups with local and state public health leadership

Always-on emergency preparedness, meaning the creation of shared, well-maintained emergency preparedness plans between health care institutions and public health entities, so there will be a reliable infrastructure that can be scaled up quickly during a crisis.

COMMITMENT: Establish and enhance systems to rapidly deploy licensed and trained health care staff to address new or emerging public health threats

EXAMPLE ACTIONS:

- Kaiser Permanente and AMA will identify core barriers for health care staff participation in disaster staffing programs
- AHA will encourage members to adopt shared staffing models, including those demonstrated to be effective during the COVID-19 pandemic, for hospitals across the country.

COMMITMENT:

Help implement national, peer-reviewed standards of readiness

EXAMPLE ACTIONS:

- All five founding organizations will participate or encourage member participation in working groups that include public health agency partners focused on improving health care readiness.
- AHA will advocate for adequate resource needs for federal, state, and local public health-driven preparedness programs.
- All five founding organizations will help elevate the voices of state and local health care professionals through storytelling.

Real-time disease detection so that threats are assessed and response can be mobilized more swiftly.

COMMITMENT:

Expand electronic disease reporting through electronic data exchange mechanisms, such as electronic Case Reporting (eCR), to improve completeness and consistency of reported health data

EXAMPLE ACTIONS:

- AHA, AHIP, ACHP, and AMA will encourage their members to participate in electronic data exchange, including eCR, electronic lab reporting, and syndromic detection
- Kaiser Permanente will create cross-sector partnerships at local, county, and state levels to ensure compatibility of eCR across different settings
- All five founding organizations will encourage their members to identify and participate in cross-sector eCR partnerships at local, county, and state levels

Exchange of data in a way that is swift, consistent, and actionable, particularly for identifying and addressing health inequities.

COMMITMENT:

Invest in real-time data sharing and analysis with public health, particularly to improve health equity

EXAMPLE ACTIONS:

- Kaiser Permanente and AHA will create and expand mechanisms for secure bi-directional data sharing between health systems, provider groups, and public health agencies
- ACHP and AHIP will call on their members to support and encourage data sharing on immunization rates with public health agencies
- AMA and AHA will encourage their members to collect and share data that will help identify and address health inequities

Advancing federal efforts

The Common Health Coalition will support key, existing federal actions focused on improving coordination between public health and health care, including by implementing key actions from the CMS Health Equity Framework, the U.S. Playbook to Address Social Determinants of Health, and Healthy People 2030; and by supporting federal efforts to standardize health data and improve data exchange.

COMMITMENT: All five founding organizations will support ongoing federal efforts by providing education and technical assistance through their networks, signing letters of support, and supporting funding for public health agencies leading this work.

OUR CALL TO ACTION FOR HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS

The Coalition's founding members are calling on health care and public health organizations across the country to **JOIN US IN THIS EFFORT**. We can go further, faster through a collective effort focused on action. Interested organizations can learn more, connect with us, and take steps to join us by going to our website, <https://commonhealthcoalition.org/>.

As a guide, the Coalition has published the Common Health Compendium, which highlights examples from the ground that demonstrate these commitments in action. We will continue sharing tools and resources, including sample memorandum of agreements and virtual learning and action workshops, in coming months.