

Connecticut State Innovation Model (SIM) Project
Healthcare Innovation Steering Committee & Workgroups
Office of the Healthcare Advocate, Hartford CT

June 9th 2015

My name is Supriyo B. Chatterjee and I reside in West Hartford Connecticut. I would like to submit my comments for your consideration. In response to my Public Comment (PTTF meeting May 19th) regarding 'Cultural Competency' and the role of Connecticut Multicultural Health Partnership (CTMHP) in the CT SIM project - I would like to thank Dr Mark Schaefer for introducing Dr Catherine Wagner, Ed D, who is a co-founder of CTMHP. Dr Wagner is VP for Education and Health Information at the Connecticut Medical Society and in their Health Equity Committee. I look forward to her contributions to the CT SIM project and her ongoing efforts in improving health equity in Connecticut.

Yesterday, June 8th, I made a request to the US Health & Human Services - Office of Minority Health (US HHS OMH) and the CT Department of Public Health for copies of the two 'Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services' (CLAS) reports that were published by CTMHP in April 2012 & April 2015. I also requested copies of the Declaration Statements of Conflict-of-Interest by CTMHP principals of the work done in the above two reports. It is a requirement of US HHS: 'Responsibility of Applicants for Promoting Objectivity in Research for Public Health Service Funding' regulations. I believe these CLAS reports are the only current empirical assessments of 'Culture Competency' within Connecticut's health organizations – a fiduciary responsibility to also show diligence and integrity.

I would like to close with a quote from Dr. Francis Collins, Director of the National Institutes of Health and a noted leader of the Human Genome Project - "The public trust in what we do is just essential, and we cannot afford to take any chances with the integrity of the research process."

Thank you.

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References used in above comments are shown below (next page).

REFERENCES - Supplement to Public Comments

Connecticut State Medical Society – Health Equity Committee: Catherine Wagner, Ed D, VP for Education and Health Information

<http://csms.org/about/leadership/committees/health-equity-committee/>

CT SIM - Practice Transformation Task Force Meeting May 19th (Meeting Summary)

http://www.healthreform.ct.gov/ohri/lib/ohri/work_groups/practice_transformation/2015-05-19/summary_pttf_05192015_draft2_kgs_edits.pdf

Prior CT SIM Public Comments:

CT SIM - Equity and Access Council Meeting May 28th (under Public Comment)

http://www.healthreform.ct.gov/ohri/lib/ohri/work_groups/equity_access/2015_05_28/ctsim-may28.pdf

CT SIM - Practice Transformation Task Force Meeting May 19th (under Public Comment)

http://www.healthreform.ct.gov/ohri/lib/ohri/work_groups/practice_transformation/2015-05-19/ctsim-may19.pdf

CT SIM Healthcare Innovation Steering Committee Meeting May 14th (under Public Comment)

http://www.healthreform.ct.gov/ohri/lib/ohri/sim/steering_committee/2015-05-14/comment_chatterjee_clas_05142015.pdf

CT SIM - Practice Transformation Task Force Meeting April 28th (under Public Comment)

http://www.healthreform.ct.gov/ohri/lib/ohri/work_groups/practice_transformation/2015-04-28/publiccomment_pttf_chatterjee_04282015.pdf

CT SIM - Equity and Access Council Meeting April 23rd (under Public Comment)

http://www.healthreform.ct.gov/ohri/lib/ohri/work_groups/equity_access/2015_04_23/ctsim-apr23.pdf

CT SIM Healthcare Innovation Steering Committee Meeting April 9th (under Public Comment)

CT SIM - Equity and Access Council Meeting April 9th (under Public Comment)

http://www.healthreform.ct.gov/ohri/lib/ohri/sim/steering_committee/2015-04-09/public_comment_chatterjee_04092015.pdf

CT SIM - Health Information Technology Council Meeting March 20th (under Public Comment)

http://www.healthreform.ct.gov/ohri/lib/ohri/work_groups/hit/2015-03-20/ctsim-mar20.pdf