



Data, Technology & Innovation

The Public Health Institute is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting health, well-being and quality of life throughout California, across the nation and around the world.

From cell phone apps that instantaneously relay data worldwide, to a video chat with a doctor that allows a rural patient with diabetes to manage her condition faster and more economically, new technologies hold the potential to transform health.

At the nexus of data, innovation and technology, PHI brings unlikely partners together to spark new solutions.

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Our Approach

PHI's surveillance and data projects collect, monitor and manage Big Data efficiently and effectively—revealing patterns, uncovering root causes and steering research toward evidence-based interventions.



Deploy new technologies in diverse health care settings to improve quality of care and expand access for underserved populations



Connect communities online, disseminate evaluation results and amplify best practices using innovative communications platforms



Evaluate which technologies are effective at improving health outcomes, changing behaviors and lowering costs

Our Priority



Building Health Equity

The California Health Disadvantage Index, developed by PHI's Public Health Alliance of Southern California and its partners, provides census tract-level snapshots of the social determinants of health. With a user-friendly interactive map to identify populations most vulnerable to poor health outcomes, the Index helps identify and prioritize public health interventions in underserved communities.



The Cancer Registry of Greater California captures timely, high-quality data for research, surveillance and reporting.

471,000 pathology reports processed every year

103,400 new cancer cases obtained from hospitals, physicians' offices, radiation clinics and surgery centers each year

11,082 new cases identified and added to the 2015 statewide database that had not been seen in other reporting sources

25+ peer-reviewed publications every year. A 2015 study revealed that nearly one third of patients with epithelial ovarian cancer in California between 1994 and 2001 survived at least 10 years after diagnosis—garnering an “excellence in research” award from the prestigious *Obstetrics and Gynecology* journal.

For more examples of our work, visit phi.org.

Our Work

Virtually Connecting Patients to Care

The Center for Connected Health Policy's Specialty Care Safety Net Initiative (SCSNI) used telehealth to connect patients in rural and urban medically underserved communities with health specialists in six high-need disciplines. Over the span of three years, SCSNI clinics **successfully referred over 3,000 patients for specialty care** in offices as far as 600 miles apart.

Collecting Better Data — To help a client examining cancer across generations, Survey Research Group **built a customized Participant Relationship Management System**, enabling interviewers to build personalized connections with participants and their children. The custom software allowed examiners to coordinate schedules, retrieve participant contact information and automatically connect to GPS mapping software.

Advocating for Air Quality

In California's Imperial County, asthma rates are among the highest in the state. PHI's California Environmental Health Tracking Program worked with partners and community members to launch IVAN Air Monitoring, a network of **air quality monitors that provide real-time data** so parents, schools and community members can protect health and advocate for cleaner air policy.

Building an Online Learning

Community — PHI's Dialogue4Health communications platform allows community members and professionals from all sectors who are interested in improving public health to connect online via Web Forums, web-based meetings and virtual classrooms. Since starting in 2008, D4H has hosted over **200 Web Forums with more than 60,000 attendees**.