



**Leading
Health System
Improvement**



We work together to build trust among those who give, get and pay for health care to create change in the system that benefits everyone.

About the Alliance

The Washington Health Alliance brings together those who give, get and pay for health care to create a high-quality, affordable system for the people of Washington state.

The Alliance is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that shares the most reliable data on health care quality and value in the state to help providers, patients, employers and union trusts make better decisions about health care. We set expectations for community performance on evidence-based practices that improve health while reducing waste and cost.

Through innovative strategies and initiatives, we help the entire health care system – from exam room to board room – focus on improving quality and value. We are committed to being the catalyst for change for the health care system in Washington.



Our Vision

Our vision is that by 2017, physicians, other providers and hospitals in the region will achieve the top 10 percent in performance nationally in the delivery of quality, evidence-based care and in the reduction of unwarranted variation, resulting in a significant reduction in medical cost trends.

Our Mission

The Washington Health Alliance serves to build a strong alliance among patients, doctors, hospitals, purchasers, health plans and others to promote health and improve quality and affordability by reducing overuse, underuse and misuse of health care services.



Our Strategic Goals

REDUCING PRICE



High cost and unwarranted variation in pricing make our current health care system unsustainable. The Alliance is focused on two areas of activity to reduce price variation in Washington:

- Establishing the capability to measure and report variation on the price of care.
- Targeting actions to address selected areas of high price and unwarranted variation in pricing.

REDUCING UNDERUSE OF EFFECTIVE CARE



When patients receive the evidence-based care at the right time for the right reason, it increases the likelihood that disease will be identified early and managed and reduces the potential for avoidable complications and financial burden. The Alliance is focused on three areas of activity to reduce underuse of effective care in Washington:

- Improving patient experience.
- Improving management of chronic disease for adults in the primary care setting and address disparities in care as they are identified.
- Improving the rate of prevention screening for cervical, colorectal and breast cancer.

REDUCING OVERUSE



More care isn't always better care. Unnecessary tests and procedures contribute to waste in the system and increase the risk to patients. The Alliance is focused on five areas of activity to reduce overuse of care in Washington:

- Reducing the avoidable use of emergency room (ER) services; reducing 30-day hospital readmissions; reducing the rate of elective, preference-sensitive procedures; and reducing the rate of non-evidence based testing and services.
- Reducing unwarranted variation in resource use and intensity of care.





Leading health system improvement

For more about the Alliance:
www.WAHealthAlliance.org

For the Community Checkup report:
www.WACommunityCheckup.org