

# UPDATE for the Community



## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*Editor's note: Our Executive Director, Nancy Giunto, is enjoying a much-deserved vacation. In her absence, our Deputy Director, Susie Dade, is writing to our members in our monthly update.*

We're thrilled to announce that the Alliance's Community Checkup website has been selected to host the Washington State Common Measure Set for Health Care Quality and Cost. The starter set of more than 50 measures can be used by both state and private payers for value-based purchasing. Dorothy Teeter, Washington State Health Care Authority Director, spoke this week at our members-only All-Alliance meeting about how the Common Measure Set fits in with the state's health innovation strategy. [Read more from our deputy director.](#)

## ALLIANCE UPDATES

### OFM seeking stakeholder input on All-Payer Claims Database RFP process

Now that Gov. Inslee has signed legislation creating the state's All-Payer Claims Database into law, the process is moving into its next phase. Sometime in the coming months, the Office of Financial Management (OFM), which will oversee the APCD, will be releasing a Request for Proposals for a lead organization. To that end, OFM is [conducting a survey](#) regarding its RFP process for the APCD. The survey link must be completed by this Friday, June 12. The link also includes information about subscribing to the project Listserv. This is an important opportunity for stakeholders to have their views reflected in the survey results. If you are willing, please take the time to respond to this survey.

### Upcoming conference on disparities in health care

Do you have community health workers, advocates or educators working on disparities in health care? Let them know about a great upcoming conference sponsored by the Migrant Clinicians Network. [Learn more about the June 20 conference.](#)

## LEARN MORE

### Join Us

Would you like to learn more about membership in the Alliance? [Read about the value of Alliance membership.](#)

### Choosing Wisely

Choosing Wisely is a campaign designed to provide easy-to-understand guides for getting better, safer, more effective care. It is a partnership between the Alliance, The American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), the Washington State Medical Association, and others. [Learn more.](#)

### Visit the Community Checkup website

The Community Checkup website helps consumers make informed choices by giving them access to a robust and accessible supply of data and resources. [Learn more.](#)

### Follow the Alliance on Twitter

We invite you to follow the Alliance on Twitter [@WAHealthCheckup](#).

### Follow the Alliance on LinkedIn

We invite you to follow the Alliance on our [LinkedIn company page](#).

*The Washington Health Alliance*

## Save the Date for the Choosing Wisely Summit

Attention health care providers! Bring your quality improvement team to learn more about the Choosing Wisely program and ways local health systems are implementing the recommendations.

Choosing Wisely Summit

When: October 30, 2015, 8:30 am-4 pm

Where: SeaTac Marriott

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

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## NEW MEMBERS

This month, we're excited to welcome two new members to the Alliance: MPIRICA Health Analytics and the City of Kirkland. MPIRICA is an up-and-coming health analytics firm and we are excited to have them join the conversation. The City of Kirkland joins our other government members who bring the perspective of a public health purchasing organization to the work of health care system transformation. [Learn more.](#)

## ON THE BLOG

### [Choosing Wisely addresses overtreatment](#)

In a [recent New Yorker article](#), Atul Gawande explores the ongoing crisis of unnecessary care in the United States, discussing the issues with doctors, patients and those who study the issue from coast to coast.

### [The American College of Emergency Physicians finds increased ER use in March poll](#)

In May, the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) released the [results of a poll](#) conducted in March that found three-quarters of emergency physicians have seen an increase in emergency room (ER) patient visits since early 2014, when the Affordable Care Act (ACA) took effect.

## NEWS TO KNOW

[Some state workers to see new option for health-care coverage | The Seattle Times](#)

[Data shows large rise in list prices at hospitals | The New York Times](#)

[Law establishes health care database on quality and cost | Yakima Herald](#)

[Tracking healthcare metrics in the age of value-based payment, what to know | Healthcare Finance News](#)

[Helping doctors choose wisely: three innovative principles for health care organizations | Health Affairs Blog](#)

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