

# UPDATE for the Community



## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Since its founding a decade ago, the Alliance has been dedicated to leading health system change. That's why we are proud to partner with the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) on the Healthier Washington initiative. Healthier Washington is the state's innovative effort to transform our health care system so that people experience better health during their lives, receive better care when they need it, and care is more affordable and accessible. [Read more from our executive director.](#)

## ALLIANCE UPDATES

### Alliance releases Disparities in Care report

We have just released a new report revealing disparities in how health care is delivered across race, ethnicity and language. Findings reveal that disparities in care are a continuing problem in Washington state. The report, the third of its kind that the Alliance has released, relies upon Medicaid data covering more than 680,000 enrollees. Read the [report](#) and [press release](#).

### Choosing Wisely Summit in October

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. [Visit the WSMA website to register.](#)

When: October 30, 2015, 8:30 a.m.– 4 p.m.

Where: SeaTac Marriott

## NEW MEMBERS

This month, we're excited to welcome Relypsa and Valant to the Alliance. [Learn more.](#)

## NEWS TO KNOW

## LEARN MORE

### Join Us

Would you like to learn more about membership in the Alliance? [Learn more 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*

[A Doctor at His Daughter's Hospital Bed | \*The New York Times\*](#)

[Small Changes Can Have Notable Effects In Workers' Coverage Or Costs | \*Kaiser Health News\*](#)

[Why Higher Drug Costs Are Consumers' Biggest Cost Worry | \*The Wall Street Journal\*](#)

[Charity care, financial assistance standards in hospitals unfair to patients, professor says | \*Healthcare Finance\*](#)

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