

# UPDATE for the Community



## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Despite the beckoning summer sun, the Alliance team has been busier than ever working on projects that will provide value to not only our members, but to all health care consumers and purchasers in our state. Later this month we will be releasing three new reports on quality and utilization of health care, as well as a report on the quality of health plans in Washington state. [Read more from our executive director.](#)

## ALLIANCE UPDATES

- [Evaluating quality of commercial health plans](#)
- [Choosing Wisely Summit strengthens grantee network](#)
- [We're hiring!](#)
- [Joining the Alliance](#)

### Evaluating quality of commercial health plans

Since 2008, the Alliance has worked with the National Business Coalition on Health (NBCH) to conduct a rigorous evaluation of commercial health plans in Washington state using the eValue8™ tool, and then [publishing a report on the performance of commercial health plans in our market](#). Five of the six commercial health plans in our market participated in eValue8 this year: Aetna, Cigna, Group Health, Regence Blue Shield and UnitedHealthcare. Group Health participated separately as an HMO and as a PPO. In June, purchasers met with the health plans for a half day each to discuss the results as well as opportunities to align purchaser and health plan strategy to improve the value of health care in Washington. We will release a full report later this month.

### Choosing Wisely Summit strengthens grantee network

In May, Alliance staff joined 70 other Choosing Wisely grantees in Washington, D.C. for a two-day summit on the Choosing Wisely campaign. Susie Dade (Alliance) and Jessica Martinson (Washington State Medical Association) spoke about collaborating with multiple organizations in order to support Choosing Wisely in our state. Washington state grantee partners Dr. Christopher Dale (Swedish Hospital) and Dr. Matthew Handley (Group Health Cooperative) each presented on their work to improve care at

## LEARN MORE

### Join Us

Are you interested in learning 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.](#)

### NEW! Follow the Alliance on Facebook

We invite you to follow the Alliance on Facebook.

### 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](#).

their respective health systems. [You can see the CPIN presentation about their work with Choosing Wisely.](#)

**We're hiring!**

Do you know someone who wants to join with like-minded individuals and health care industry leaders to successfully transform the health care system in Washington state? We have an exciting opportunity to join our team: **Senior Health Data Analyst**. [Learn more about Alliance careers on our website.](#)

**Joining the Alliance**

Do you know someone who would like to learn more about membership in the Alliance? Our members can be the best ambassadors for work, and we have an online tool to help you talk about the value of Alliance membership. [Learn more at our Join Us website.](#)

*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.*

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**ON THE BLOG**

[Washington state lags behind on health care cost transparency](#)

[Measuring the state of mental health in Washington](#)

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