

# UPDATE for the Community



## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Alliance Supporter,

Data is a foundational element in transforming the health care system, which is why the Community Checkup has played such an important role in our work since its first release in 2008. We know that data by itself is insufficient to move the market. Data must be translated into information to drive action and outcomes in the market. With the introduction of the [new Community Checkup website](#) last month, the Alliance took another major step forward in moving data toward action.

The relaunched Community Checkup site allows visitors to interact with the data in groundbreaking new ways, thanks to the Tableau technology that powers the site. [Read more from our executive director.](#)

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## ALLIANCE UPDATES

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### **New Community Checkup website now available**

The Washington Health Alliance has launched its [new Community](#)

## 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.](#)

### **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.

*The Washington Health Alliance*

[Checkup website](#), featuring advanced interactivity. The new site is powered by Tableau and lets users compare results among geographies (counties, Accountable Communities of Health and the state) and organizations (medical groups, clinics, hospitals and health plans). The site also features full results for the Washington State Common Measures Set for Health Care Quality and Cost. [Read the press release.](#)

### **Seattle Business Magazine honors Group Health and Virginia Mason**

Using the Alliance's Community Checkup results as its basis, Seattle Business Magazine honored Group Health and Virginia Mason with first and second place respectively for the Leaders in Health Care award for medical groups. The awards were presented on March 2. [Read more about the awards.](#)

### **Washington Business Alliance releases PLAN Washington 2017**

The Washington Business Alliance, a statewide business organization whose mission is to help solve the state's most critical issues, has released its 2017 edition of PLAN Washington. The document addresses six critical issues, ranging from transportation to education. The Washington Health Alliance provided input for the health care section, focusing on the work already underway in the state to move toward a high-quality, high-value system. [Read PLAN Washington 2017.](#)

### **Spotlight on Improvement: One Key Question**

In Washington state, 37 percent of pregnancies are unintended, a measure that is included in the Washington State Common Measure Set for Health Care Quality and Cost. Such a rate does not allow many women and doctors to build preconception resources that support healthy pregnancy, healthy babies, and healthy parenthood. The Oregon Foundation for Reproductive Health, a Portland-based nonprofit, has developed a simple, quick method called One Key Question® (OKQ) to screen routinely for pregnancy intentions in reproductive age patients. [Read more about One Key Question.](#)

### **Understanding the purchaser viewpoint on health care in transition**

The National Alliance of Healthcare Purchaser Coalitions (formerly the National Business Coalition on Health) has developed an overview of the purchaser viewpoint on changes underway in health care at the federal level. The document outlines eight key points necessary for purchaser success in the health care market. [Read the purchaser viewpoint from the National Alliance.](#)

### **Register for the Association of Washington Cities' Healthy Worksite Summit**

The Association of Washington Cities is holding its 30th annual Healthy Worksite Summit on March 22 and 23 at the Lynnwood Convention Center. The summit is the Northwest's premier training event dedicated to making workplaces healthy places. Employers come together to learn, share, and explore the latest trends in workplace health promotion. The summit will include addresses from health promotion thought-leaders and workshops. [Learn more about, and register for, the Summit.](#)

### **Register for Episodes of Care Conference at Cambria Grove on March 31**

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

This half-day event will feature a discussion of the “how tos” of implementing bundled care with a panel of national experts who are deep subject matter experts in moving our health care system toward value-based care. After the discussion, attendees will get to work to design the path forward for Washington and put us on an implementation timeline aligning with the State Innovation Plan. Key stakeholder attendees will be the policymakers, provider systems, payers, entrepreneurs and patients who will help execute in future sessions. [Learn more about and register for the conference.](#)

### **National Healthcare Purchaser Coalition Mental Health and Wellbeing Summits to be held on April 25 and 26**

The National Healthcare Purchaser Coalition (formerly the National Business Coalition on Health) will be holding a Mental Health Summit on April 25 and a Wellbeing Summit on April 26 in Denver. The summits will feature health care leaders and purchasers with the goal of helping purchasers collaborate on strategies that can help better support their organizations and broadening relationships with leading employers, thought leaders and stakeholders. [Learn more about, and register for, the Summits.](#)

### **Care Transitions Conference to be held on May 10**

On Wednesday, May 10, 2017, join health and human services providers from throughout the Puget Sound region to discuss patient- and family-centered transitions of care in Des Moines, WA.

The conference continues a community conversation that began in 2012 when south King County hospital and home health care administrators, discharge planners, nurses, physicians, pharmacists, policymakers, social service providers, community leaders, and consumers met to discuss new ways to work together to decrease avoidable hospital admissions. Readmissions contribute significantly to the cost of health care—costs borne by insurance companies, hospitals, taxpayers (Medicaid and Medicare), patients, and families.

This sixth annual conference is open to anyone engaged in improving health care quality and transitions of care. Stakeholders in King, Snohomish, Pierce, and Kitsap counties are particularly encouraged to participate. Based upon previous participation, it is anticipated that 300 individuals will attend the 2017 conference, representing more than 75 organizations. [Register for the conference and learn more about sponsor and advertising opportunities.](#)

### **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 our work, and we have an online tool to help you talk about the value of Alliance membership. [Learn more at our Join Us website.](#)

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## ON THE BLOG

Alliance launches new Community Checkup website with advanced interactivity

Addressing disparities in care

Looking ahead in 2017

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