

# UPDATE for the Community



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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am pleased to announce that last week the Alliance released a new members-only report on Hospital Value. The report looks at the three components of value in health care: quality, patient experience and cost.

The report ranks 48 hospitals based on the results for eight mortality measures and five patient safety measures using three years of publicly available data. We also include patient-reported ratings from the most widely used hospital patient experience survey. Finally, the Alliance uses publicly available, hospital-specific data from the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to look at the amount of money each hospital charged for the services they provided to Medicare beneficiaries for inpatient stays.

This report is available only for Alliance members. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact John Gallagher at [jgallagher@wahealthalliance.org](mailto:jgallagher@wahealthalliance.org).

You can read more details about the report [here](#). I look forward to continuing the dialogue about how we can work together to improve the value of care for all the residents of our state.

Sincerely,  
Nancy A. Giunto  
Executive Director

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## ALLIANCE UPDATES

- [Alliance representatives visit Spokane](#)
- [Alliance chosen to present at NRHI summit in August](#)
- [New Own Your Health articles](#)
- [Download the new Choosing Wisely iPhone app](#)

### 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

- Washington State DOH Older Adult Falls Prevention Survey is open until August 31
- Registration open for free conference on practice transformation success
- Register for the Northwest Communication and Resolution Program Leader Retreat
- Save the Date: Healthier Washington Symposium is Oct. 18-19
- We're hiring!
- Joining the Alliance!

### Alliance representatives visit Spokane

On July 25th, Nancy Giunto, Susie Dade and members of the Board of Directors, Fred Jarrett and Ron Sims, traveled to Spokane to learn more about the local market and to talk about the Alliance's work with a variety of stakeholder groups.

The Alliance convoy met with several major purchasers including leaders at Gonzaga University, Washington State University and Washington Trust Bank, as well as with a team from the community business organization Greater Spokane Inc.

Through a session run by Susie Dade, the Alliance talked with about 20 providers representing many of the major health care organizations in Spokane and surrounding areas. We are grateful for the warm reception by long-term partners who know us well and continue to help drive our work. Thanks also to members of Providence's Eastern Washington executive leadership team who met with Nancy, Fred and Ron.

The Alliance Board of Director's meeting was hosted by WSU. Thank you to outgoing Board Member Chancellor Lisa Brown and her team for the hospitality and support throughout the day and throughout her tenure at the university.



### Alliance chosen to present at NRHI summit in August

The Alliance is one of seven organizations chosen to present at a Network for Regional Healthcare Improvement (NRHI) summit, "Leading Transformation Efforts to Improve

Health." The event, to be held August 15 in Madison, WI, brings together national thought leaders and regional health improvement collaboratives. John Gallagher, Director of Communication and Development for the Alliance, will present on our work addressing the opioid epidemic in Washington state. He will discuss moving the data results in the [Different Region, Different Care](#) report to the [infographics](#) developed for consumers and providers in partnership with the Bree Collaborative.



### New Own Your Health articles

New articles on Own Your Health include [How to Manage Depression](#) and [Helping Loved Ones Manage Medications](#). The resources on Own Your Health can help you and your employees make good decisions about your health and become

on our LinkedIn company page.

**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.**

 WA Health Alliance

 1,421 followers  
3,403 tweets  
following 797 people

[follow](#)

### Latest Tweets

- "The amount of harm stemming from inappropriate prescription medication is staggering." <https://t.co/7zZVBOYhmU> 8:14AM
- We now take more pills than ever. Is that doing more harm than good? via @ConsumerReports <https://t.co/7zZVBOGFYk> 7:57AM
- DYK the Community Checkup reports results for more than 120 individual measures? Find what you're interested in: <https://t.co/UCZNYGND2B> 2:21PM
- Professional Athletes And Back Surgery: A Teachable Moment On #Overuse In Health Care? <https://t.co/YwIXGiZJCI> 12:04PM
- For more on mental health care and treatment in WA state: <https://t.co/nfmnCmsH5O> #MentalHealthMatters <https://t.co/pQOMKBWc7A> 12:05PM

savvy health care shoppers.



### Download the new Choosing Wisely iPhone app

The ABIM Foundation has launched a [Choosing Wisely iPhone app](#) to further awareness of the campaign among clinicians and patients. The app makes the 500 specialty society recommendations available at the touch of an iPhone screen with iPad and Android apps coming soon.

Providers can search the recommendations using keywords as well as filter by specialty, age, setting and service (i.e., imaging, medication, treatment, lab, test). Additionally, recommendations are linked to relevant patient-friendly resources which consumers can share via text or email.



### Washington State DOH Older Adult Falls Prevention Survey is open until August 31

The purpose of this survey is to obtain feedback from older adults and other community members regarding what should be included in the first WA State

Older Adult Falls Prevention Action Plan, which is being developed by the Department of Health (DOH) in partnership with the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). The data from this survey will be used to help the Action Plan Advisory Group set priorities and develop recommendations that reflect the diverse needs and perspectives of individuals from across Washington State. [Take the survey.](#)



### Registration open for free conference on practice transformation success

Steering Toward Success: Achieving Value in Whole-Person Care is a free, one-day conference designed to help behavioral health agencies, primary

care practices, providers and interested stakeholders who are transitioning to whole-person care. This conference will provide an opportunity to learn best practices, strategies, and the latest information on practice transformation including value-based care, and physical and behavioral health integration, from some of the state's leading experts. The conference is presented by the Healthier Washington Practice Transformation Support Hub and its partners, including the Alliance. The conference will be offered on Sept. 25 in Tacoma and on Oct. 26 in Moses Lake. [Learn more.](#)



### Register for the Northwest Communication and Resolution Program Leader Retreat

Learn how your organization can implement an effective communication and resolution program at this retreat for healthcare leaders. The retreat, titled

"Achieving Benefits, Avoiding Pitfalls," will be held at the Seattle Airport Marriott on Sept. 27-28. The retreat is hosted by the Collaborative for Accountability and Improvement and The

Foundation for Health Care Quality. [Register here.](#)

A Commitment to Value

Healthier WASHINGTON

**SAVE THE DATE**

When: October 18 & 19  
Where: Seattle

Day 1: Purchaser Conference—Opportunity for dialogue between providers & purchasers, and highlighting strategies to advance value-based purchasing.

Day 2: Healthier Washington Symposium—Shared learning and focus on how we can commit to value-based purchasing, improved care delivery.

Registration information coming soon to [hca.wa.gov/hw](http://hca.wa.gov/hw) #HWsymposium

## Save the Date: Healthier Washington Symposium is Oct. 18-19

The two-day Purchaser Conference and Healthier Washington Symposium brings together key partners from around the state to learn, collaborate and engage. Partners are invited to bring new ideas and proposals for strengthening Healthier Washington efforts, and have opportunities for reaction and dialogue. This year the theme is “A Commitment to Value.” [Learn more here.](#)

### 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

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about membership in the Alliance, we have an online tool to help you learn about the value of Alliance membership. [Learn more at our Join Us website.](#)

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