

# Introduction the Washington Health Alliance

**Washington Health Alliance:  
Leading Health System  
Improvement Since 2005**

**Microsoft Corporation  
Healthcare NExt  
October 22, 2018**

# Washington Health Alliance

- **13 year history.** Grassroots effort gave us our start in 2005.
- **Multi-stakeholder.** 185+ member organizations statewide representing health care purchasers, health plans, providers and other health partners.
- **Purchaser-led.** The majority of our *governing* members represent employers and labor union trusts.
- **Non-profit.** We are a designated 501 (c)3.
- **Non-partisan.** We engage in lobbying efforts on a very limited basis and only on topics that are directly related to our mission and core work.
- Started in Puget Sound, **expanded statewide in 2013.**

# Examples of the Alliance's Broad Membership



MERCER



The Everett Clinic



MultiCare Rockwood Clinic



# The Alliance's Mission and Vision

## Mission

The mission of the Washington Health Alliance is to build and maintain a strong alliance among purchasers, providers, health plans, and consumers to promote health and improve the quality and affordability of the health care system in Washington state.

## Vision

Physicians, other providers and hospitals in Washington will achieve top 10% performance in the nation in the delivery of equitable, high quality, evidence-based care and in the reduction of unwarranted variation, resulting in a significant reduction in the rate of medical cost trend.

# Alliance: Two Main Functions

We are a trusted convener for stakeholders, promoting a collective conversation to transform care delivery and financing.



Performance measurement and reporting is a core competency of the Washington Health Alliance.

A hand is holding a transparent book open against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The book's pages are clear, allowing the sky to be seen through them. The text is printed in a dark blue, sans-serif font on the pages.

**At the  
Alliance . . .**

**Transparency  
was always  
part of  
the plan**



**The best health care in the world is somewhere.  
It's just not everywhere.**

***-Don Berwick, MD***

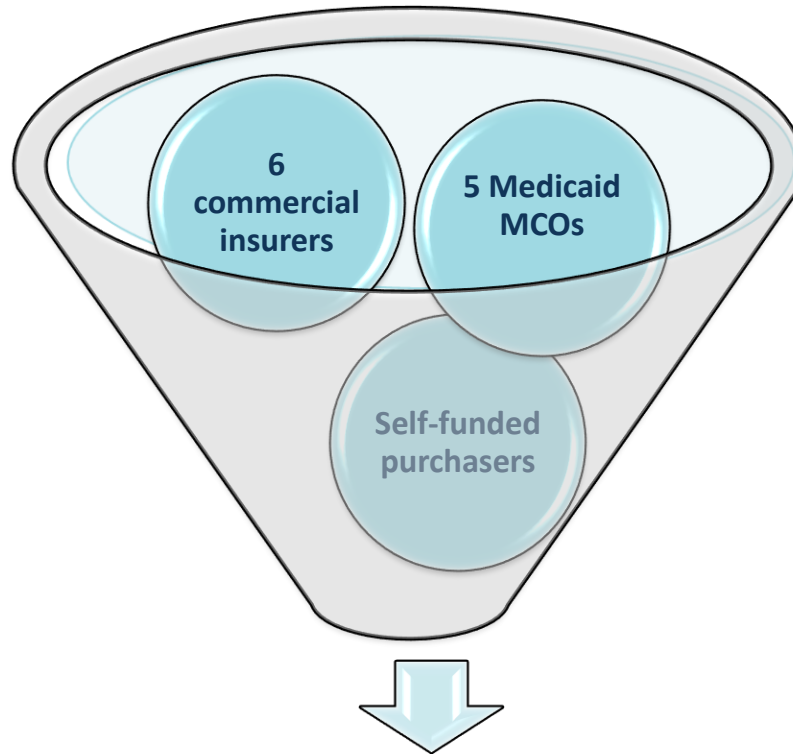
**Variation in health care in Washington (and elsewhere) is persistent and ubiquitous, and it's a bigger problem than you may think.**

**Where you live and what door you walk through has a big impact on the quality of health care that you receive.**

# Today: Performance Measurement is a Core Competency of the Alliance



Data Sources:  
Washington  
Health Alliance  
All Payer Claims  
Database



**Medical and pharmacy claims  
for ~4 million Washingtonians**

- Began aggregating data in 2007
- Data going back to 2004
- Today: 35 Data Submitters





2018 COMMUNITY CHECKUP REPORT

## Improving Health Care in Washington State

[www.WACommunityCheckup.org](http://www.WACommunityCheckup.org)

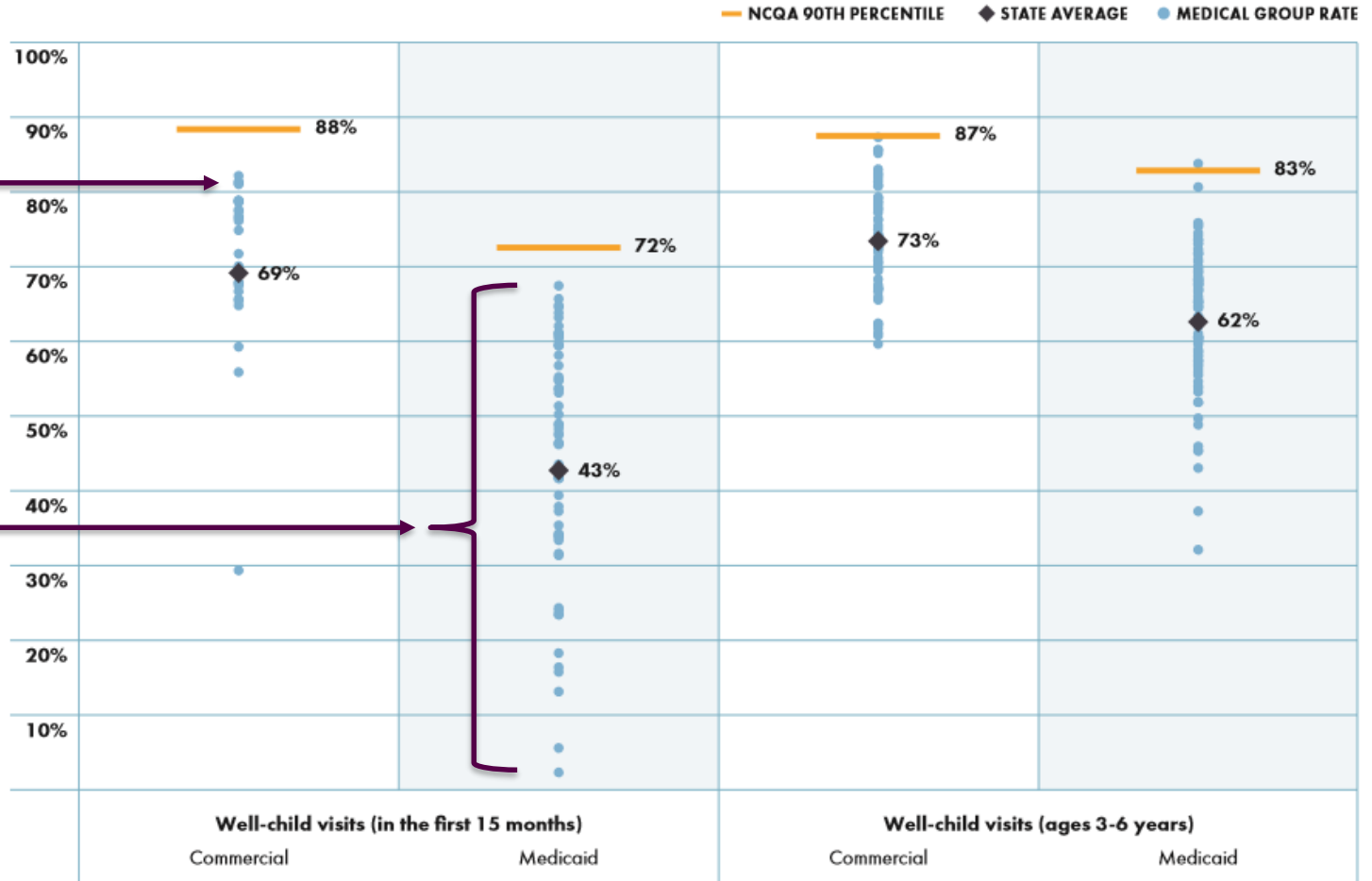


# Variation in health care

Figure 3: Variation among **Medical Groups** for Well-Child Visits

Each dot is a  
medical group

Wide variation  
on important  
measures of  
quality



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEDICAL GROUP TOP PERFORMERS!

The following medical groups have ranked among the top five since implementation of the Statewide Common Measure Set (2015-2018). Results differ for Commercial and Medicaid.

### Medical Groups (Commercial)

- Kaiser Permanente Washington
- Swedish Medical Group
- Virginia Mason Medical Center

### Medical Groups (Medicaid)

- Kaiser Permanente Washington

Additionally, we would like to call out those medical groups that have been in the top five for three out of the four years:

### Medical Groups (Commercial)

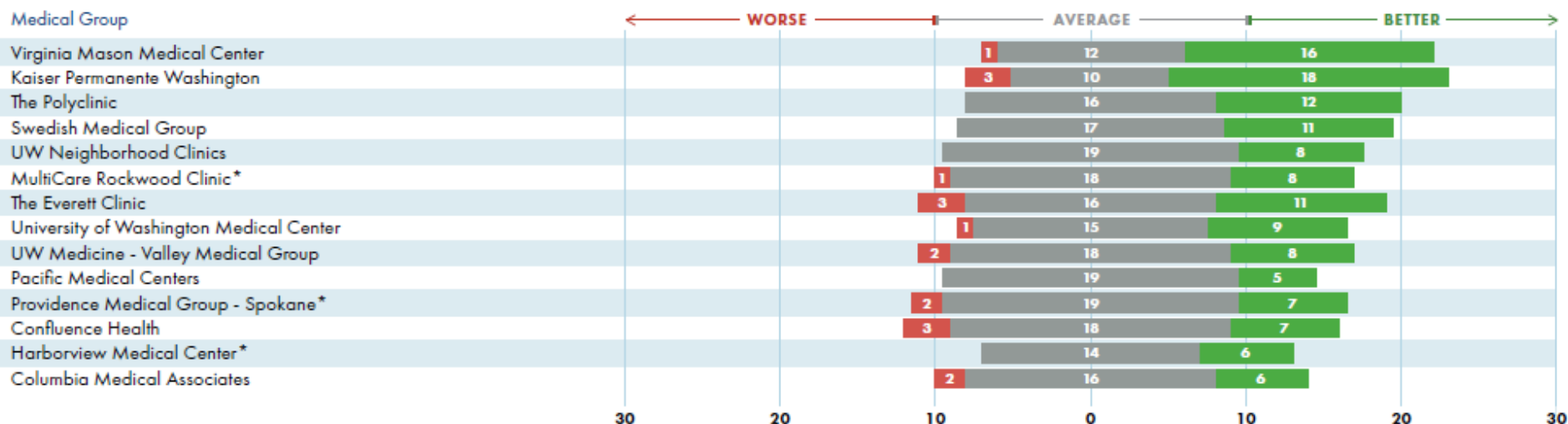
- The Everett Clinic

### Medical Groups (Medicaid)

- UW Medicine -Valley Medical Group

Other clinics and hospitals have shown improvement in specific measures in the past year. It is encouraging to see where progress is being made on important quality measures across the state. Congratulations to these medical groups!

Figure 5: Ranking Medical Group Performance for **Commercially-Insured**: Medical Groups That Have Results for **15 or More** Measures



# First, Do No Harm

## Calculating Health Care Waste in Washington State

November 2018

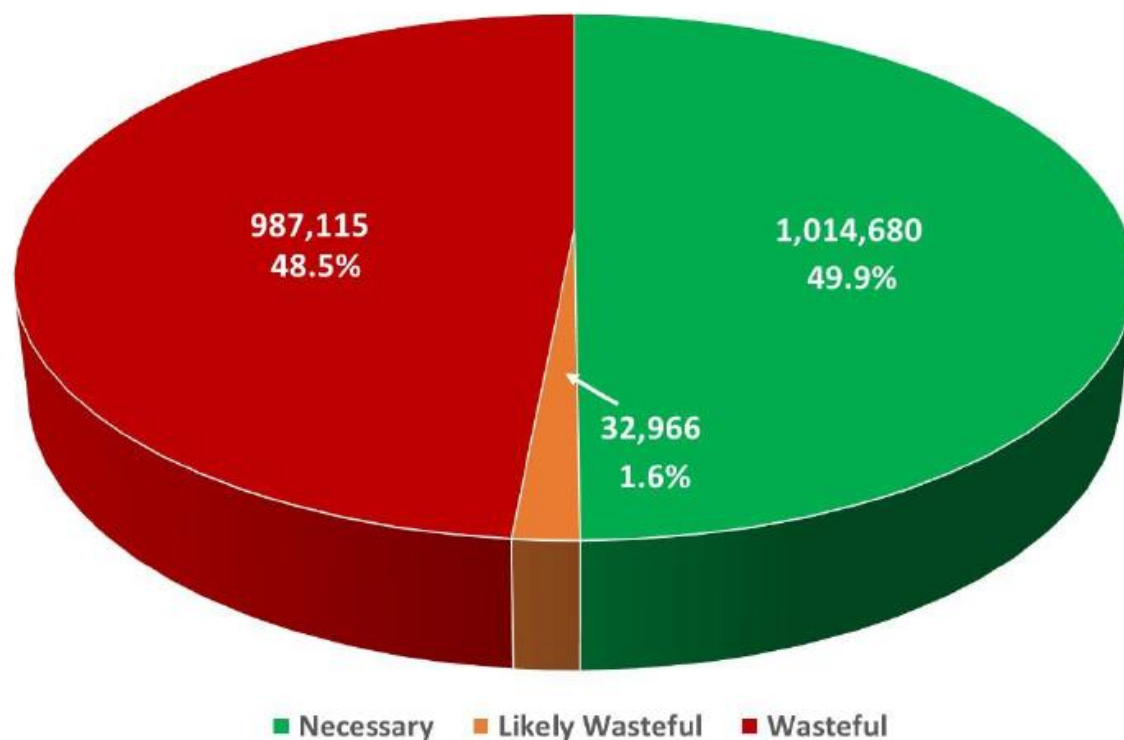


**WHA** WASHINGTON  
HEALTH  
ALLIANCE  
Leading health system improvement



# Health Waste Calculator Results Overall (Commercial, Medicaid Combined)

Total Individuals Receiving Services  
(Commercial + Medicaid)



48 Measures, 1 Year

2,034,761 individuals\*  
received services

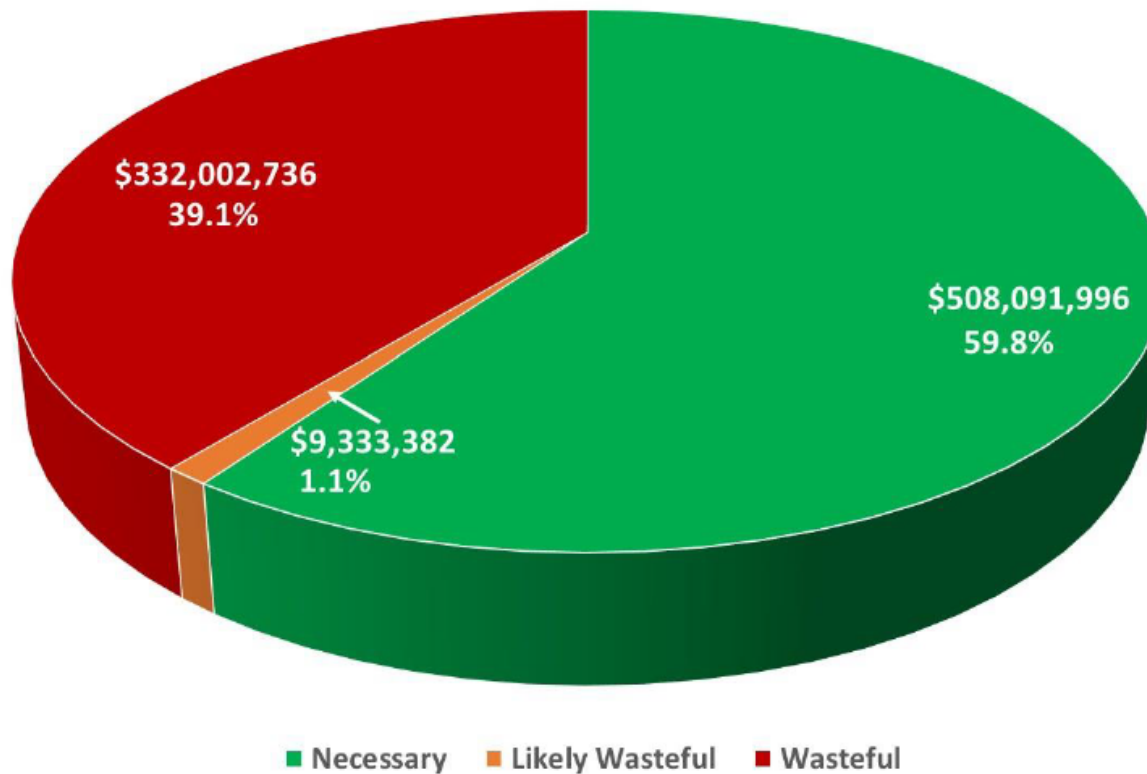
**1,020,081 (50.1%)**  
individuals\* received  
low-value\*\* services

\* Individuals counted each time  
they receive a service (i.e., *distinct*  
individuals are counted more than  
once if they receive more than one  
service)

\*\* Low-value includes Likely  
Wasteful + Wasteful

# Health Waste Calculator Results Overall (Commercial, Medicaid Combined)

Estimated Spending (Commercial and Medicaid)



48 Measures, 1 Year

Approximately \$849 million was spent

Approximately **\$341 million (40.2%)** was spent on low-value\* services

\*Low-value includes Likely Wasteful + Wasteful



## Questions?



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Since 2005**