

# UPDATE for Alliance Participants



## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Participant,

Earlier this year, the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) received a grant from the CMS Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation to support work on a comprehensive State Health Care Innovation Plan. To get a significant piece of work completed in a tight timeframe, the HCA subcontracted different elements of the work to different organizations, including the Alliance.

Over a five-month period, the Alliance brought together more than 50 thought leaders in health care, business and labor, and state government to develop a change management strategy for transforming the health care delivery system. By design, the Alliance's work stream focused on health care delivered in the hospital and ambulatory care settings (provider facilities and offices.)

The emphasis of the work has been on strategies that can be aligned and implemented across multiple payers, providers, and purchasers to significantly accelerate healthcare transformation across the State.

The Alliance provided its final deliverable to the HCA last month. The report called out three key objectives for health care delivery transformation in Washington State:

1. Improve health and reduce the incidence of chronic conditions and major acute conditions through effective prevention and screening.

## UPCOMING ALLIANCE MEETINGS

Alliance Participants are welcome to attend any Alliance Board, committee or work group meeting, with the exception of Board retreats. For complete upcoming meeting schedules, go to "Upcoming Meetings" on our [participant website](#). If you have a question, contact [Jennifer Loyd](#).

### Board of Directors

10/29, 2:30 - 4:30, [Alliance Office Building](#)  
Community Conference Room, Suite 205

No meeting in November

### Consumer Engagement Committee

11/13, 10-11 a.m., Teleconference

### Health Economics Committee

11/14, 8:30-10:30 a.m., [Alliance Office](#)

### Quality Improvement Committee

No meeting in November

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### All Alliance Meeting

Wednesday, October 23

[One Union Square Boardroom](#)

Intel Corporation: Healthcare as a Supply Chain.

[Click here](#) to RSVP at your earliest convenience.

**American Heart Association's National Eating Healthy Day**

2. Effectively manage chronic conditions, including both physical and behavioral health conditions, particularly for complex patients.

3. Use the lowest cost, highest quality care for acute, non-emergency conditions.

The report recommends a detailed four-part strategy to help achieve each of the three objectives:

- Redesign healthcare delivery to reduce cost, improve quality and improve patient experience.
- Restructure healthcare payment systems to support and reward providers who deliver high-value care.
- Restructure healthcare benefit design to enable and encourage patients to improve their health and use high-value healthcare services.
- Educate and encourage state residents to improve their health and use high-value healthcare services.

One important conclusion from the work is that for transformation to occur, all four parts of the strategy must be implemented in sync with one another. Any one strategy or implementation by any one stakeholder group in isolation is likely to be far less effective than aligned efforts implemented at the same time across multiple payers, purchasers and provider groups.

Each stakeholder has a role to play in achieving these goals. Ultimately, to gain real traction, the fee-for-service payment system should be phased out in favor of larger bundles of care and greater provider accountability for cost and quality. Consumers need clear financial incentives to make choices based on value, and purchasers have to help drive that process in collaboration with payers and providers. The report findings also recognize that rural areas, small providers, and providers with unique needs will need additional help to transform their care delivery systems.

The report suggests that the State build upon current efforts for performance measurement and transparency

Wednesday, November 6

Mark your calendar for the American Heart Association's 5th annual event to help us eat healthy. [Click here](#) for more information and to register and receive your healthy eating tool kit by the end of October.

#### Next CPIN Webinar

How to Conduct a Rapid Process Improvement Workshop

Wed., October 16, 12:15-1:15 p.m.

[Click here](#) for more information and to register

#### LEARN MORE

#### 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. The website is regularly updated with new information and data; for example, new results for hospital measures from the Leapfrog Group and Hospital Compare.

[Learn more](#)

#### Follow the Alliance on Twitter

We invite you to follow the Alliance on Twitter [@WAHealthCheckup](#). With more than 700 followers, we're leveraging the power of social media to share important, real-time information about health care. Join the conversation by following the Alliance on Twitter.

For comments about the Update for Participants please [email John Gallagher](#).

*The Puget Sound Health Alliance is a regional partnership involving employers, physicians, hospitals, patients, health plans, and others working together to improve quality and efficiency while reducing the rate of health care cost increases across King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish and Thurston counties.*

through a planned build-out of an all payer claims database, common performance measures, and expanded health information exchange capacity.

The State is busily bringing together the work from all of the different planning work streams to formulate a State Health Innovation Plan which will also build upon the many progressive efforts already occurring. This week, the State will announce the major elements of the Innovation Plan to the public via a webinar on Tuesday, October 15. If Washington State is successful in preparing a plan that CMS approves, then the state will be welcome to submit a State Innovation Model application, which are for large, multi-year federal grants.

I want to thank all of the participants who worked with the Alliance in the course of this project. Their insights and energy highlighted once again why Washington continues to be at the forefront of system change. In particular, I'd like to thank Susie Dade, the Alliance's deputy director, who led the Alliance's work on this plan. Susie's organizational skills and deep knowledge contributed immensely to the final success of the report.

Mary McWilliams  
Executive Director

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## **ALLIANCE NEWS**

[All Alliance Meeting - October 23](#)  
[Take the Community Forums Network Survey](#)  
[Healthcare Enrollment is Underway](#)  
[New CPIN Webinars - October and November](#)

### **All Alliance Meeting**

Wednesday, October 23

[One Union Square Boardroom](#)

Keynote Speakers Ian Crisp, Director of Strategic Sourcing, Intel Corporation and Lukas Forney, Global Benefits Sourcing Manager, Intel Corporation

What if companies approached buying health care as if it was a supply chain? That's what Intel has done, with some remarkable results. Come listen to Intel's Ian Crisp, Director of Strategic Sourcing, and Lukas Forney, Global Benefits Sourcing Manager, describe the company's innovative Employee Healthcare Strategy, and the changes that they've seen, both in savings and employee behavior, because of it.

This meeting is free and open to Alliance members. Please [click here](#) to rsvp at your earliest convenience.

### **Take a Survey on Health Care in Washington and Help the Alliance!**

The Alliance is partnering with [Community Forums Network \(CFN\)](#), a nonpartisan public engagement organization whose mission is to bring people together and to discover consensus on important topics. We are helping CFN gather citizen feedback on health care in the first of a two-part series called ***“Health Care in Washington: A new direction – Part I”***

How will the changing healthcare landscape impact you? Do these changes reflect what you believe about equity and fairness, responsibility, and transparency — important values that need to be a part of the healthcare policy conversation. Results from the survey are shared with state decision makers and the media.

CFN provides grants based on partner participation. You can help the Alliance win an unrestricted grant by [taking a short survey](#) and **selecting the Alliance from the partner list at the end.**

It's easy to participate through the online survey. We encourage you to [click on this link](#) and to forward the link to people you know in Washington State. Be sure to ask your friends and colleagues to select the Alliance as well! [back to top](#)

### **Enrollment is Underway**

King County and partner organization are currently hosting events where people can get help enrolling in Washington Healthplanfinder. Help spread the word about upcoming events:

#### **Eastside**

Crossroads Bellevue Shopping Center  
Saturday, October 19, 10 a.m. -3 p.m.

#### **South King County**

Kent Memorial Park Building  
Saturday, November 9, 1-5 p.m.[back to top](#)

### **New CPIN Webinars 10/16 and 11/13**

The Clinical Performance Improvement Network

(CPIN) has announced their September - December webinar line-up. These activities have been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™. For information about these webinars and more visit [www.wsma.org/cpin](http://www.wsma.org/cpin)

How to Conduct a Rapid Process

The next two CPIN webinars are:

Improvement Workshop

Wednesday, October 16, 12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

[Register](#)

The Physician's Role in End-of-Life Conversations  
Wednesday, November 13, 12:15–1:15 p.m.

[Register](#)

The Alliance has joined with the Washington State Medical Association and the Washington Academy of Family Physicians to create CPIN, an educational program designed to assist physician practices focus efforts on quality improvement.

The goal of CPIN is to offer opportunities for medical practices to collaborate with one another, sharing best practices, proven innovations, and resources to stimulate accelerated and efficient implementation into practice settings. [back to top](#)

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### Spotlight on Improvement

Learn how eastern Washington patients are receiving improved care through Providence Sacred Heart's collaborative Cardiac Level 1 Program. [Read Spotlight on Improvement](#)  
[back to top](#)

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### Board of Directors Update

The Alliance Board of Directors met for a closed-session retreat in September. The next open session Board meeting is Tuesday, October 29. The Alliance Board does not meet in the month of November. [back to top](#)

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### Resources

#### Advances

This is a monthly report on the projects and progress of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The September issue includes the article "TV Ads for Fast Foods Use Toys and Movies to Reach Kids". [Read Advances](#)

**V-BID Center Update** The University of Michigan Center for Value-Based Insurance Design

tweets relevant articles from around the country.

[Learn more](#)

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