

UPDATE for the Community



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Last week, I had the opportunity to attend the *Seattle Business* magazine awards gala to recognize Health Care Leaders in the state. It was wonderful to see Alliance members and allies, and to take a moment to acknowledge the important work we do.

This year, the Alliance recognized outstanding performers from our third edition of *First, Do No Harm*, using the Milliman MedInsight Health Waste Calculator to calculate how much unnecessary or likely unnecessary care was delivered to Washington residents of the 47 tests, treatments, and procedures commonly regarded as overused by Choosing Wisely and the US Preventive Services Task Force.

[\(Read the full letter HERE\)](#)

ALLIANCE UPDATES

- [All-Alliance Meeting, April 3rd, One Union Square](#)
- [Help us spread the word to reduce unnecessary medical care and win a chance for a \\$50 gift card!](#)
- [The Alliance Welcomes New Member Southwest Washington Accountable Community of Health](#)
- [Joining the Alliance](#)



Join Us for the Next All-Alliance Meeting on April 3rd at One Union Square Boardroom

How do we address skyrocketing pharmaceutical prices and what are the new roles for purchasers, insurers, health care providers, and patients to ensure appropriate access, moderate prices, and sustain

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](#).

investments in research and development? Those are the questions we will address in our next All-Alliance meeting.

Our guest speaker, James Robinson, PhD, MPH, is the Leonard D. Schaeffer Professor of Health Economics and the Director of the UC Berkeley Center for Health Technology, which supports research projects for innovative technologies including biopharmaceuticals, medical devices, and diagnostics. Dr. Robinson is sure to offer us a lively discussion of the key issues and strategies on this challenging topic. His presentation will be followed by a panel discussion with different stakeholders sharing their unique perspectives: policy-makers, purchasers, plans, and PhRMA.

The other questions we will be answering at this All-Alliance is how do you commemorate 15 years of remarkable service and what will Alliance Deputy Director Susie Dade do after she steps down in early April? Please join us for a few moments after our program to recognize Susie's vast and varied contributions to the Alliance since its early days.

Doors will open at 9 am for a continental breakfast and networking. The program will begin at 9:30 am.

Space is limited and is only open to Alliance members. If you would like information about Alliance membership, please contact Theresa Lampkin Tamura at 206.454.2957 or ttamura@wahealthalliance.org.

The meeting will be held at 600 University Street, Seattle, WA, 98101. The boardroom is on the street level behind the escalators.

Paid parking is available at the Union Square Garage (601 Union Street), US Bank Centre (1401 5th Ave), and One Convention Place (701 Pike Street).

We look forward to seeing you there!



Help us spread the word to reduce unnecessary medical care and win a chance for a \$50 gift card!

The Alliance's Consumer Education Committee is embarking on a "More Isn't Always Better" campaign to help reduce low-value care and would like your input on some poster ideas.

Visit [this webpage](#), review the four options, and complete [this short survey](#). By submitting your feedback by March 10th, you will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card!

Thanks for your help!

The Alliance Welcomes New Member Southwest Washington Accountable Community of Health



Southwest Accountable Community of Health (SWACH) is a nonprofit working to improve community health and equity

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.

in Clark, Klickitat and Skamania Counties, that partners with numerous clinical and community-serving organizations to accomplish their mission. Their partners include Children's Home Society, Council for the Homeless, Cowlitz Tribal Mental Health, Family Solutions, and Vancouver Housing Authority. SWACH has dedicated significant resources to its Medicaid transformation efforts, reducing opioid use, coordinating care, and clinical integration.

SWACH Healthy Living Collaborative & Community Health Worker Manager Diana Avalos-Leos was recently named Clark County First Citizen 2020 by the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington, in recognition of her exemplary community service. Avalos-Leos founded Clark County Latino Youth Conference and has served on several boards, including Washington State Hispanic Youth Plan, SW Washington League of Latin American Citizens Council, and Vancouver Police Department Chief Diversity Board. She has received other awards for her work, including the 1995 Washington State Migrant Education Program Award and the YWCA Val Joshua Racial Justice Award, and was recently appointed by Governor Jay Inslee to the Washington Exchange Board.

[Learn more about SWACH here.](#)

Joining the Alliance

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