

UPDATE for the Community



April 2021: Collaboration is Key

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Alliance is often recognized for our ability to bring together diverse voices to address an issue or a challenge.

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

ALLIANCE UPDATES

- [Interoperability 2.0](#)
- [Alliance Vaccination Update](#)
- [The Alliance Welcomes New Member Moss Adams](#)



Interoperability 2.0

The Alliance is continuing its work to accelerate value-based payment success across all parts of our health care system with our *2021 Framework for Action Webinar Series* presented in partnership with Bree Collaborative. These webinars focus on four “accelerators for change” that require meaningful attention if we are to be successful in working together to improve health and health care in Washington state. Our upcoming webinar on April 15th asks the critical question, “Why don’t we all just talk to each other?!” This is an opportunity for all of us to engage in the important conversations we need to have to improve interoperability that is patient-centered with the focus on optimizing care for individuals and populations under value-based payment models. Joining us:

- **Julia Adler-Milstein, PhD**, Professor of Medicine and Director of the Center for Clinical Informatics and Improvement Research (CLIR) at University of California San Francisco will provide a national perspective on why interoperability matters to value-based success and how technology advances and strong policies are important

LEARN MORE

Join Us

To find out about the benefits of joining the Alliance, email Theresa Lampkin Tamura, Director of Membership and Business Engagement, at tamura@wahealthalliance.org.

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.](#)

Visit Own Your Health

The Own Your Health website offers guidance for consumers to make informed health care decision. [Learn more.](#)

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foundations, but insufficient on their own to drive change. There must also be meaningful and aligned incentives to build the kind of interoperability required for value-based success.

- **Vishal Chaudhry**, Chief Data Officer, and **Cathie Ott**, Information Technology Strategic Advisor, from the Washington State Health Care Authority, will discuss this topic from the state agency perspective. We will get an honest assessment of how we are doing currently, where we need to go, who needs to be involved, and what we need to focus on to be successful.
- **Elya Prystowsky, PhD**, Executive Director of the Rural Health Collaborative, will moderate a panel of health care leaders to discuss the role interoperability plays in efforts to improve health and health care in Washington state under value-based payment models. Are the incentives truly aligned? Are the incentives significant enough to drive meaningful change?

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.

More information and a registration link is available [here](#).

You can also view a recording of our the first Framework for Action webinar on ways we can work collectively to address social determinants of health [here](#).

Alliance Vaccination Update

More than 1.3 million people in Washington state are now fully vaccinated against Covid-19 and more than 3.4 million doses of vaccine have been administered since vaccine rollout began in mid-December, according to the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). Nearly 15%, or more than one out of every seven Washingtonians, has been fully vaccinated.

“These milestones showcase the hard work and commitment to vaccination happening across our state,” said Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Washington’s new Secretary of Health. “Vaccination is a critical tool we need to bring the Covid-19 pandemic to an end. This is a community effort and every single Washingtonian who receives a vaccine is helping us get closer to crossing the finish line.” People who are fully vaccinated can reunite with others, as long as they follow new CDC [guidance](#).

Starting April 15th, all residents 16 and older will be eligible to receive the Covid-19 vaccine. The DOH is encouraging people to use the state’s [Vaccine Locator](#) to find an appointment. Those who have questions or need help making an appointment can call the state’s Covid-19 information hotline at 1-800-525-0127 or text 211-211. You can also text the word “Coronavirus” to 211-211 to receive information and updates by phone, including county-level updates, resources for families, businesses, students, and more.

The DOH announced it is changing the process of informing people of vaccine eligibility and availability. Now, Phase Finder, the state’s online vaccine eligibility tool, is no longer required. That change will help speed up the process by reducing barriers for eligible

individuals, says Michele Roberts, one of the state leaders for the Covid-19 vaccine rollout. Nearly 80% of Washingtonians say they plan to get the vaccine when it's their turn, an increase from 65% in December. "We trust most people will continue to do the right thing and wait their turn to be vaccinated."

More Covid Resources

Updates for employers and business owners. Sign up for the Economic Resiliency Team weekly business and worker [newsletter](#) from the Washington Department of Commerce.

Reopening guidance for businesses and workers. A full list of current reopening [guidance](#) from the Governor's Office is now available.

Testing locations. People can [find](#) Covid-19 testing locations throughout the state.

Washington Listens helps people manage Covid-related stress and anxiety. If you or anyone you know is having difficulties managing stress, call the Washington Listens support line at 1-833-681-0211. TTY and language access services are available by using 7-1-1 or their preferred method. Resources and self-help tips are also [available](#).

Vaccination Volunteer Opportunities

Here are some places you can volunteer to support vaccine distribution efforts:

- [International Community Health Services](#) or contact Foundation Executive Director Heidi Wong at heidw@ichs.com or 206.788.3585
- [Seattle Indian Health Board](#)
- [Business Health Trust](#)
- [DOH Community Health Volunteer Registry](#)
- [Volunteer Match](#)



[The Alliance Welcomes New Member Moss Adams](#)

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Learn more about Moss Adams [here](#).

Joining the Alliance

To find out about the benefits of joining the Alliance, email Theresa Lampkin Tamura, Director of Membership and Business Engagement, at ttamura@wahealthalliance.org.

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