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Dear Medical Officer,

Congratulations on your leadership appointment!

As Physician Liaison, I personally welcome you to the Washington State Hospital Association and the Washington State Medical Association’s Medical Officer Collaboration on behalf of the numerous members, affiliations, and staff.

As you know, hospitals and physicians face numerous challenges in today’s changing health care environment requiring advocacy, community partnerships, and intelligence.

As a dynamic, constantly evolving health care advocacy and expertise epicenter, WSHA continually strives to enhance patient quality and safety with current evidence-based comprehension and skill. As the state’s largest physician professional association, the WSMA has the unique role of helping physician leaders appreciate how their insight, judgment and credibility can help shape our health care system for the betterment of all patients.

I am certain you will find this brief, yet concise packet useful to understand what resources are available to you. I look forward to our future collaborations to enhance health care quality and safety for our communities.

Sincerely,

John Vassall, MD
Physician Advisor, WSHA
Trustee, WSMA Board
Chair, Medical Officer Advisory Group
### About the Washington State Hospital Association

The Washington State Hospital Association is a membership organization representing 99 community hospitals and several health-related organizations. WSHA advocates for and provides value to members in achieving their mission and improving the health of their communities.

WSHA works collaboratively with members and partners to improve the health of the people of the state by becoming involved in all matters affecting the delivery, quality, accessibility, affordability and continuity of health care.

In 2005, WSHA launched the Patient Safety program to help hospitals improve patient safety by supporting the adoption of evidence-based protocols that have been proven to save lives. Most recently, the association has reduced harm by 23,000 and costs by $234 million over the last three years.

More information is available at [www.wsha.org](http://www.wsha.org). You can also receive updates from WSHA via Twitter by following @WAhospitals or “like” us on Facebook.

### About the Washington State Medical Association

The Washington State Medical Association is a not-for-profit 501c(6) organization formed in 1889. As a statewide medical association, WSMA represents physicians, physician assistants, residents/fellows and medical students in the state of Washington.

WSMA delivers advocacy that is patient focused and physician driven, working to help physicians deliver complete care patients can trust—regardless of practice setting or specialty. The WSMA provides tangible practice support and access to physician services, promotes quality cost-effective care and is your respected voice in the public arena.

WSMA operates the statewide campaign, Know Your Choices – Ask Your Doctor, which promotes various patient-centered health initiatives and enhances the relationship between patient and physician. With health care changing so dramatically and so quickly, it’s more important than ever for patients to have meaningful conversations about the best treatment options, expected outcomes, and quality of life choices. The campaign incorporates three initiatives: Choosing Wisely®, ER is for Emergencies, and end-of-life resources.

More information is available at [www.wsma.org](http://www.wsma.org). You can also receive updates from WSMA via Twitter by following @WSMA_update or “like” us on Facebook.

### Medical Officer Collaborative Safe Table

In the current healthcare environment hospitals and physicians may find themselves in competition for patients, nurses, clinical staff and financing. In spite of business competition however, we all have the same commitment to excellent patient care, quality and safety.

Safe Tables offer the necessary opportunity for hospitals and physicians who might be business competitors to put that competition aside and work together collaboratively to address patient safety and quality goals. According to a Joint Commission article describing the
state-wide initiative, “...by developing a program of Safe Table Collaboratives, large and small hospitals alike created a forum to improve care and make Washington nationally known for its patient safety achievements”.

The Medical Officer Learning Collaborative is a Safe Table forum for physician leaders to embrace current quality and safety issues and freely discuss improvement opportunities and barriers to success. These protected learning collaborative forums and work groups have resulted in measurable improvements and provide a place for physicians, hospital and medical group leaders to share best practices, seek advice from peers, and learn from national experts in a confidential setting.

For more information, contact Carol Wagner at carolw@wsha.org or Jessica Martinson at jessica@wsma.org.

Medical Officer Advisory Group

The WSHA and WSMA Medical Officer Advisory Group members are senior medical directors, vice presidents of medical affairs, and chief medical officers from hospitals and medical groups.

The Advisory Group oversees the Medical Officer work, including Safe Tables which bring together physician leaders who are guiding hospitals and medical groups in developing policies, procedures and structures to transform healthcare delivery in response to changing demands by patients, payers and regulators.

The Medical Officer Advisory Group works on behalf of Washington State hospitals and medical groups to develop strategies and implement programs to strengthen collaboration between physicians, hospitals, and medical groups. The advisory group is jointly appointed by WSHA and WSMA.

CALL TO ACTION INITIATIVES:

- **Choosing Wisely®** – A national initiative of the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Foundation, Choosing Wisely has enlisted more than 70 medical specialty societies to create lists of “Things Physicians and Patients Should Question” which provide specific evidence-based recommendations for conversations on the risks and benefits of various medical tests.

- **Honoring Choices Pacific Northwest** – Honoring Choices Pacific Northwest is an advanced care planning implementation program that aims to inspire conversations about the type of care people want if faced with a life threatening illness. This joint initiative of the Washington State Hospital Association and the Washington State Medical Association seeks to ensure that everyone in Washington state will receive care that honors personal values and goals at the end of life.

- **Care Improvement** – The medical officers, collaborating together between hospitals and clinics, are working to reduce harm to patients with the goal of providing care as good as or better than the best region of the country. The ambitious goal is to have seven strategies at this exceptional level by 2017. Through this initiative, hospitals and health care providers across the state are pledging to make health care safer, more reliable, and less costly — ultimately saving thousands of lives and millions of dollars.
Leadership Pulse is a periodic electronic newsletter for Medical Officers where you will find valuable information, resources, and an opportunity to share information and insights on relevant topics. Leadership Pulse covers leadership, quality, health care policy, hot issues and best practices. New members of the medical officer collaborative are automatically subscribed to Leadership Pulse. If there is a topic you would like to see included, please e-mail carolw@wsha.org or jessica@wsma.org.

Swap Ideas, Ask Questions on WSMA Medical Officer E-List

The Medical Officer e-list is an electronic discussion group. The e-list is intended to foster increased unity, collaboration and cooperation among Medical Officers in Washington State. All members are encouraged to pose and respond to questions, participate in discussions, offer ideas and share experiences with others in this forum.

Guidelines for using the Medical Officer E-List are available online at www.wsha.org/cmoelist.cfm.

Leadership Development Opportunities

WSMA & UW Physician Leadership Course
In partnership with the University of Washington Graduate Programs in Health Administration, and UW Professional and Continuing Education, the WSMA offers a 40+ hour interactive hybrid distance learning course focused on leadership and conflict management, strategic planning, safety and quality, finance, communication, and advocacy. The combined face-to-face and online learning enables physicians and physician assistants to develop and hone their leadership skills in a convenient manner without taking significant time away from their practice or personal lives.

For more information, please visit www.wsma.org/leadership-course.

WSMA Leadership Development Conference
The Leadership Development Conference is designed for physicians who are, or aspire to be, in leadership positions. This two-day conference hosts national experts, and each session is highly interactive with a focus on enhancing your leadership skills. You will walk out with concrete ideas and skills that you can immediately put to use. As health care becomes more complex, so does the complexity of the organizations involved in the provision of medical services—physician leadership is critical to the success of these organizations.

For more information, please visit www.wsma.org/LDC.
Medical Officer Advisory Group 2015

The Washington State Hospital Association (WSHA) and Washington State Medical Association (WSMA) Medical Officer Advisory Group members represent hospital and medical group CMOs in Washington. This committee is jointly sponsored by WSHA and WSMA to support these physician leaders in their leadership role.

The Medical Officer Advisory Group works on behalf of Washington State hospitals and medical groups to develop strategies and implement programs which strengthen hospital and physician relations. The group is jointly appointed by WSHA and WSMA. Below is a listing of physicians serving on the 2015 Advisory Group.

**CHAIR**
John Vassall II, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Swedish Health Services

**MEMBERS**
Mark Adams, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Franciscan Health System

John Bramhall, MD
Associate Medical Director
UW Medicine/ Harborview Medical Center

Kevin Caserta, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Providence Centralia Hospital

Jeff Collins, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Providence Health Care

Vik Dabhi, MD, PhD
Chief Medical Officer
Pacific Medical Centers

Mark Del Beccaro, MD
Senior Vice President
Chief Medical Officer
Seattle Children’s

Al Fisk, MD
Chief Medical Officer
The Everett Clinic

Michael Glenn, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Virginia Mason Medical Center

Rick Goss, MD
Medical Director
UW Medicine/ Harborview Medical Center

Dale Hoekema, MD
Vice President Medical Affairs
Chief Medical Officer
Kadlec Health System

R. Scott Kennedy, MD
Chief Medical Officer
Olympic Medical Center

Jim Polo, MD
Medical Vice President
MultiCare Mary Bridge Children’s Hospital

Greg Schroedl, MD
Vice President,
Medical/Chief Quality Officer
UW Medicine/ Northwest Hospital & Medical Center

Claire Spain-Remy, MD
Senior Vice President
MultiCare Medical Associates
MultiCare Health System

Tom Staiger, MD
Chief Medical Officer
University of Washington Medical Center

Jeff Tomlin, MD
Senior Vice President
Chief Medical Officer
EvergreenHealth

Michael J. Tronolone, MD
Medical Director
The Polyclinic

Kim Witkop, MD
Vice President for Medical Affairs
Snoqualmie Valley Hospitals & Clinics
Medical Officer Collaborative
LEADING CARE. ADVANCING HEALTH.

For more information, contact:

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