



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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May 5, 2021

ARNPs United of Washington State  
Washington Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
Washington State Dental Association  
Washington State Hospital Association  
Washington State Medical Association  
Washington State Medical Group Management Association  
Washington State Pharmacy Association  
Washington State Podiatric Medical Association

Dear Association Partners:

I am writing you regarding the requirement stemming from Senate Bill 5380 in 2019 for health care facilities, entities, offices, and provider groups of 10 or more prescribers that use federally-certified electronic health records systems (EHRs) to demonstrate their systems are integrated with the state Prescription Monitoring Program(PMP) by January 1, 2021. This requirement is now codified in Chapter 70.225 RCW.

As you are aware, in response to the COVID crisis, Secretary John Wiesman used the waiver authority contained in the bill in April 2020 to extend the implementation of the provisions of this bill until September 30, 2021. The state continues to engage in recovery efforts from the pandemic, our collective focus on which is of the utmost importance.

Therefore, I am exercising my authority under RCW 70.225.090(2)(b) to further extend by waiver the required date of compliance with the PMP/EHR integration mandate in RCW 70.225.090(2)(a) until January 1, 2022. At that time, all health care facilities, entities, offices, and provider groups subject to the EHR/PMP integration requirement must have integrated EHRs in compliance with RCW 70.225.090(2)(a) or have received a waiver to this requirement issued by the Department of Health.

Thank you for your continued commitment and partnership responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. I look forward to our ongoing partnership on this and many other public health issues and initiatives.

Sincerely,

Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH  
Secretary of Health

cc: Amber Leaders, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor  
Kristin Peterson, Assistant Secretary, Health Systems Quality Assurance, Department of Health  
Jessica Todorovich, Chief of Staff, Department of Health  
Elizabeth Perez, Director, Center for Public Affairs & Equity, Department of Health  
Kelly Cooper, Director, Policy & Legislative Relations, Department of Health