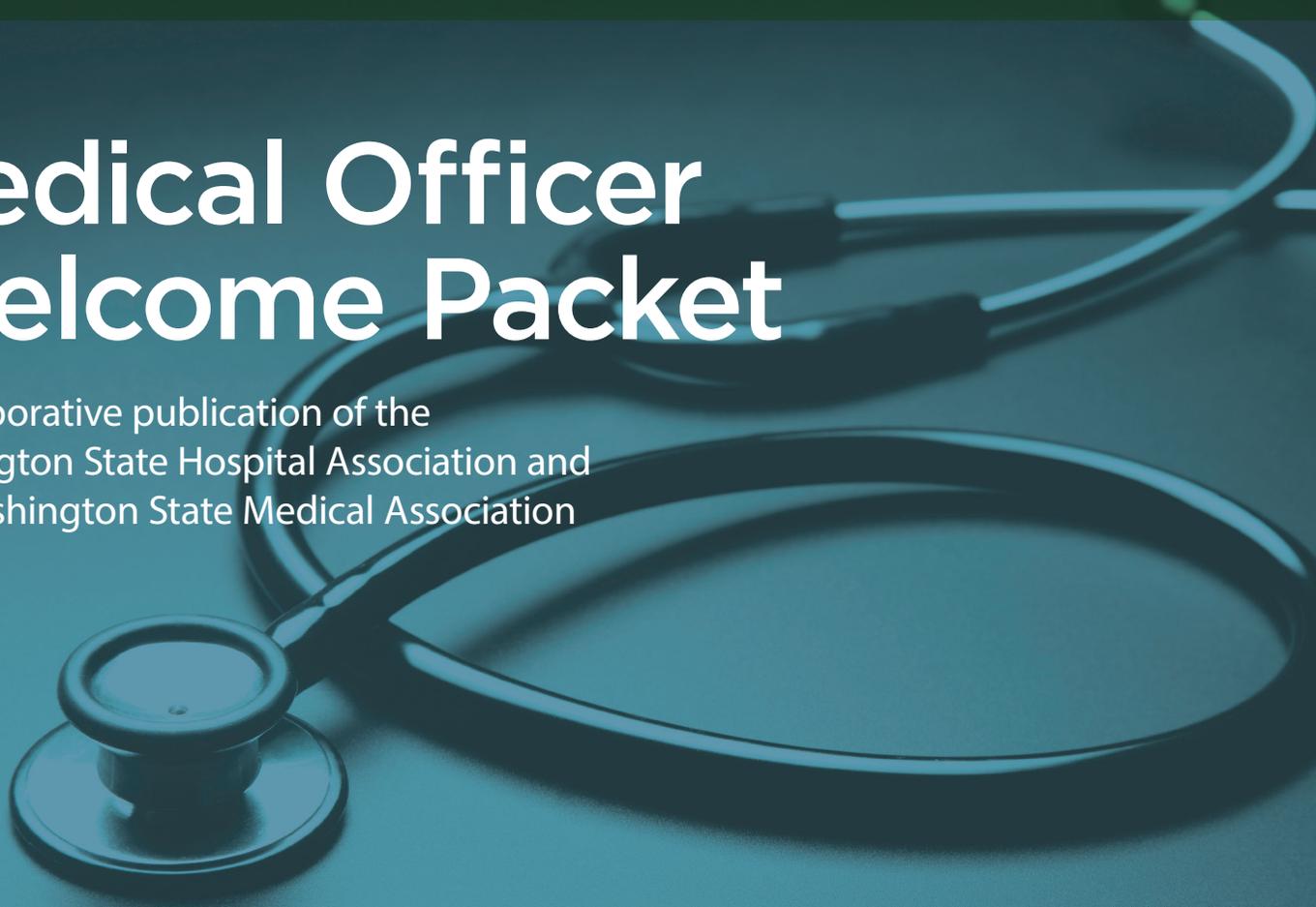




# Medical Officer Welcome Packet

A collaborative publication of the  
Washington State Hospital Association and  
the Washington State Medical Association



**LEADING CARE. ADVANCING HEALTH.**

#### **ELECTRONIC UPDATES!**

This document is available for download at  
[www.medicalofficercollaborative.org](http://www.medicalofficercollaborative.org)



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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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Vassall MD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "MD" written in a smaller, more distinct script at the end.

**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

## 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.

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@wsa.org](mailto:carolw@wsa.org) or Jessica Martinson at [jessica@wsma.org](mailto:jessica@wsma.org).*

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

**The Medical Officer Collaborative** offers the opportunity for physician leaders from hospitals and medical groups to work collaboratively to improve care and make Washington known for its patient safety achievements.

**The Medical Officers of Washington State** collaborate on agreed upon Call to Action initiatives, which are health care quality and safety initiatives that will improve patient lives and healthcare delivery. The medical officers participate in work groups comprised of several organizations and associations, developing statewide strategies and implementation plans.

### 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.

## 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 discus-

sions, 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](http://www.wsha.org/cmoelist.cfm).*



**Leadership Pulse**  
*An Update for Medical Officers*

*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@wsa.org](mailto:carolw@wsa.org) or [jessica@wsma.org](mailto:jessica@wsma.org).

## 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](http://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](http://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.

AN INITIATIVE OF



Washington State  
Hospital Association



Washington State  
Medical Association

## For more information, contact:

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