



STATE OF WASHINGTON
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

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August 13, 2018

Hugh Straley, MD
Chair, Robert Bree Collaborative
c/o Foundation for Health Care Quality
705 Second Avenue, Suite 410
Seattle, WA 98104

SUBJECT: Prescribing Opioids for Postoperative Pain Guidelines

Dear Dr. Straley:

We have reviewed and accept the guidelines developed by the Robert Bree Collaborative for Prescribing Opioids for Postoperative Pain. Pursuing and implementing up-to-date, evidence-informed guidelines promises to improve the health and health outcomes of children and adults in Washington.

As you know, state agency personnel (Health Care Authority (HCA), Departments of Health, Department of Labor and Industries) participated in the development of these guidelines and support the Bree Collaborative's efforts across the state. It continues to be very important to emphasize the use of evidence-based guidelines and to address the significant risks of opioids for pain treatment.

HCA will implement these guidelines in the Washington Apple Health programs and encourage use in other state programs.

Thank you and the Collaborative for continuing your outstanding efforts to improve the safe and effective purchasing and improvement of health care and overall health in Washington. Should you have questions or concerns, please contact Josh Morse, Health Services Section Manager, by phone at 360-725-0839 or via email at Josh.Morse@hca.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Birch, MBA, BSN, RN
Director

cc: Josh Morse, Health Services Section Manager, CQCT, HCA