



STATE OF WASHINGTON
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 45502 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5502

August 10, 2017

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

Dear Dr. Straley:

SUBJECT: Opioid Prescribing Metrics

Thank you for your correspondence of July 25, regarding opioid prescribing metrics. We have reviewed the recommendations and metrics developed by the Bree Collaborative for monitoring and evaluating opioid prescribing and the concordance of opioid use with Washington State and Centers for Disease Control guidelines. The Health Care Authority accepts and is thankful for this effort and resulting measures.

Our state continues to participate in and lead efforts to improve opioid prescribing and reverse the devastation resulting from use of powerful pain medications. The development of these metrics will help state programs and others to better understand and respond to this ongoing crisis.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lou McDermott", with a long, sweeping underline.

Lou McDermott
Acting Director

cc: Josh Morse, HTA Program Manager, CQCT, HCA