



STATE OF WASHINGTON
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

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April 30, 2014

Ginny Weir, Project Director
Dr. Robert Bree Collaborative
Foundation for Health Care Quality
705 Second Avenue, Suite 703
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Weir: *Ginny*

SUBJECT: Adoption of Bree Collaborative Recommendations

Thank you and the Bree Collaborative members for the *Spine/Low Back Pain Report and Recommendations* and the *Bree Collaborative Warranty and Bundle for Elective Total Knee and Total Hip Replacement (TKR/THR) Surgery* received December 2 and December 4, 2013, respectively. Both recommendations are impressive and align with Washington State's Innovation Plan work to better align safety, appropriateness, and quality in Washington State.

Per Bree legislation, upon receipt of the two recommendations I directed my staff to conduct an inter-agency review of both recommendations. The Washington Agency Medical Director's Group (AMDG), which includes the medical directors of the Health Care Authority (HCA), Department of Corrections, and the Department of Labor and Industries, reviewed and overwhelmingly endorsed both recommendations.

As a result of the AMDG review, HCA will work to adopt the recommended strategies into state purchased programs in 2015 and 2016. At the same time, HCA will work closely with the Bree Implementation Team to ensure implementation alignment with all health care stakeholders across Washington State.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me by telephone at 360-725-1523 or via email at dorothy.teeter@hca.wa.gov.

Again, thank you, the various workgroups, and Bree Collaborative members for your excellent work and continued dedication to improving quality and appropriateness of care in Washington State.

Sincerely,

Dorothy F. Teeter
Dorothy F. Teeter
Director

By email

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cc: Jason McGill, Executive Policy Advisor, Governor's Executive Policy Office
Dan Lessler, MD, Chief Medical Officer, HCA
MaryAnne Lindeblad, Medicaid Director, HCA
Nathan Johnson, Division Director, PPP, HCA
Josh Morse, Program Director, PPP, HCA
Rachel Quinn, Special Assistant, PPP, HCA