

Southwest Washington Accountable Community of Health: Commonly Used Terms, Acronyms and Definitions

Term	Acronym (if applicable)	Definition
1115 Waiver		<p>1115 waivers refer to section 1115 of the Social Security Act, which gives the Secretary of Health and Human Services authority to approve experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects that promote the objectives of the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) programs.</p> <p>Oregon's transition to coordinated care organizations was approved under an 1115 waiver.</p> <p>These demonstrations give states additional flexibility to design and improve their programs and evaluate policy approaches such as expanding eligibility, providing services not typically covered by Medicaid, or using innovative service delivery systems that improve care, increase efficiency, and reduce costs. Provisions of the Social Security Act, or federal regulation for Medicaid managed care may be "waived" through the demonstration.</p>
Accountable Community of Health	ACH	<p>A model for improving health and health equity that uses regional, cross-sector collaboration to align resources and activities to address whole person health and wellness.</p> <p>ACHs bring together leaders from multiple public and health sectors around the state with a common interest in improving health and health equity. ACHs work regionally to align resources and activities; they improve the delivery of whole-person health and wellness. Washington State has nine ACH regions.</p>
Adverse Childhood Experiences	ACEs	<p>Refers to associations between childhood maltreatment and later-life health and well-being.</p> <p>ACEs are categorized into three groups: abuse, neglect, and family/household challenges. Each category is further divided into multiple subcategories. The ACE score, a total sum of the different categories of ACEs reported by participants, is used to assess cumulative childhood stress. Study findings repeatedly reveal a relationship between ACEs and negative health and well-being outcomes - as the ACEs score increases, so does the risk for multiple health issues including alcoholism/abuse, depression, heart disease, poor work or academic performance, smoking, etc.</p>
All Payer Claims Database	APCD	<p>In 2015, the Washington legislature initiated a statewide all-payers health care claims database as a public resource for improving delivery of health care across the state.</p> <p>OHSU's Center for Health Systems Effectiveness has been selected as the lead organization for Washington's APCD and implementation is in progress.</p>
Analytics, Interoperability and Measurement.	AIM	<p>A Healthier Washington investment area that is working to leverage and strengthen existing health data systems from multiple sectors to create capacity for analytics and decision support to best serve Washington's needs, from service delivery to policy and program development, to health care reform investment strategies. Go the AIM web page: https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/healthier-washington/analytics-interoperability-and-measurement-aim</p>
Apple Health		The brand name for Medicaid in Washington State.
Behavioral Health	BH	The general term used to refer to both mental health and substance use disorder; the term is not synonymous with mental health – it is inclusive of mental health conditions, substance use disorders and their co-occurrence.
Behavioral Health Advisory Board	BHAB	A SWACH advisory board focused on behavioral health
Behavioral Health Advisory Council	BHAC	The council makes decisions that will best serve citizens in need of behavioral health services. Council members are concerned with the need, planning, operation, funding and use of services for mental health, substance use and gambling disorders.
Behavioral Health Organizations (BHOs)	BHO	Created through Washington State legislation to purchase and administer public mental health and substance use disorder services. Beginning in 2019, most BHOs across the state will be replaced by the managed care model.
Bi- Directional Integration		Describes the integration of Physical and Behavioral Health. A flexible model of care intended to increase access to physical and behavioral health care through a "no wrong door" approach. Strategies may include: enhanced communication between practices and providers (care coordination), referrals and consultation; co-location, telehealth, routine use of evidence-based screening tools, cross-training between disciplines, and an interest in addressing all of an individual's needs in the setting of their choice.
Bree Collaborative		The Washington State Legislature established the Dr. Robert Bree Collaborative to identify ways to improve health care quality, outcomes, and affordability. Members are appointed by the governor. http://www.breecollaborative.org/
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services	CMS	Component of Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). CMS administers Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program and components of Affordable Care Act (ACA).
Chemical Dependency	CD	A primary disease in which a person becomes addicted to drugs or alcohol
Chemical Dependency Professional (WA State certification)	CDP	A certification in Washington State for Substance Abuse Counselors
Child Protective Services	CPS	Child Protective Services is a state agency that investigates reports of child abuse and neglect.
Clinical-Community Linkages		A priority focus in Healthier Washington of connecting health care providers, community organizations, and public health agencies so they can improve patients' access to preventive and chronic care services.
Community Health Plan of Washington	CHPW	A not-for-profit managed care plan founded by Community Health Centers in the state of Washington
Community Health Worker/Advocate	CHW/CHA	A frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of their communities.
Community Service Office	CSO	Part of the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services. Offices provide assistance with benefits such as Medicaid
Cultural Competence		A set of congruent behaviors, attitudes, and policies that come together in a system, agency or among professionals that enables effective work in cross-cultural situations. "Competence" implies that an individual or organization has the capacity to function effectively "within the context of the cultural beliefs, behaviors, and needs presented by consumers and their communities".
Cardiovascular Disease	CVD	Heart Disease
Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery	DBHR	Part of the Behavioral Health Administration in Washington State

Developmental Disabilities Administration	DDA	Washington state agency that works to develop and implement public policies that will promote individual worth, self-respect, and dignity such that each individual is valued as a contributing member of the community.
Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program	DSRIP	DSRIP programs are a subset of 1115 waiver demonstration programs and provide states with significant funding that can be used to support hospitals and other providers in changing how they provide care to Medicaid beneficiaries. Generally, DSRIP funds are tied to meeting performance metrics, with a shift from process metrics to outcome metrics over the course of the initiative. Oregon's hospital incentive program has been described as "DSRIP-like" and many elements of Washington's Medicaid transformation are modeled after DSRIP programs in New York and California.
Department of Health	DOH	A state agency aimed with focus on improving the health of people in Washington State.
Department of Social and Health Services	DSHS	A Washington State government agency, Department of Social and Health Services is one of the three primary partners in the Healthier Washington initiative.
Designated State Health Programs	DSHP	Existing state-funded health programs that have not previously qualified for federal funding, including Medicaid. DSHPs existed in the state prior to the section 1115 demonstration. As part of the demonstration, CMS historically allowed the state to count certain expenditures for the program as expenditures under the demonstration that qualify for federal matching funds, allowing the state to use the "freed up" state dollars towards its Medicaid demonstration. Unlike traditional Medicaid matching funds, which are tied to claims for specific services provided to Medicaid beneficiaries, federal matching funds provided to support DSHP have not necessarily been tied to the extent to which the DSHP serves Medicaid beneficiaries.
Determinants of Health		Factors that contribute to a person's current state of health. Factors may be biological, socioeconomic, psychosocial, behavioral, or social in nature. Five determinants of health of a population: Biology and genetics; Individual behavior; Social environment; Physical environment; and Health Services.
Early Adopter		The Southwest Washington regional service area (Clark and Skamania Counties) opted to be an "early adopter" of fully integrated contracting for physical and behavioral health care beginning April 2016. It was the only region of the state to do so. State law calls for fully integrated managed care to be implemented for Apple Health (Medicaid) statewide by 2020.
Electronic Health/Medical Record	EHR/EMR	Computerized records of patient's health information including medical, demographic and administrative data. EHR are designed to reach out beyond the health organization that originally collects and compiles the information. They are built to share information with other health care providers, such as laboratories and specialists and contain information from all the clinicians involved in the patient's care. The National Alliance for Health Information Technology stated that EHR data "can be created, managed, and consulted by authorized clinicians and staff across more than one health care organization." EMR are digital versions of the paper charts in the clinician's office. An EMR contains the medical and treatment history of the patients in one practice. The information in EMRs does not travel easily out of the practice. In fact, the patient's record might even have to be printed and delivered by mail to specialists and other members of the care team.
Evidence-Based		A thoroughly researched strategy within a practice setting that has a high regard to improving and measuring outcomes (treatments, referrals, patient safety, follow-up care, etc.). In public behavioral health care, evidence-based is a legislative standard through which a practice must meet standards of increased efficacy at reasonable costs.
Federally Qualified Health Center	FQHC	Federally funded, community-based organizations that provide comprehensive primary and preventive care, including oral and mental health and substance abuse services to persons of all ages, regardless of their ability to pay or health insurance status.
Fee-For-Service	FFS	A method in which doctors and other health care providers are paid for each service performed. Examples of services include tests and office visits.
Fully Integrated Managed Care	FIMC	Washington's terminology for regions that have consolidated physical health and behavioral health services into a single contract.
Health		A state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not just the absence of sickness or frailty.
Health Care Authority	HCA	The Washington State Health Care Authority purchases health care for more than 2 million Washington residents through two programs — Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) and the Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB) Program.
Health Disparity		Health outcomes that are closely linked with social or economic disadvantage. Refers to differences in access to or availability of facilities and services. Health status disparities refer to the variation in rates of disease occurrence and disabilities between socioeconomic and/or geographically defined population groups.
Health Equity		Striving for the highest possible standard of health for all people regardless of social conditions, economy, demographics, or geography; and giving priority attention to the needs of those at greatest risk of poor health.
Health Home		Washington State's Medicaid "Health Home" services provide comprehensive care coordination across medical, behavioral, and long-term services and supports for Medicaid beneficiaries with chronic conditions that are of high risk and cost. The goal is to improve beneficiary experience of care, improve health and reduce costs.
Health Information Exchange	HIE	Refers to the sharing of electronic health-related information in a manner that protects the confidentiality, privacy, and security of the information. This process requires use of national standards as they are established in order to increase interoperability, security, and confidentiality of information. OneHealthPort is the lead organization that operates the Washington State Health Information Exchange.
Health Information Technology	HIT	Information processing involving both computer hardware and software that deals with the storage, retrieval, sharing, and use of health care information, data, and knowledge for communication and decision making.
Health Literacy		The ability of a person to obtain, process and understand basic health information and services that are needed to make suitable health decisions
Health Provider Shortage Area		a state and federal determination of areas and populations in Washington that can be designated as having a shortage of health care providers; designations are available for three areas of health care: primary medical care, primary dental care, and mental health care.
Healthier Washington		A state initiative aimed at transforming health care so that people experience better health and receive better, more affordable care by 2020. It is the operational work of the State Health Care Innovation Plan (SHCIP) developed to apply for a federal State Innovation Model (SIM) grant.
Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (privacy protection)	HIPAA	Regulation designed to protect personal information and data collected and stored in medical records.

Managed Care Organization	MCO	A health care delivery system consisting of affiliated and/or owned hospitals, physicians and others which provide coordinated health services to assigned patients in return for a predetermined monthly fee or other shared risk or savings incentives. Medicaid managed care provides for the delivery of Medicaid health benefits and additional services through contracted arrangements between state Medicaid agencies and managed care organizations (MCOs) that accept a set per member per month (capitation) payment for these services.
Maternal Child Health	MCH	Experts in maternal and child health focus on the complex public health problems affecting women, children and their families
Medicaid Transformation Project	MTP	An agreement with the federal government that allows regions to test innovative ways of delivering care.
Medication Assisted Treatment	MAT	Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid use disorder. MAT is the use of FDA-approved medications, in combination with therapy and other "whole person" approaches, to treat substance use disorders (SUD).
Mid adopter		Refers to ACH regions in Washington that will pursue financial integration for the region before 2020. ACHs that "go mid-adopter" are eligible for additional financial incentives from the state. Klickitat County will become a mid-adopter in 2019.
National Committee for Quality Assurance	NCQA	Nonprofit organization dedicated to improving health care quality. This organization's intention is to elevate the issue of health care quality.
Opioid Use Disorder	OUD	Opioid use disorder is a medical condition characterized by a problematic pattern of opioid use that causes clinically significant impairment or distress. It often includes a strong desire to use opioids, increased tolerance to opioids, and withdrawal syndrome when opioids are abruptly discontinued. There is growing consensus that it is a chronic brain disease.
Patient-Centered Medical Home	PCMH	A model or philosophy of primary care that is patient-centered, comprehensive, team based, coordinated, accessible and focused on quality and safety.
Pay for Performance Measures	P4P	Also called "paying for value," this is a strategy aimed at changing how we pay for health care. It moves away from the traditional fee-for-service approach to payment for how well providers perform. This can include patient satisfaction and a track record of helping people achieve health.
Pay for Reporting Measures	P4R	The mandate to report quality measure data to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) with a resulting reduction in Medicare payments for non-performance is commonly referred to as a "pay-for-reporting program"
Population Health		A reference to health outcomes of a group of people, rather than individuals. It can refer to a population within a geographical boundary, a clinical population, or a population defined by certain common characteristics Aims to improve the overall health of a specific population by addressing a range of factors that affect a population and aims to reduce health inequities among populations.
Protected Health Information	PHI	Protected health information under the US law is any information about health status, provision of health care, or payment for health care that is created or collected by a Covered Entity, and can be linked to a specific individual.
Public Health	PH	
Quadruple Aim		Developed by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, the Triple Aim framework describes an approach to optimizing health system performance, under which health system transformation efforts should simultaneously pursue three dimensions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Improving patient experience of care (quality and satisfaction) · Improving the health of populations · Reducing the per capita cost of health care · Improve the experience of health care workers.
Quality Assurance	QA	Activities and programs intended to assure or improve the quality of care in a defined health care setting or program
Social Determinants of Health	SDOH	The complex, integrated and overlapping social structures and economic systems that are responsible for most health inequities. These social structures and economic systems include the social environment, physical environment, health services, and structural and societal factors. They are shaped by distribution of money, power, and resources.
State Innovation Model	SIM	Under this federal initiative, states are awarded grants to advance multi-payer health care payment and delivery system reform models. SIM tests the ability of state governments to utilize policy and regulatory levers to accelerate health system transformation to meet the triple aim. SIM grants are either for designing strategies, or implementing strategies. Washington and Oregon have both received SIM grants.
Substance Abuse	SA	When individuals take drugs that are not legal. It's also when individuals use alcohol, prescription medicine, and other legal substances too much or in the wrong way.
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	SAMHSA	An agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.
Substance Use Disorder	SUD	Refers to the recurrent use of alcohol and/or drugs causing clinically and functionally significant impairment, such as health problems, disability, and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school, or home.
Vaccines for Children's Programs	VPC	A federally funded program in the United States providing no-cost vaccines to children who lack health insurance or who otherwise cannot afford the cost of the vaccination
Value Based Payment / Purchasing	VBP	A strategy used by health care purchasers to promote quality and value of health care services. The goal is to shift from volume-based payment (e.g., fee for service) to payments that are more closely related to outcomes (e.g., bundled payments, pay for performance, etc.). There are many types of VBP, which may also be referred to as Alternate Payment Methodology (APMs). Washington is attempting to drive 90% of state financed health care to value-based payment models by 2021. More on Washington here: https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/healthier-washington/paying-value More on Alternate Payment Methods here: https://hcp-lan.org/groups/apm-ftp-work-products/apm-framework/
Washington Disease Reporting System	WDRS	An electronic disease surveillance system that allows public health staff in Washington State to receive, enter, manage, process, track and analyze disease-related data.
Washington Gorge Action Programs	WGAP	A multipurpose human service organization dedicated to helping individuals, families, and communities address basic human needs
Whole-Person Care		Expanded health care delivery that links patients to comprehensive physical, behavioral and substance use disorder care. Examples of whole-person care can include nutrition, housing, child-care, neighborhood safety, chronic disease prevention, social supports, substance use, etc.