


# Current State Agency Initiatives Addressing Health Care Costs, Quality and Access

*Blue Ribbon Commission – July 27, 2006*





## *Key Agency Goals*

- **Result #1: Create a sustainable, affordable, quality system (state serving as a model)**
- **Result #2: Improve the health of Washingtonians (healthiest state)**
- **Result #3: Increase access to health care coverage**
- **Result #4: Improve accountability of health care professionals**



## *Targeted Results & Initiatives*

### **Create a sustainable, affordable, quality system (state serving as a model)**

- Emphasize evidence-based medicine – HB 2575 Health technology assessment**
- Create transparency in the health system**
- Increase use of health IT (SSB 5064, HB 2573 and the WA Health Information Collaborative)**
- PEBB procurement**



## *Targeted Results & Initiatives*

### **Chronic care management and adoption of evidence-based purchasing**

#### **■ Medicaid Disease Management Program**

- Medicaid disease management (diabetes, asthma, heart failure and kidney diseases) program since 2002
- January 2007, new chronic care model – emphasis on closer working relationship with primary care physicians, medical homes, use of predictive modeling to identify high risk clients

#### **■ Evidence-Based Purchasing**

- Medicaid adoption of evidence-based purchasing criteria - Grading service to improve value and safety (WAC 388-501-0165)
- Bariatric surgery coverage criteria
- High narcotics usage
- Enteral nutrition (meals in a can) program
- Criteria for use of anti-psychotic and ADHD drugs

## *Targeted Results & Initiatives*

### **Labor and Industries Centers of Occupational Health and Education (COHEs)**

- ❑ **The COHE system is a pay-for-quality model that does not restrict choice of provider. It is a partnership between L&I and contracted health care institutions. The COHEs provide training and resources to health care providers in the community and encourage use of occupational health best practices.**
  - ❑ **Location:** The Renton COHE is sponsored by Valley Medical Center and covers south King and north Pierce Counties. The Eastern Washington COHE is sponsored by St. Luke's Rehabilitation Hospital and currently covers 16 counties.
- ❑ **Results**
  - ❑ **Disability:** COHE patients were 17% and 33% less likely to miss >3 days of work.
  - ❑ **Employment:** Employment results ranged from workers being 55% more likely to return to work for the same employer in one COHE to no impact in the other.
  - ❑ **Provider Survey:** 75% and 79% of health care providers felt their ability to treat injured workers had improved.
  - ❑ **Worker Satisfaction:** High satisfaction with health care.
  - ❑ **Cost Savings:** Saved \$566 and \$447 per injured worker for a combined savings to the system of \$8,795,000 over one year. Savings represent both medical and disability cost reductions.
  - ❑ **Project Size:** Providers in the COHEs currently see 21,000 injured workers per year. This represents 15% of injured workers with State Fund coverage.
  - ❑ **Both COHEs focus on quality improvement guided by data analysis.**



## *Targeted Results & Initiatives*

### **Improve the Health of People in Washington**

- Newborn Screening for Every Infant**
- Immunizations for Children**
- Chronic Disease Management and Prevention**
- Tobacco Prevention and Control**
- Physical Activity and Nutrition**
- “Healthy Washington” Initiatives**



## *Targeted Results & Initiatives*

### **Increase Access to Health Care Coverage**

- **State government providing health coverage for children in families with incomes up to 250% of poverty level (\$41,500 for a family of 3 and \$50,000 for a family of 4).**
  - Elimination of premium requirements for children in families with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level (\$33,200 for a family of three and \$40,000 for a family of four)
  - Re-established Children Health Program for non-citizen children in families up to 100% of poverty level
  - Based on current forecast, state will be providing coverage for 600,000 (35% of all children) children by June 2009
  
- **DSHS Employer Sponsored Insurance (ESI) program.**
  - Assist low-income working families to transition to employer-sponsored insurance
  - Leverage employer contributions to assist state in providing health coverage to children in working families

Thank you.

