

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Good afternoon, partners –

I want to start with a quick summary of the communication below about the new WA Integrated Care Assessment (WA-ICA). The state has identified you as part of the first cohort, which is organizations who have been completing the MeHAF as part of Medicaid Transformation.

Takeaways from this communication

- This is an introductory, informational email
- Action item – sign up for the June 21 webinar
- BHT is working on fiscal support & contract flexibility. More to come.

We've included a couple of other BHT notes below in **orange**.

Please let us know any questions after reviewing the full information below.

To our valued Behavioral Health Partners,

Welcome to Cohort 1!

We are inviting you to participate in the ongoing effort in Washington State to advance integration and improve whole person care and patient outcomes by participating in Cohort 1 of the Washington Integrated Care Assessment (WA-ICA). This means that you will be among *the first* practices and providers in our state to use and submit the new WA-ICA, gaining valuable insight into the current state of integration in your practice.

BHT sees this as an important opportunity for us to get a clearer picture of how integration is going in our region. While your participation in this cohort is encouraged but not required by HCA, BHT hopes to use this information to plan future contracting and the larger goal of more effective, equitable healthcare delivery.

The Integrated Care Assessment was developed in response to previously disjointed efforts to promote and measure integrated care across the state. The WA-ICA is intended to minimize duplication for payers and providers, streamline data collection, and optimize quality improvement opportunities related to integration. The new assessment tool will replace the Maine Health Access Foundation (MeHAF) assessment and various other tools used by Accountable Communities of Health (ACH) and Managed Care Organizations (MCO). The Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA), all ACHs and MCOs throughout the state are enthusiastic about this transition and its potential to contribute to the future vision for integrated care in Washington. As a part of Cohort 1, you will have the opportunity to contribute your expertise, learnings, and insights throughout the process.

We are excited to share that primary care and behavioral health practices have similar but separate assessment tools specifically designed for your practice setting. Your ACH has indicated that you are a behavioral health site. You can review the new WA-ICA tool for behavioral health sites [here](#). If you feel

Communication #1
Welcome to WA-ICA Cohort 1
April 26, 2022

this version of the tool isn't the right one for your practice type, please reach out to HealthierHere at tdonahue@healthierhere.org.

To set you up for a smooth transition process, we will be providing you with ample opportunities to learn about completing the new assessment tool before the reporting period opens in mid-July.

We recognize that this doesn't align neatly with BHT contract timing, and we are approaching contracts with flexibility in order to support integration efforts. BHT intends to go to our Waiver Finance committee about creating an incentive pool for participating providers. We also expect that those of you with the MeHAF as a P4A contract measure may choose WA-ICA instead if it makes sense for your organization. We will have more information coming in May and June about contract flexibility and financial support for implementing the tool.

Over the next several weeks we will be sending you the link to a new website that will have all the materials you need to support the implementation of the new tool, including implementation guides, tutorial videos, and an FAQ.

You can sign up for the **WA-ICA Behavioral Health Introductory Webinar** [here](#). This will be held on June 21st from 10 – 11:30 am.

For the time being, please visit the HCA's WA-ICA homepage to learn more about the history and process leading up to this transition, and how the WA-ICA tool was developed. If you are the primary contact for multiple sites within your organization, you can use the attached excel sheet to identify the sites that are part of cohort 1.

Stay tuned for more information coming in May. Here is an overview of our implementation timeline, including key dates:

TIMELINE

- April – Welcome & overview email (that's this one!)
- May – Email invitation to review support materials on new website
- June 21st – [WA-ICA Behavioral Health Webinar](#)
- July 6th – [Office Hours for Behavioral Health sites](#)
- July 11th – Reporting period opens
- August 22nd – Reporting period closes for Cohort 1

A final warm welcome again to Cohort 1. We are looking forward to the shared learning to come!

The following organizations support the Washington Integrated Care Assessment (WA-ICA): the Health Care Authority; the five MCOs that provide Apple Health coverage – Amerigroup Washington, Community Health Plan of Washington, Coordinated Care, Molina Health Care, UnitedHealthcare; and the nine Accountable Communities of Health - Better Health Together, Cascade Pacific Action Alliance, Elevate Health, Greater Columbia ACH, HealthierHere, North Central ACH, North Sound ACH, Olympic Community of Health, and Southwest ACH.

PRIMARY CARE

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Takeaways from this communication:

- This is an introductory, informational email
- Action item – sign up for the June 16 webinar
- BHT is working on fiscal support & contract flexibility. More to come.

We've included a couple of other BHT notes below in **orange**.

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To our valued Primary Care Partners,

Welcome to Cohort 1!

We are inviting you to participate in the ongoing effort in Washington State to advance integration and improve whole person care and patient outcomes by participating in Cohort 1 of the Washington Integrated Care Assessment (WA-ICA). This means that you will be among *the first* practices and providers in our state to use and submit the new WA-ICA, gaining valuable insight into the current state of integration in your practice.

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Over the next several weeks we will be sending you the link to a new website that will have all the materials you need to support the implementation of the new tool, including implementation guides, tutorial videos, and an FAQ.

You can sign up for the **WA-ICA Primary Care Introductory Webinar** [here](#). This will be held on June 16th from 1 – 2:30 pm.

For the time being, please visit the HCA's WA-ICA homepage to learn more about the history and process leading up to this transition, and how the WA-ICA tool was developed. If you are the primary contact for multiple sites within your organization, you can use the attached excel sheet to identify the sites that are part of cohort 1.

Stay tuned for more information coming in May. Here is an overview of our implementation timeline, including key dates:

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- May – Email invitation to review support materials on new website
- June 16th – [WA-ICA Primary Care Introductory Webinar](#)
- June 29th – [Office Hours for Primary Care Sites](#)
- July 11th – Reporting period opens
- August 22nd – Reporting period closes for Cohort 1

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