



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY**

626 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue • P.O. Box 42702 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2702

October 9, 2015

TO: Potential Bidders

From: RFA Coordinator

SUBJECT: Amendment 5, RFA 15-021 – Multi-Payer Data Aggregation Solution Response to Submitted Complaint Letter.

Per the RFA Section 5.8, below is the Health Care Authority's official response to a Complaint submitted by a potential Bidder:

*Your concern: "The requirement in Section 3.1.2 that the Apparently Successful Applicant "own and operate" a data aggregation solution triggered our initial question to clarify whether vendors could apply. "Own and operate" indicates ownership of the intellectual property."*

HCA response: RFA Section 3.1.2 does state, "The ASA will Own and operate a data aggregation solution with the ability to collect, aggregate, and share clinical and claims data from multiple payers with provider groups." The intent behind Section 3.1.2 is to ensure that this funding opportunity is utilized to support an existing solution currently used by providers. Per RFA Section 2.1, "HCA is not purchasing a data solution under this RFA." A technology vendor offering such a data aggregation solution would be eligible to apply, consistent with the definition in RFA Amendment 4, "an "affiliated" organization is any organization whose business activities focus on the healthcare sector. Examples include, but are not limited to, providers, payers, information technology vendors, and stakeholder conveners."

*Your concern: "While the preference for the contract to be awarded to a health delivery organization with past performance in the state of Washington appears reasonable, awarding the contract to Polyclinic without allowing for a competitive bid from another organization within the same profile doesn't appear to be responsible."*

HCA response: RFA 15-021 is a competitively bid process. Any entity fulfilling the Minimum Requirements for Bidding, set forth in the RFA Section 5.4, is welcome to apply. Additionally, in the RFA Amendment 4, "...applications have not been received therefore we cannot speak to the performance of either of the respondents. It will be up to each applicant to meet the minimum qualifications and specific needs of the RFA if they apply. However, the level of partnership and commitment do weigh in on the decision."

*Your concern: "The chronology of the submission dates for questions and answers and the letter of intent did not provide sufficient time for a technology vendor to submit as a supporting partner of a healthcare delivery organization (or in our case, did not allow an amendment to our letter of intent)."*

*Given the significance of awarding the best organization for this program to meet the aggressive 80% value-based contract Objective for 2019, we feel it is important the Washington State Health Care Authority consider extending the RFA to allow for competition and a variety of alternatives to the development of programs for organizations within the state.”*

Per RFA Section 5.8.3, “The complainant does not have the right to an adjudicative proceeding or to any other type of formal “hearing.” The submission of complaint, and any HCA action on any such complaint, is not subject to or governed by the Administrative Procedure Act.”

Also, per RFA Section 5.8.3, “HCA’s decision is final; no further appeal will be available.”

**\*\*NOTE:** Applications are due no later than 2:00 p.m. PT, October 15, 2015.