

# What is Electronic Consent Management?



Electronic consent management (ECM) is a cloud-based software solution which will house consents to share sensitive data (e.g. substance use disorder, research, sexually transmitted infection data). It is not intended to store HIPAA general consents for treatment. HCA will make the ECM solution available to providers at no charge. It is meant to replace paper-

based consents. For organizations with systems that already capture electronic consent, the ECM could be interoperable with those solutions. Electronic consents enable client data exchange that will be compliant with 42 CFR Part 2 and other relevant statutes.

If you are interested in learning more or using the system, contact HCA at [econsent@hca.wa.gov](mailto:econsent@hca.wa.gov).

## What data will be collected?

Health records will not be stored by HCA or the ECM vendor. The system will only store consents to share data, which can be updated or revoked as needed.

## Why is this happening?

Providers face significant administrative challenges managing consents due to time and cost. ECM will foster more complete and coordinated care.

## Who does it affect?

HCA will focus on storing consents to enable Substance Use Disorder (SUD) data exchange first. Behavioral health providers and others that serve SUD clients or exchange SUD data will benefit. In future project phases, consents to exchange other types of sensitive data will be added. HCA is prioritizing data exchange for Apple Health (Medicaid) clients. ECM is one of HCA's Tech Modernization projects.

## How does this benefit me as a medical provider or health organization?

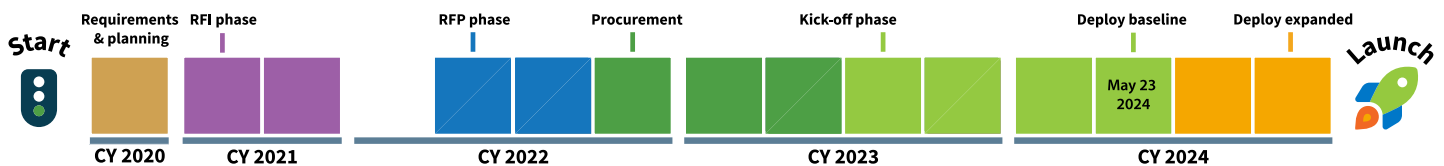
Main benefits of the ECM solution for providers and other organizations include:

- Access to client data in times of crisis which is crucial to address substance use disorder (SUD) issues.
- A reduction in provider administrative burden related to consent.
- A reduction in the number of incomplete, noncompliant, and redundant consents.
- Fewer barriers for those who provide vital services to Washington's most vulnerable residents.
- Access to a consent solution that will be adaptable and sustainable, yet flexible throughout its lifespan.
- A decrease in the time it takes to share relevant information between providers.

## Criteria to be System User

- Any provider type.
- May or may not have an EHR.
- Organizational leadership support.
- Attend free HCA training on system use & onboarding staff.

## When is this happening?



### Recent timeline milestones

- 1 ECM Vendor announced: Q1 2023
- 2 Deployment Kickoff with Vendor: Q3 2023
- 3 Go Live with Baseline Solution: Q2 2024
- 4 Expanded Solution deployment: after Q3-Q4 2024