

Electronic consent solution procurement

Substance use disorder (SUD) information can be exchanged in a way that provides a patient with coordinated and integrated care while following applicable laws and respecting the patient's right to privacy.

However, barriers exist, including interoperability challenges between IT systems and inconsistent interpretation of applicable laws. The result is that Washington providers and other entities may take one of two approaches:

1. Faced with a complex and misunderstood set of privacy laws, they may overprotect the information and not share at all, or
2. They may accidentally share more information than is allowed by law.

To address this challenge, the Health Care Authority (HCA) will procure a secure, cloud-based electronic consent management (ECM) solution to govern access to and exchange of health and human services-related sensitive data. The first type of consents to be addressed are those related to SUD data exchange.

We intend the procured solution to provide a "source of truth" repository for clients. Data elements and verbiage included in the consent will be compliant with updated federal and state laws. Specifically, 42 CFR Part 2 requires patient consent under certain circumstances prior to sharing SUD treatment information.

Timeline

The Request for Proposals (RFP) was published October 5, 2022. Interested vendors will have approximately 6 weeks to prepare and submit responses to the RFP.

- October 19: Vendor questions due
- October 28: HCA responses to vendor questions posted
- November 18: Vendor Letters of Intent due
- November 23: Responses due

CMS certification

As a component of the Washington State Medicaid Enterprise System (MES), the procured solution will undergo a comprehensive certification process by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to ensure that it meets stakeholder needs. It will be eligible for enhanced federal funding.

For more information

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[Washington Electronic Business Solution \(WEBS\)](#)