



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY**

626 8th Avenue, SE • P.O. Box 45502 • Olympia, Washington 98504-5502

July 2, 2025

Dear Tribal Leader:

SUBJECT: Health Care Management and Coordination System

In accordance with chapter 43.376 RCW and the Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989, regarding collaboration with Indian tribes in the development of policies, agreements, and program implementation that directly affect Indian tribes and the Tribal Consultation and Communication Policy of the Health Care Authority (HCA), HCA hereby seeks to inform and request input on the following matter.

Background

The State of Washington is undertaking a transformative initiative to improve how health care is delivered, coordinated, and experienced for some of its most vulnerable populations. At the heart of this effort is the Health Care Management and Coordination System (HCMACS) - an integrated, enterprise-wide Electronic Health Record (EHR) platform that will unify care delivery across multiple state agencies, Tribes, public health institutions, and community-based providers.

The HCMACS Program has selected Epic as the EHR system vendor and plans to implement Epic's Community Connect software-as-a-service (SaaS) solution at a targeted group of Medicaid providers (including IHCPs) in the first go-live planned for August 2027. The HCMACS Program will also implement Epic at state-run facilities in Washington's Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and the Department of Corrections (DOC) in this phase.

HCA formally introduced this topic to the Tribes and IHCPs at the American Indian Health Commission's 2022 Biannual Tribal and State Leaders Health Summit. It was also a topic of the Medicaid Transformation Project (MTP) 2.0 roadshow in the fall/spring of 2023-2024.

Progress

Over the past year, progress has been made to advance the HCMACS mission, including:

- ✓ **State and Federal Funding** – HCMACS is allocated \$90.5M in combined state appropriation and approved federal match for SFY 2026
- ✓ **Procurement** - Selected Epic as the EHR system vendor, preparing to launch RFP for Systems Integrator and HCA Provider Support vendor
- ✓ **Program Management & Planning** – established Program and Agency PMOs and developed HCMACS Roadmap currently in review

- ✓ **Resourcing** - onboarded key Program and Agency staff including the Program Executive Director

Now that HCMACS has been appropriated funding for FY26, near-term priorities include executing the Epic contract and purchasing enterprise licenses, publishing a solicitation to select the Systems Integrator, resourcing Program and Agency Project teams, supporting Agencies to conduct foundational clinical and technical readiness activities, and supporting HCA to engage and onboard Medicaid providers including IHCPs.

Timeline

While the timeline has shifted due to the budget freeze from November 2024 to June 2025, HCMACS is moving forward and wishes to begin working with IHCPs as soon as possible, with provider onboarding planned for Q3-Q4 2026 and go-live planned for Q3 2027.

The key milestones and estimated dates for the partnership between HCMACS, HCA, and IHCPs are shown below:

| Estimated Date (CY) | Milestone |
|----------------------------|---|
| Q3 2025 | Formal engagement begins with Tribes to develop the strategy for how IHCPs will participate in HCMACS and deploy Epic Community Connect |
| Q4 2025 | Finalize the list of IHCPs to be included in the first HCMACS go-live |
| Q2 2026 | Contract with a vendor to support onboarding, readiness, and coordination of HCA providers (incl. IHCPs) participating in HCMACS |
| Q3 2026 | Finalize contract terms between HCA and providers participating in HCMACS to include cost-sharing models |
| Q3 - Q4 2026 | Participating IHCPs complete HCMACS onboarding and readiness activities |
| Q1 - Q2 2027 | IHCPs participate in foundational HCMACS system configuration and pre-implementation readiness |
| Q3 2027 | HCMACS initial go-live and stabilization |

HCAMCS Roadmap

Attached to this letter electronically is the HCMACS Roadmap, which outlines the phases HCA is proposing for implementation and launch of Epic's Community Connect. Please review and provide feedback and comments. To request a hard copy be mailed to you, please contact Lena Nachand at lena.nachand@hca.wa.gov.

Non-Binding Letter of Interest

The Agency would appreciate a non-binding letter of interest so that we may create a complete roster of who to be included in the work meetings moving forward. This is a non-binding letter of interest and is simply an indication to HCA that you might someday be interested in this program and/or that you want to be included in the design and implementation. Please see the attached template.

Please submit any feedback and/or comments on the HCMACS Road Map and the letter and/or names by July 31, 2025. Both items can be submitted to Lena Nachand, Tribal Liaison – Medicaid Transformation, via email at lena.nachand@hca.wa.gov. We would like to begin meeting in Q3 2025.

Please contact Aren Sparck, Tribal Affairs Administrator, via email at aren.sparck@hca.wa.gov if you have any Tribal Affairs related questions or concerns.

Please forward this information to any interested party.

Sincerely,



MaryAnne Lindeblad, BSN, MPH
Interim Director

cc: Taylor Linke, Chief of Staff, EXO, HCA
Louis McDermott, Chief Operations Officer, EXO, HCA
Brett Mello, Chief Information Officer, ETS, HCA
Dr. Judy Zerzan-Thul, Chief Medical Officer, CQCT, HCA
Aren Sparck, Tribal Affairs Administrator, OTA, HCA
Christine Winn, Deputy Tribal Affairs Administrator, OTA, HCA
Carrie Paycok, HCMACS Executive Director, ETS, HCA
Lena Nachand, Tribal Liaison, OTA, HCA

[IHCP letterhead]

[Date]

To:
Lena Nachand
Tribal Liaison – Medicaid Transformation
Health Care Authority
lena.nachand@hca.wa.gov

From:
[IHCP Clinic Director or appropriate Tribal Leader]

Dear Lena,

The _____ [Tribe/IHCP] _____ recognizes the importance that a supported and integrated electronic health record system (E.H.R.) plays in a modern health systems' capacity to provide quality health care to Medicaid and all patients.

The _____ [Tribe/IHCP] _____ currently uses _____ [name of current EHR] _____ as an E.H.R. The 2024 active patient population of _____ [Tribe/IHCP] _____ is _____ [number of active users/patient population] _____.

The _____ [Tribe/IHCP] _____ would like to participate, [as soon as possible] [in the first cohort] [by _____] in the HCMACS project, including implementing the WA instance of EPIC as the _____ Electronic Health Record system.

Please include the contact below in all communications pertaining to the HCMACS project.

Sincerely,

[Tribe/IHCP] contact for HCA HCMACS project:

Name:
Email:
Phone: