



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Insurance Building, PO Box 43113 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3113 • 360-902-0555

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CONTACT: Ralph Thomas, 360-902-7607; ralph.thomas@ofm.wa.gov

Vendor selected for new statewide health care claims database

OLYMPIA, WA – The Office of Financial Management today announced it has selected a vendor to develop and operate the Washington All-Payer Claims Database, a project to increase transparency and improve quality in health care.

After evaluating proposals from multiple bidders under its competitive procurement process, OFM’s evaluation team selected the Center for Health Systems Effectiveness at Oregon Health & Science University as the “apparently successful bidder” to serve as the project’s lead organization. CHSE will subcontract with Onpoint Health Data as its data vendor.

OFM’s evaluation team included representatives from several state agencies, including the Washington Health Care Authority, Washington Technology Solutions and the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program. Before the project commences, OFM will negotiate contract terms with CHSE.

CHSE has been a leader in finding better ways to deliver health care through the effective use of data. Onpoint first developed an all-payer claims database in Maine in 1994 and has since implemented seven statewide databases, according to the company’s website.

In May 2015, Gov. Jay Inslee signed into law Senate Bill 5084, which charged OFM with establishing the state’s all-payer claims database. The legislation requires OFM to conduct a competitive procurement process to select a lead organization to coordinate and manage the database.

The database will systematically collect all medical claims, pharmacy claims and dental claims from private and public payers. Its purpose is to improve health care price transparency and to:

- Help patients, providers and hospitals to make informed choices about care.
- Enable providers, hospitals and communities to improve by benchmarking their performance against that of others by focusing on best practices.

- Enable purchasers to identify value, build expectations into their purchasing strategies and reward improvements over time.
- Promote competition based on quality and cost.

Washington is one of at least 18 states that have enacted legislation to develop an all-payer claims database.