



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY**

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

February 27, 2019

Hugh Straley, MD  
Chair, Robert Bree Collaborative  
c/o Foundation for Health Care Quality  
705 Second Avenue, Suite 410  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Dr. Straley:

**SUBJECT: Lumbar Fusion Bundled Payment Model and Warranty**

Thank you for your correspondence of January 29, 2019 regarding the revised Lumbar Fusion Bundled Payment Model and Warranty. We have reviewed and accept the update. It is very important that our state's innovative efforts are maintained and kept current with community practice, experience, and evidence.

We at the Health Care Authority champion the accountable payment models developed by the Bree Collaborative for key procedures. These are examples of some of "our" best work, combining years of legislative and community cooperation to invent or refine better ways to address challenging health care issues.

Thank you and the Collaborative for continuing your outstanding efforts to improve the safe and effective purchasing and improvement of health care and overall health in Washington State. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Josh Morse, Health Services Section Manager, by telephone at 360-725-0839 or via email at [Josh.Morse@hca.wa.gov](mailto:Josh.Morse@hca.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Susan E. Birch, MBA, BSN, RN  
Director

Josh Morse, Health Services Section Manager, CQCT, HCA