

Four Cycles

- Established by the State Legislature
- Goal to improve quality, health outcomes, and cost-effectiveness of care in Washington State
- Bring together member clinicians, Washington State agencies, hospitals, health care systems, health insurance plans, and quality improvement organizations
- Select health care topics every year and develop evidence-based recommendations by convening workgroups of clinical experts, administrative experts, patients, and others
- Recommendations guide health care purchasing for Washington State agencies and set a community standard of care.

Why bundled payments?

The majority of health care payments are for number of services provided rather than quality of care or per person or per episode of care. Bundled payments tie reimbursement to an entire episode of care while the warranty includes no reimbursement for complications resulting from poor care. Our bundled payment model includes bariatric surgery as a treatment option for select individuals and requires a holistic approach in which surgery is but one possible component of care. We organize our bundled payment model into four cycles including: appropriateness outlining requirements for a trial of non-surgical care, requirements for fitness for surgery, elements of best practice surgery and components of care aimed at our ultimate outcome, rapid return to function.

Our Bundled Payment Model and Warranty:

Eligibility Due to	 Document obesity and assess for weight-related comorbidities and
Obesity Despite	exclusions
Non-Surgical	
-	Begin comprehensive program of non-surgical care lifestyle modification
Therapy	according to ACC/AHA/TOS guideline or and other evidence-based guidelines
	 Assess patient response to intervention and patient safety
Fitness for	Patient meets minimal standards to ensure safety and commitment to
Surgery	participate actively in return to function. This includes documenting:
	 Requirements related to patient safety
	Patient engagement
	 Optimal preparation for surgery
Bariatric Surgery	 General standards for a surgical team performing surgery
	 Elements of optimal surgical process
	 Participation in the following registries
Post-Operative	 Standard process for post-operative care
Care and Return	• Use standardized hospital discharge process aligned with Washington State
to Function	Hospital Association (WSHA) toolkit
	 Arrange home health services
	 Schedule follow up appointments

+ Quality standards: Appropriateness, evidence-based surgery, ensuring rapid and durable return to function, the patient care experience, and patient safety and affordability.

+ Warranty: Purchaser will not provide reimbursement for readmission for avoidable complications within the risk windows specified at 7, 30, and 90 days.