



- 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 LGBTQ Health Care?

Building a health care system that allows everyone to have a fair opportunity to be healthier is a goal across Washington State. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer or questioning (LGBTQ) people share common challenges and have health care needs distinct from those who do not identify as LGBTQ. LGBTQ people may also face access issues relating to health insurance coverage and policies that reinforce stigma within the health care system and across communities.

Our [Report and Recommendations](#):

- Are based on whole-person care framework, taking into consideration a person's multiple individual factors that make up health, wellness, and experience (e.g., behavioral health, past trauma, race/ethnicity) in such a way that is not identity or diagnosis-limiting.
- Are oriented mainly to primary care, and also include language directed to hospital settings, health plans, health care purchasers, and patients themselves.
- Recommend that all health care encounters occur using non-judgmental, non-stigmatizing language, body language, and tone.

