Washington Advocates for Patient Safety
Who We Are.

- A consumer-based, non-profit organization
- Patient safety advocates, survivors of preventable medical errors, or family members who lost loved ones to medical harm.
- Networking with Consumers Union Safe Patient Project and other patient safety advocacy groups in the nation
Our Mission

To promote transparency, accountability, quality, safety, and responsibility in patient care
We Promote:

- Patient-centered care
- Health care and medical board transparency and accountability
- Quality healthcare and medication safety
- Eliminating Hospital-associated infections
- Medical device safety
- Patient’s rights to be informed of all treatment risks and choices
- Better communications between patients and medical professionals
- Patient education and advocacy
Issues We Have Been Working on:

- Together with Consumers Union, we worked with state legislators to successfully amend House Bill 1471 to restore public reporting on infections involved hip and knee replacements and cardiac surgery.

- Attending and providing public comments at the state HAI Advisory Committee meetings and medical board (MQAC) meetings.

- Collaborating with Consumers Union, scientific organizations, researchers, and medical orthopedic specialists to push for transparency of FDA and medical device manufactures regarding medical device safety and regulation.

- Push for legislation to increase transparency of state regulatory boards and medical providers.

- Push for state legislation to validate and improve hospital-reported adverse event data by incorporating patients’ reports.

- Collaborating with UW School of Nursing and the Center for Health Sciences Interprofessional Education to teach patient-centered care through interprofessional team-based efforts.
Resources

Compare Hospitals and Care Providers
Hospital Comparisons helps consumers make informed decisions about health care and allows consumers to select multiple hospitals and directly compare performance measure information related to heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, surgery and other conditions. Choose wisely! Your choice may be the difference between life and death.

Search for Doctors
Here is a list of websites where you can search for doctors, review their ratings, and read others patients’ comments and experiences with their care providers. Be a wise consumer.

Where to File a Complaint
If you believe you or your loved ones were mistreated or harmed at hospitals or in clinics, you can file complaints to voice your concerns about the poor quality of care you received. The following links take you to various state and federal agencies that are supposed to protect the public. You have the right to have your voice heard.

General Medical References
This section contains a list of medical references such as a medical dictionary, Mayo Clinic information, Merck Manual, and WebMD. Be informed.

Drug References and Information
According to the 2006 report by Institute of Medicine, “Preventing Medication Errors”, medication errors harm about 1.5 million people in the US each year. We hope these references will help you make informed decisions on the medications you are taking or will be taking.
We Invite You to Join Our Efforts to Make Consumers’ and Patients’ Voices Loud and Strong