


Center for
Rural Health

<http://ruralhealth.und.edu>

ND HIT Environmental Scan

*Connecting resources and knowledge to strengthen
the health of people in rural communities.*



Purpose

To gain a perspective on where facilities are with regard to planning and implementing HIT.

- Hospitals
- Long Term Care facilities
- Clinics



Hospital Surveys

Distribution (N = 45)

Response to date 17 – Total

1 - Tertiary facility (6)

16 - Rural facilities (39)



**Is your hospital part of a system?
(e.g. Catholic Health Initiative; Sisters of
Mary of the Presentation; Meritcare; Altru;
St. Alexius; Trinity, etc.)**

35.3% answered Yes

**Is your facility affiliated with a network
(separate of the above mentioned system)
that has some or an exclusive focus on the
adoption of HIT?**

81.3% answered Yes



IT Staff

Do you have an individual designated to oversee the information technology for your facility? (e.g. Chief Information Officer(CIO), information technology (IT) manager, computer technician)?

76.5% responded Yes

23.5% responded No

If you are currently NOT sharing the services of the CIO/IT Manager, computer technician, etc. would your facility consider doing so?

81.3% responded Yes

18.8% responded No



Planning

Does your facility have a formal HIT steering committee/work group?

52.9% - responded Yes

35.3% - responded No

11.8% - In the process of forming

Has your facility conducted an assessment of computer skills of administrative and/or clinical staff in the past two years?

17.6% - Yes, we have completed assessments

11.8% - Yes, we have completed assessments and implemented a training program

11.8% - No, but we plan to do this

52.9% - No, but we are interested in technical assistance on how to do this

17.6% - No, and we have no interest or plans to do so



Has your facility conducted any analysis of work flow in the past two years?

- 12.5% - Yes, we have completed analysis of work flow
- 12.5% - Yes, we have completed analysis of work flow and implemented needed changes
- 12.5% - No, but we plan to do this
- 56.3% - No, but we are interested in technical assistance on how to do this.**
- 12.5% - No, and we have no interest or plans to do so

What is the time frame of your strategic plan for HIT?

- 5.9% - 0-1 years
- 23.5% - 2-4 years
- 17.6% - 5 years or more
- 23.5% - We are currently developing a strategic plan for HIT
- 29.4% - No strategic plan for HIT has been developed (interested in technical assistance)**



Implementation

Does your facility currently use an electronic medical record(EMR)system?

(An electronic medical record (EMR) refers to an electronic representation of an individual patient's medical record. An EMR facilitates access of patient data by clinical staff at any given location; accurate and complete claims processing by insurance companies; prescriptions; scheduling; bi-directional viewing of laboratory information. The practice management system is the medical office functions which support and surround the EMR.)

- 47.1% - responded Yes
- 52.9% - responded No**



Please indicate how significant each item below is or has been as a driver for implementing/planning for an electronic medical record(EMR)?

Most Significant

Availability of grant funding **46.7%**

Moderately Significant

Administrator advocate for EMR **66.7%**

Increased public attention on HIT **62.5%**

Inefficiencies experienced by providers **62.5%**

Improving quality of healthcare **56.3%**

Improving patient safety **56.3%**

Least Significant

Clinical staff advocate for EMR **46.7%**

Public health surveillance needs **46.7%**

Rising healthcare costs **37.5%**

Not at all Significant

We have a physician(s)who advocates for EMR **33.3%**



Please rate, on a scale of 1-4, to what degree the following barriers have slowed or prevented implementation of an EMR in your organization?

Great impact

Lack of financial resources-initial cost of IT investment **88.2%**

Current reimbursement system **86.7%**

Lack of financial resources-ongoing costs of hardware/software **76.5%**

Moderate impact

Concern about patient privacy-security(e.g.HIPAA) **56.3%**

Concern over completeness and accuracy of records **40.0%**

Little impact

Difficulty achieving other health care professional acceptance **60.0%**

Legal barriers to investment and development **53.3%**

Development of sustainable business model **46.7%**

Concern over completeness and accuracy of records **40.0%**

Little or/ No impact

Finding a vendor that is approved by CCHIT **40.0%**



What percent of the computers in your hospital have Internet access?

0-25% - 0.0%

26-50% - 5.9%

51-75% - 5.9%

76-99% - 41.2%

100% - 47.1%



How would you best describe plans for purchasing the following ~~hardware and equipment~~ used for HIT infrastructure in your hospital?

Already in place

High-speed/Broadband Internet Access **94.1%**

Computer workstations - stationary **94.1%**

Data back-up onsite **76.5%**

Wireless Internet Access **75.0%**

Data Server (not shared) - Facility owned/maintained **68.8%**

Computer workstations - mobile **62.5%**

Scanners **50.0%**


Within 1-2 years

Data back-up offsite **56.3%**

Digitizers **43.8%**

Tablet Computers **37.5%**

Data Server (shared) - owned by rural site, shared with one or more rural sites **26.7%**


 How would you best describe plans for implementing the following electronic administrative/financial systems at your hospital?

Already in place

- Payroll **76.5%**
- Claims submission **70.6%**
- Patient billing **70.6%**
- Accounting **70.6%**

Within 1-2 years

- Medical-surgical supply management **37.5%**
- Pharmacy supply chain management **35.3%**

 How would you best describe plans for implementing the following electronic patient management processes at your hospital?

Already in Place

- Admission/discharge/transfer(ADT) **76.5%**
- Scheduling of procedures **41.2%**

Within 1-2 years

- Claims scrubbing **50.0%**

How would you best describe plans for implementing the following electronic clinical systems at your hospital?

Already in Place

Integrated Laboratory Information System (LIS) **43.8%**
 Picture Archiving and Communications System(PACS) **41.2%**
 Pharmacy Information System **31.3%**

With in 1-2 years

Physician documentation **58.8%**
 Computed Radiography(CR) **56.3%**
 Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE) **50.0%**
 Single sign-on **52.9%**
 Electronic signature **47.1%**
 Data capture from devices **43.8%**
 Physician portal for remote access **37.5%**
 Pharmacy Information System **31.3%**

How would you best describe plans for utilizing telemedicine at your hospital? (Telemedicine is the use of telecommunications and IT to deliver health services and transmit health information over distance.)

Already in Place

Videoconferencing **75.0%**
 Tele-Radiology **46.7%**
 Tele-Pharmacy **33.3%**

No plan at this time (but interested in exploring)

Tele-Stroke **66.7%**
 Tele-Dialysis(consults) **60.0%**
 Provider-provider consultation **53.3%**
 Tele-Intensive Care Unit **53.3%**
 Patient-provider consultation **50.0%**



Financing HIT

How do you finance your HIT systems?

(Check all that apply.)

Capital budget 82.4%

Grants 82.4%

Operational budget 70.6%

Loans 58.8%

Bonds 23.5%

What is your current operating budget for HIT as a percentage (%) of the overall operating revenue?

Less than 1% - 31.3%

2% - 25.0%



Financing HIT

Which of the following describes the projected spending on HIT in the upcoming years?

Substantial increase (more than 5%) in two years

68.8%

Slight increase (up to 5%) in five years

64.3%