



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**ELLIOT HOSPITAL NAMED MOST WIRED FOR FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR**  
*Most Wired Hospitals Focus on Security and Patient Engagement*

**Manchester, NH** - — Health data security and patient engagement are top priorities for the nation's hospitals, according to results of the 17<sup>th</sup> annual HealthCare's Most Wired™ survey, released earlier this month by the American Hospital Association's Health Forum and the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME).

The 2015 Most Wired™ survey and benchmarking study, in partnership with CHIME and sponsored by VMware, is a leading industry barometer measuring information technology (IT) use and adoption among hospitals nationwide. The survey of more than 741 participants, representing more than 2,213 hospitals, examined how organizations are leveraging IT to improve performance for value-based healthcare in the areas of infrastructure, business and administrative management, quality and safety, and clinical integration.

"Elliot has committed itself to over a decade of hard work between the IT department and clinical teams to initially achieve and then maintain the title of Most Wired," explained Joe Kulle, Chief Information Officer. "This distinction is not easily achieved nor maintained for five consecutive years. I'm so proud of the Elliot team who work tirelessly to sustain this level of excellence for our patients and providers," added Kulle.

According to the survey, hospitals are taking more aggressive privacy and security measures to protect and safeguard patient data. Top growth areas in security among this year's Most Wired organizations include privacy audit systems, provisioning systems, data loss prevention, single sign-on and identity management. The survey also found:

- 96 percent of Most Wired organizations use intrusion detection systems compared to 85 percent of the all respondents. Privacy audit systems (94 percent) and security incident event management (93 percent) are also widely used.
- 79 percent of Most Wired organizations conduct incident response exercises or tabletop tests annually, a high-level estimate of the current potential for success of a cybersecurity incident response plan, compared to 37 percent of all responding hospitals.
- 83 percent of Most Wired organizations report that hospital board oversight of risk management and reduction includes cybersecurity risk.

As hospitals and health systems begin to transition away from volume-based care to more integrated, value-based care delivery, hospitals are utilizing IT to better facilitate information exchange across the care settings. This includes greater alignment between hospitals and physicians. According to the survey, the physician portal is a key factor in strengthening physician-hospital alignment:

- In 84 percent of Most Wired organizations, physicians can view and exchange other facilities' results in the portal compared with 63 percent of hospitals surveyed.
- 76 percent use the portal and electronic health record (EHR) to exchange results with other EHRs and health information exchanges compared to 56 percent of those surveyed.
- 81 percent can communicate with patients via email or alerts in contrast to 63 percent of all respondents.

Driven beyond the requirements of Meaningful Use Stage 2, this year's Most Wired hospitals are utilizing the benefits of a patient portal to get patients actively involved in their health and healthcare. For instance, 89 percent of Most Wired organizations offer access to the patient portal through a mobile application. Other key findings include:

- 67 percent of Most Wired hospitals offer the ability to incorporate patient-generated data.
- 63 percent offer self-management tools for chronic conditions.
- 60 percent offer patient-specific education in multiple languages.

“We commend and congratulate this year’s Most Wired hospitals and their CIOs for improving care delivery and outcomes in our nation’s hospitals through their creative and revolutionary uses of technology,” said CHIME CEO and President Russell P. Branzell, FCHIME CHCIO. “These Most Wired organizations represent excellence in IT leadership on the frontlines of healthcare transformation.”

“Congratulations to our nation’s Most Wired hospitals for harnessing the potential of information technology to improve quality care and patient safety and lower health care costs,” said Rich Umbdenstock, president and CEO of the AHA. “At the forefront of the field, these hospitals are setting the bar for protection of patient data through discerning security measures.”

HealthCare’s Most Wired™ Survey, conducted between Jan. 15 and March 15, 2015, is published annually by *Health & Hospitals Network*. Respondents completed 741 surveys, representing more than 39 percent of all U.S. hospitals. Last October, the AHA/Health Forum and CHIME announced the formation of a Most Wired partnership to enhance collaboration between the two organizations in the development and sustainability of the survey, and to collectively help meet the growing demand for useful data on health IT integration.

Detailed results of the survey and study can be found in the July issue of [H&HN](#). For a full list of winners visit [www.hhnmag.com](http://www.hhnmag.com).

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