



PRESS RELEASE

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ELLIOT HEALTH SYSTEM NAMED 2014 MOST WIRED
Most Wired Hospitals Connect Providers and Patients

Manchester, NH – Elliot Health System has been recognized as one of the nation’s “Most Wired” for the fourth year in a row, according to the results of the 2014 Most Wired Survey released in the July issue of *Hospitals & Health Networks* magazine.

As the nation’s health care system transitions to more integrated and patient-centered care, hospitals are utilizing information technology to better connect disparate care providers, according to the 16th annual Health Care’s Most Wired Survey.

For instance, 67 percent of Most Wired hospitals share critical patient information electronically with specialists and other care providers. Most Wired hospitals, those that meet a set of rigorous criteria across four operational categories, have made tremendous gains by using IT to reduce the likelihood of medical errors. Among Most Wired hospitals, 81 percent of medications are matched to the patient, nurse and order via bar code technology at the bedside.

“It is an honor to be recognized for the fourth consecutive year in a row, particularly because Elliot has made an incredibly strong commitment to leveraging our electronic medical record (EMR) to improve patient care and the patient experience. We maintain a single electronic medical record throughout Elliot, which now includes our Visiting Nurse Association and includes a secure patient portal that allows patients access to their own medical record. Elliot is also the only health system in New Hampshire to have achieved a level 6 EMR adoption score (0-7) from HIMSS Analytics which recognizes hospitals and physicians for their commitment to improving safety, minimizing errors and prioritizing IT implementations,” explained Denise Purington, VP, CIO. “The Elliot has always dedicated itself to being on the cutting edge of technology and this recognition further validates that our efforts are worthwhile and do play a significant role in our care delivery system to our patients,” added Purington.

“Hospital leaders should be commended for the hard work they’ve done under an unrealistic time frame,” states Russell P. Branzell, president and CEO of the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives, referring to federal requirements that health care providers adopt and meaningfully use a certified electronic health records (EHR). “Still, there

is a substantial amount of work ahead. Effective C-suites view IT adoption as a collaborative effort. They have a clear strategic plan and know how IT fits into that."

To that end, nearly all participants in the Most Wired Survey and Benchmarking Study have an established health IT project governance process and evaluate existing workflow processes and desired outcomes.

The 2014 Most Wired Survey also covered the evolution of new models and payment from the IT perspective. As health care delivery moves to a value-based system, it will require more and better use of data analytics, care coordination and population health management.

- 36 percent of Most Wired hospitals aggregate data from patient encounters to create a community health record.
- 71 percent of Most Wired hospitals manage care transitions compared with 57 percent of all responding organizations.
- 43 percent of Most Wired organizations integrate clinical and claims data so that they are accessible, searchable, and reportable across the care community

"As we talk about collecting data, one of the critical competencies is making sure you have views of the clinical and financial sides," says Rose Higgins, senior vice president and general manager, population and risk management at McKesson Technology Solutions. "You need both to be successful. Seeing them together will provide a better picture of what's happening at the population health level and will be important as hospitals take on more risk."

- 69 percent of Most Wired hospitals use tools for retrospective analysis of clinical and administrative data to identify areas for improving the quality of care and reducing the cost of care delivered.

Health Care's Most Wired Survey, conducted between Jan. 15 and March 15, asked hospitals and health systems nationwide to answer questions regarding their IT initiatives. Respondents completed 680 surveys, representing 1,900 hospitals, or more than 30 percent of all U.S. hospitals.

"I am so proud of the teams of IT staff as well as the doctors and nurses who have made this achievement possible. We are honored once again to be named among the nation's Top 100 Hospitals – Most Wired," said Purington.

The July *H&HN* cover story detailing results is available at www.hhnmag.com.

Elliot Health System is a non-profit organization serving your healthcare needs since 1890. The largest provider of comprehensive healthcare services in Southern New Hampshire, Elliot Hospital, a 296-bed acute care facility and the first community hospital in the state, serves as the cornerstone of the health system. Elliot is home to Manchester's designated Regional Trauma Center, Elliot Breast Health Center, Elliot Urgent Care, a Level 3 Newborn Intensive Care Unit, Elliot Physician Network, Elliot Regional Cancer Center, the Elliot Senior Health Center, Visiting Nurse Association of Manchester and Southern New Hampshire, Elliot 1-Day Surgery Center, Elliot at River's Edge and New Hampshire's Hospital for Children For more information on any of Elliot's services, call Elliot Direct at 663-1111 or visit www.elliethospital.org.

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