Health Information Technology
An Assessment of Maryland Acute Care Hospitals

Commission Brief
June 20, 2019

The MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION
Overview

• Hospital health information technology (health IT) assessment conducted annually since 2008

• Assessment has evolved from evaluating hospital adoption to perceived value of health IT post-HITECH* and includes focus areas for population health and cybersecurity

• Infographic dashboards organized by five key categories and highlight findings with accompanying value statements supported by literature

*Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009
Highlights

• After a decade of investing in building a health IT infrastructure, focus is shifting toward leveraging data to improve care\(^1\)

• Nearly all hospitals have possessed certified EHR technology since 2015 (adoption in Maryland: 100%; Nation: 96\%)\(^2\)

• Statewide, hospital use of regional HIEs (100\%) exceeds the nation (52\%); EHR vendor-mediated networks gaining traction\(^3\)

• Telehealth adoption by hospitals locally (92\%) exceeds the nation (76\%)\(^4\)

• Hospitals statewide consistently report security risk assessments (100\%) in three key areas as compared to about three quarters of hospitals nationally (71%-75\%)\(^5\)

Note: Refer to Appendix for references (1-5)
POPULATION HEALTH
Population Health

- Building population health capabilities requires more than just a firm investment in technology
  - Hospital characteristics influence focus areas for population health; alignment among areas of focus that center on collaboration, data sharing, and analysis
  - Data driven strategies fueling interest in non-traditional data (e.g., prescription medication history and socioeconomic information)

Note: See Appendix for more information on hospital top three health IT strategic focus areas
ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS
Electronic Health Records

- Improving the seamless flow of information within a health care infrastructure and critical in revolutionizing how digital data can transform health care
  - Viewed favorably in supporting quality improvement through better communication, patient safety, and utilization management
  - Viewed less favorably for cost-controlling and improving physician satisfaction

Hospital Views about Value

- Enhances Interdisciplinary Communication
  - 73% Overall
  - 88% Health System
  - 58% Community-Based

- Reduces Adverse Medical Events
  - Overall 96%
- Reduces Unnecessary Utilization
  - 88% Overall
  - 92% Health System
  - 83% Community-Based

Note: See Appendix for information on hospital views about EHRs lowering cost and contributing to physician satisfaction
HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE
Health Information Exchange

• Critical functionality for care coordination and population health, though limited by interoperability barriers that impede keeping pace with rapidly emerging delivery system reforms
  o Viewed favorably for improvements in care coordination and transitions
  o Viewed less positively for helping increase awareness of primary care services
  o Satisfied with CRISP, with high reliance on HIE services in the emergency department

Note: See Appendix for more information on hospital views about HIE increasing awareness of primary care services
TELEHEALTH
• Building momentum in its promise to address supply and demand challenges in and out of the hospital

  - Hospitals are centralizing implementation and management of telehealth across disciplines and specialties to support a broader value-based care strategy.
CYBERSECURITY
Cybersecurity

• A strategic issue for hospitals once considered easy targets with obsolete defenses
  
  o Hospital security risk assessments (SRA) evolving with the threat landscape that requires new and improved security measures to protect data and patient safety
  
  o Patient safety is a top medical device security concern requiring more uniformity among hospitals and device manufacturers to ensure protections for an array of devices connected to their networks
APPENDIX
References


#1 Health IT Strategic Focus Areas

Forming or expanding clinically integrated networks

71% Overall

75% Health System

67% Community-Based
#2 Health IT Strategic Focus Areas

Improving physician-hospital alignment

Advancing predictive analytic capabilities

Adapting to consumer demands and expectations

Health System: 42%

Community-Based: 25% (Equally Ranked)
Implementing telehealth

- Overall: 46%
- Community-Based: 54%
- Health System: 38%
EHRs: Hospital Views about Value

- Partially contributes to physician satisfaction: 48%
- Cost-controlling capability not widely evident: 27%

2010 EHR Adoption Push
HIE: Hospital Views about Value

Increases awareness of primary care services

- Health System 46%
- Community-Based 58%
- Overall 52%
HIE: Hospital Views about Value (continued...)

Satisfied with CRISP HIE services

Overall 94%

CRISP reporting services central to improving quality of care

70% Overall
77% Health System
63% Community-Based
Cybersecurity: Security Risk Assessment Frequency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Maryland</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Once per year</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Once every six months</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
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