

## Implementing Innovative and Compliant Electronic Health Record Systems

Hospitals and physicians have leaped from analog to digital—going from 10 percent information technology (IT) capable to 70 percent in a relatively short time span. From meaningful use incentives to participation in accountable care organizations, there is no shortage of healthcare provider motivation to compile and share information more effectively. At the heart of the Health Information Exchange (HIE) movement are electronic health records (EHRs) and electronic medical records (EMRs), which offer the potential to improve quality, safety, efficiency and reduce health disparities; engage patients and families; improve care coordination; better population and public health; and maintain secure patient health information. Although hospitals are leading the transition to the 2014 Edition Electronic Health Record Certification and adoption of the World Health Organization’s greatly expanded International Classification of Disease tenth revision (ICD-10), EHRs and their uses are constantly evolving.

Advantages to EHR systems come with potentials for profit losses, compliance violations and other issues to consider, such as:

- EHR implementation costs
- Complying with health record certification and ICD-10
- Guarding HIPAA and other patient privacy goals
- Balancing HIE cooperation and transparency with competition and privacy
- Managing and sharing massive data files
- Incorporating physician and other possible not-up-to-date EHRs

To realize EHR’s full potential benefits for patients and healthcare facilities, it requires risk managers to share knowledge and experience with their colleagues, as well as reach out beyond their institutions for technical support and community input.

SHARING IN THE CARING

**ASHRM**  
**HRM WEEK**  
JUNE 16-20, 2014  
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## HRM Week Topic 1

### Solutions:

- Choose an EHR product that can enhance, not erode, profitability
- Optimize the speed of EHR compliance and sharing implementation
- Implement meaningful use in a way that maximizes payments
- Use Regional Extension Centers, funded by the Office of the National Coordination for Health Information Technology, to guide EHR implementation and project management; vendor selection; workflow redesign; privacy and security; training; ongoing technical assistance; and more
- Focus, on a patient-centric records-keeping and sharing model that combines hospital operational requirements and patient needs
- Select cloud-based systems to enhance sharing capabilities and storage challenges
- Encourage physicians to update to new evidence-based standards and requirements by cultivating practice champions or physician liaisons to inspire their peers

### Individuals who may be involved in EHRs include:

- Risk managers
- Physicians
- Patients and families
- Patient advocates
- Customer service
- HIE committee
- IT professionals
- Data input employees or services
- Cyber security team
- Regulatory agencies
- Third party vendors who develop and service the EHR system

For more information go to [ashrm.org/hrmweek](http://ashrm.org/hrmweek)