2017 AHA Annual Survey
Information Technology Supplement™

Background | Technical Notes | New Questions

BACKGROUND

The 2017 *AHA Annual Survey Information Technology Supplement*™ database marks the 10th year American Hospital Association has partnered with the **Office of the National Coordinator (ONC)** on a survey to measure the adoption and implementation of United States Department of Health and Human Service's *Promoting Interoperability* initiative.

The IT Supplement Survey was sent to the chief executive officer of each hospital regardless of their membership status with the American Hospital Association. The individual with the most familiarity with the hospital's health information technology was asked to complete the survey based on the current environment at the time of response. The 2017 Survey was in the field from January 2018 to May 2018.

Main categories of the IT Supplement Survey are:

- ⊕ Inventory of the hospital's computerized system capabilities
- ⊕ Patient engagement
- ⊕ Provider burden
- ⊕ Querying information from outside providers or sources
- ⊕ Interoperability barriers
- ⊕ EHR system and IT vendors

These categories have been relatively consistent over time. However, individual questions have been added, deleted, or modified across time based on their relevance in the specific year of observation. Data from prior year surveys are separately available.

AHA Data & Insights

The 2017 *AHA Annual Survey Information Technology Supplement* database contains the following files:

Introduction *(PDF format)*	Brief introduction and background of the Survey.
File layout *(MS Excel format)*	The organization of the data file with field names and descriptions. There are two (2) field label formats. Use the one best suited to your environment. • Survey Question Number – Indicates the corresponding question number on the Survey. • Database field name – A short label consistent across time. *Note*: The file layout includes an 'Expanded field name' which is used on the online application, *AHA DataViewer™*.
Survey questionnaire *(PDF format)*	A copy of the 2017 AHA Annual Survey Information Technology Supplement questionnaire in PDF format.
Data file	2017 data file in Microsoft Excel format for responding hospitals. **N=3,548**.

AHA Data & Insights

The following questions are new for the 2017 AHA Annual Survey IT Supplement. Refer to the 2017 questionnaire for all questions and response options.

Question Number	Question
1	Does your hospital currently have a computerized system which allows for: *New item: 1.g*.
1. g	[Results Viewing]: Consultation requests.
2	How do designated staff in your hospital check your state's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) data?
3	Are patients treated in your hospital able to do the following: *New items: 3.c; 3.l*.
3. c	Import their records from other organizations into their record in your EHR patient portal?
3. l	Access their health information using any application configured to meet the application programming interfaces (API) specifications in the EHR.
4	Approximately what percentage of patients treated in your hospital during calendar year 2017 have activated their access to your patient portal?

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Question Number	Question
5	What are some of the challenges your hospital has experienced when trying to submit health information to public health agencies to meet meaningful use requirements? (Please check all that apply)
6	To what degree does your hospital use automated, EHR generated measures (versus using manual processes such as chart abstraction) for each of the following programs?
7	What barriers—if any—has your hospital experienced in the transition from manual to fully or primarily automated reporting? (Please check all that apply).
8	Does your EHR system have the capability to export multiple records from its system?
9a/9b	Does your hospital use your EHR or other IT system data (e.g., log audit data) to track the amount of time clinicians spend completing documentation? (b) If yes, how are these data used?
10	When a patient transitions to another care setting or organization outside your hospital system, how often does your hospital use the following methods to SEND a summary of care record?
13	When a patient transitions from another care setting or organization outside your hospital system, how often does your hospital use the following methods to RECEIVE a summary of care record? [Methods without intermediaries. Methods with intermediaries].
16. b.	How frequently do providers at your hospital use patient health information received electronically from outside providers or sources when treating a patient? If rarely or never used, please indicate the reason(s) why. *New items: 16.b.6; 16.b.7*
16. b.6	Information that is specific and relevant is hard to find.

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Question Number	Question
16. b.7	Vocabulary and/or semantic representation differences limit use.
17	Which of the following health information networks does your hospital participate in (either directly or through your EHR or HIE vendor)?
19	Which of the following issues has your hospital experienced when trying to **electronically** send, receive or find patient health information to/from other care settings or organizations? *New items: 19.j; 19.m.*
19. j	There are providers whom we share patients with that don't typically exchange patient data with us.
19. m	We had to develop customized interfaces in order to electronically exchange health information. (m.1.) If yes, how many?
25	What changes, if any, are you planning for your primary inpatient EMR/EHR system within the next 18 months? *New item: 25.e*
25. e	Optimizing functionality of new releases.
26. b	Is patient health information electronically exchanged or made electronically available between your primary inpatient and outpatient systems so that data is easily available to clinicians?
27	What are your primary challenge(s) in implementing and using an EMR/EHR system that meets the federal requirements for meaningful use? *New item: 27.j*

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Question Number	Question
27. j	Pace and extent of other regulatory requirement changes.

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