



News Release

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HIMSS Analytics Honors Bristol Hospital with Stage 6 Recognition

BRISTOL, Conn—HIMSS Analytics has announced that Bristol Hospital and Health Care Group, Inc, has achieved Stage 6 on the EMR Adoption ModelSM (EMRAM).

HIMSS Analytics developed the EMR Adoption Model in 2005 as a methodology for evaluating the progress and impact of electronic medical record systems for hospitals in the HIMSS AnalyticsTM Database.



“HIMSS Analytics congratulates Bristol Hospital for leading the way toward health IT adoption,” said John Hoyt, FACHE, FHIMSS, executive vice president, organizational services for HIMSS. “Stage 6 represents a level of sophistication that only 439 US hospitals have reached to date.”

Tracking their progress in completing eight stages (0-7), hospitals can review the implementation and utilization of information technology applications with the intent of reaching Stage 7, which represents an advanced electronic patient record environment. Stage 6 hospitals also have achieved a significant advancement in their IT capabilities that positions them to successfully address many of the current industry transformations, such as meaningful use criteria in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, claims attachments for the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, pay for performance and government quality reporting programs.

“This recognition by HIMSS places Bristol Hospital in pretty select company,” said Kurt Barwis, FACHE, president and CEO of Bristol Hospital and Health Care Group, Inc. “Hospitals that have achieved Stage 6 adoption have committed to the advanced use of technology to enhance the quality and safety of health care delivery systems. The implementation of the new information systems at Bristol is an example of the strategic commitment of the hospital to provide its clinicians with the tools to deliver the highest quality care for our patients.”

As of November 2012, just 6.7 percent of the more than 5,300 U.S. hospitals tracked by HIMSS Analytics had reached Stage 6 on its EMRAM. As of November 2012, there are 439 US hospitals that have achieved Stage 6. These hospitals:

- Have made significant executive commitments and investments to reach this stage

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- Appear to have a significant advantage over competitors for patient safety, clinician support, clinician recruitment and competitive marketing for both consumers and nurse recruitment
- Have almost fully automated/paperless medical records when they have implemented their IT applications across most of the inpatient care settings
- Are either starting to evaluate their data for care delivery process improvements or have already documented significant improvements in this area
- Have made investments that are within reach of most hospitals and recognize the strategic value of improving patient care with the EMR
- Have begun to create strategic alignments with their medical staff to effectively utilize information technology to improve the patient safety environment
- Are well positioned to provide data to key stakeholders, such as payers, the government, physicians, consumers, and employers, to support electronic health record environments and health information exchanges

In 2008, Bristol Hospital began its journey toward an electronic medical record with the completion of a strategic planning effort that laid the groundwork for a significant technology advance. During the next two years, a comprehensive plan was developed which resulted in the renovation and modernization of the organization's data center and the selection of Meditech as the vendor to provide the platform for the Electronic Health Record.

The Meditech implementation began in June 2010 and culminated with the launch of the system in June, 2011. Subsequent work has been conducted to refine the new processes that were introduced to support the Computerized Physician Order Entry that was already in place. New capabilities include Bar Code Med Verification, Physician and Nurse documentation on line, and Clinical Decision Support, all linked by fully integrated clinical modules. As a result of the implementation, the Emergency Care Center and the Peri-Operative Center were linked to the system to provide a continuous electronic record of patient care from admission to discharge.

