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**SAINT FRANCIS NAMED A “MOST WIRED” HOSPITAL**

*Most Wired Hospitals Focus on Security and Patient Engagement*

**ANN ARBOR, MI and CHICAGO, IL - July 13, 2015** — Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center has been recognized as one of the nation’s *Most Wired* hospitals, according to results of the 2015 *Most Wired* Survey published in the July issue of *Hospitals & Health Networks* magazine.

Named to the *Most Wired* list for the 6th consecutive year, Saint Francis is one of nine hospitals in Connecticut to be recognized this year for using information technology to ensure health data security and to connect patients with their health records.

Health data security and patient engagement are top priorities for the nation’s hospitals, according to results of the 17<sup>th</sup> annual HealthCare’s *Most Wired*<sup>™</sup> survey, released by the American Hospital Association’s Health Forum and the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME).

The 2015 *Most Wired*<sup>™</sup> survey and benchmarking study, in partnership with CHIME and sponsored by VMware, is a leading industry barometer measuring information technology (IT) use and adoption among hospitals nationwide. The survey of more than 741 participants, representing more than 2,213 hospitals, examined how organizations are leveraging IT to

improve performance for value-based healthcare in the areas of infrastructure, business and administrative management, quality and safety, and clinical integration.

“Our use of innovative technologies across all hospital platforms ensures that our patients have the very best hospital experience,” said Christopher M. Dadlez., President and Chief Executive Officer, Saint Francis *Care*. “Connecting our caregivers and patients through technology will lead to improvements in the overall health of our communities. We are most pleased to once again be the recipient of the *Most Wired* recognition.”

“Saint Francis continues to be at the forefront of technology that offers advancements to both the caregiver and the patient,” said Linda Shanley, Vice President, Chief Information Officer. “This past year we rolled out our Epi*Care* Community Connect program to more than 400 physician offices, providing greater access for providers and patients in our communities to their electronic health record.”

According to the survey, hospitals are taking more aggressive privacy and security measures to protect and safeguard patient data. Top growth areas in security among this year’s *Most Wired* organizations include privacy audit systems, provisioning systems, data loss prevention, single sign-on and identity management.

The survey also found:

[if !supportLists]· [endif]96 percent of *Most Wired* organizations use intrusion detection systems compared to 85 percent of the all respondents. Privacy audit systems (94 percent) and security incident event management (93 percent) are also widely used.

[if !supportLists]· [endif]79 percent of *Most Wired* organizations conduct incident response exercises or tabletop tests annually, a high-level estimate of the current potential for success of a cybersecurity incident response plan, compared to 37 percent of all responding hospitals.

[if !supportLists]· [endif]83 percent of *Most Wired* organizations report that hospital board oversight of risk management and reduction includes cybersecurity risk. “With the rising number of patient data breaches and cybersecurity attacks threatening the healthcare industry, protecting patient health information is a top priority for hospital customers,” said Frank Nydam, Senior Director of Healthcare at VMware. “Coupled with the incredible technology innovation taking place today, healthcare organizations need to have security as a foundational component of their mobility, cloud and networking strategy and incorporated into the very fabric of the organization.” As hospitals and health systems begin to transition away from volume-based care to more integrated, value-based care delivery, hospitals are utilizing IT to better facilitate information exchange across the care settings. This includes greater alignment between hospitals and physicians. According to the survey, the physician portal is a key factor in strengthening physician-hospital alignment:

[if !supportLists]· [endif]In 84 percent of *Most Wired* organizations, physicians can view and exchange other facilities’ results in the portal compared with 63 percent of hospitals surveyed.

[if !supportLists]· [endif]76 percent use the portal and electronic health record (EHR) to exchange results with other EHRs and health information exchanges compared to 56 percent of those surveyed.

[if !supportLists]· [endif]81 percent can communicate with patients via email or alerts in contrast to 63 percent of all respondents.

Driven beyond the requirements of Meaningful Use Stage 2, this year's *Most Wired* hospitals are utilizing the benefits of a patient portal to get patients actively involved in their health and healthcare. For instance, 89 percent of *Most Wired*

organizations offer access to the patient portal through a mobile application. Other key findings include:

- [if !supportLists]· [endif]67 percent of *Most Wired* hospitals offer the ability to incorporate patient-generated data.
- [if !supportLists]· [endif]63 percent offer self-management tools for chronic conditions.
- [if !supportLists]· [endif]60 percent offer patient-specific education in multiple languages.

“We commend and congratulate this year’s *Most Wired* hospitals and their CIOs for improving care delivery and outcomes in our nation’s hospitals through their creative and revolutionary uses of technology,” said CHIME CEO and President Russell P. Branzell, FCHIME CHCIO. “These *Most Wired* organizations represent excellence in IT leadership on the frontlines of healthcare transformation.”

“Congratulations to our nation’s *Most Wired* hospitals for harnessing the potential of information technology to improve quality care and patient safety and lower health care costs,” said Rich Umbdenstock, president and CEO of the AHA. “At the forefront of the field, these hospitals are setting the bar for protection of patient data through discerning security measures.”

HealthCare’s *Most Wired*<sup>™</sup> Survey, conducted between Jan. 15 and March 15, 2015, is published annually by *Health & Hospitals Network*. Respondents completed 741 surveys, representing more than 39 percent of all U.S. hospitals. Last October, the AHA/Health Forum and CHIME announced the formation of a *Most Wired* partnership to enhance collaboration between the two organizations in the development and sustainability of the survey, and to collectively help meet the growing demand for useful data on health IT integration.

Detailed results of the survey and study can be found in the July issue of [H&HN](#). For a full list of winners visit

[www.hhnmag.com](http://www.hhnmag.com).

### **About Saint Francis Care**

Saint Francis *Care* is an integrated healthcare delivery system established by Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, an anchor institution in north central Connecticut since 1897. Licensed for 617 beds and 65 bassinets, it is a major teaching hospital and the largest Catholic hospital in New England. Other major entities of Saint Francis *Care* include The Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital, the Connecticut Joint Replacement Institute, the Hoffman Heart and Vascular Institute of Connecticut, the Saint Francis/Mount Sinai Regional Cancer Center, the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care and Neuroscience Research, and Saint Francis HealthCare Partners. Johnson Memorial Medical Center, parent organization of Johnson Memorial Hospital, Evergreen Health Care Center, and Home and Community Health Services is also a Saint Francis *Care* Partner. Saint Francis *Care's* services are supported by a network of five major Access Centers and eight additional medical office centers sited throughout the region. For more information, visit [www.stfranciscare.com](http://www.stfranciscare.com).

**About the American Hospital Association** The American Hospital Association (AHA) is the national organization that represents and serves all types of hospitals, health care networks, and their patients and communities. Nearly 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks, other providers of care and 43,000 individual members come together to form the AHA. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends. For more information, please visit [www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org).

**About CHIME** The College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) is an executive organization dedicated to serving chief information officers and other senior healthcare IT

leaders. With more than 1,500 CIO members and over 150 healthcare IT vendors and professional services firms, CHIME provides a highly interactive, trusted environment enabling senior professional and industry leaders to collaborate; exchange best practices; address professional development needs; and advocate the effective use of information management to improve the health and healthcare in the communities they serve. For more information, please visit [www.chimecentral.org](http://www.chimecentral.org).

### **About Health Forum**

Health Forum is a strategic business enterprise of the American Hospital Association, creatively partnering to develop and deliver essential information and innovative services to help health care leaders achieve organizational performance excellence and sustainability. For more information, please visit [www.healthforum.com](http://www.healthforum.com)

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