



For Immediate Release

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**SAINT FRANCIS NAMED AMONG 2013 “MOST WIRED” HOSPITALS**  
*Nation’s “Most Wired” Institutions Demonstrate Progress through Innovation*

CHICAGO — Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center has been recognized as one of the nation’s *Most Wired* hospitals, according to the results of the *2013 Most Wired Survey* published in the July issue of *Hospitals & Health Networks* magazine.

Named to the *Most Wired* list for the fourth consecutive year, Saint Francis is one of only eight hospitals in Connecticut to be recognized on the *Most Wired* list this year.

This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Health Care’s Most Wired* Survey. In that time, hospitals and healthcare systems have made great strides in establishing the basic building blocks for creating robust clinical information systems aimed at improving patient care. This includes adopting technologies to improve patient documentation, advance clinical decision support, and evidence-based protocols; to reduce medication errors; and to rapidly restore access to data in the case of a disaster or outage.

“Saint Francis continues to provide the very best care for our patients, and one of the ways we achieve that is through the use of the most current technologies which we are continually updating and enhancing throughout the hospital,” said Christopher Dadlez, President and Chief Executive Officer at Saint Francis. “We are pleased to once again to join the ‘*Most Wired*’ list, a reflection of our investment in tools that benefit both our patients and our physicians.”

The *Most Wired* Survey, conducted between Jan. 15 and March 15, asked hospitals and health systems nationwide to answer questions regarding their IT initiatives. Respondents completed 659 surveys, representing 1,713 hospitals, or roughly 30 percent of all U.S. hospitals.

“I’m thrilled to be part of an organization that is so progressive in its use and implementation of technology,” said Linda Shanley, Vice President, Chief Information Officer. “Saint Francis continues to evaluate new technologies that offer advancements to the organization that keep us at the forefront of healthcare innovations that anticipate impending industry reforms.”

“This year’s *Most Wired* organizations exemplify progress through innovation,” says Rich Umbdenstock, President and CEO of the American Hospital Association. “The hospital field can learn from these outstanding organizations ways that IT can help to improve efficiency.”

Among some of the key findings this year:

- Sixty-nine percent of *Most Wired* hospitals and 60 percent of all surveyed hospitals report that medication orders are entered electronically by physicians. This represents a significant increase from 2004 results when only 27 percent of *Most Wired* hospitals and 12 percent of all hospitals responded, “Yes.”
- Seventy-one percent of *Most Wired* hospitals have an electronic disease registry to identify and manage gaps in care across a population, compared with 51 percent of total responders.
- Sixty-six percent of *Most Wired* hospitals share patient discharge data with affiliated hospitals, in comparison to 49 percent of the total responders. Thirty-seven percent of *Most Wired* hospitals do so with non-affiliated hospitals, versus 24 percent of total responders.

“The concept of health information exchange is absolutely correct. We need to do it and do it in a robust, refined way,” states Russell P. Branzell, president and CEO of the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives. “The answer here is standards, standards, standards. We need to standardize the entire process, which we’ve done in almost every other business sector.”

The 2013 *Most Wired* Survey also covered some new areas such as big data analytics and patient generated data. An emerging practice, big data analytics looks at large amounts of data to uncover patterns and correlations.

- 32 percent of *Most Wired* hospitals conduct controlled experiments or scenario-planning to make better management decisions.

“Meaningful use has been a top priority for CIOs and hospital executives, but understanding all of the data will be critical as new relationships continue to evolve,” says Rose Higgins, vice president, strategic solutions, RelayHealth, McKesson’s connectivity business unit. “Data analytics will be essential to helping hospitals balance quality of care and cost requirements in a new environment of risk-based reimbursement and evidence-based medicine.”

- 41 percent of *Most Wired* hospitals provide a patient portal or Web-based solution for patient-generated data.
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“The bottom line is that care must be connected and continue wherever the patient is — whether that’s in the hospital or the doctor’s office or in the home,” said Dr. Geeta Nayyar, MD, MBA, chief medical information officer for AT&T. “The healthcare industry has lagged behind other industries, such as banking and travel, in tapping technology that can engage the patient and connect the continuum. We are finally seeing real progress as an industry, but there is still more to do.”

The July *H&HN* cover story detailing results is available at [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. Its 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 AHA**

The AHA is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the health improvement of their communities. The AHA is the national advocate for its members, which includes nearly 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks, other providers of care and 43,000 individual members. 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, visit the AHA Web site at [www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org).

### **About the *Most Wired* Survey**

The 2013 *Most Wired* Survey is conducted in cooperation with McKesson Corp., AT&T, the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives, and the American Hospital Association.

### **About the Sponsors**

McKesson Corp., currently ranked 14th on the FORTUNE 500, is a health care services and information technology company dedicated to making the business of health care run better. The company partners with payers, hospitals, physician offices, pharmacies, pharmaceutical companies and others across the spectrum of care to build healthier organizations that deliver better care to patients in every setting. McKesson helps its customers improve their financial, operational and clinical performance with solutions that include pharmaceutical and medical-surgical supply management, health care information technology, and business and clinical services. For more information, visit [www.mckesson.com](http://www.mckesson.com)

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stakeholders across the continuum of care, using smart networks and mobile technologies that help create a healthier world. For more information, visit

[www.corp.att.com/healthcare/solutions](http://www.corp.att.com/healthcare/solutions)

The College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) is an executive organization dedicated to serving chief information officers and other senior health care IT leaders. With more than 1,400 CIO members and more than 85 health care 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 health care in the communities they serve. For more information, visit <http://www.cio-chime.org>.