Deloitte 2016 Survey of US Physicians
Findings on health information technology and electronic health records
Since 2011, the Deloitte Center for Health Solutions has surveyed a nationally representative sample of US physicians on their attitudes and perceptions about the current market trends impacting medicine and future state of the practice of medicine.

The general aim of the survey is to understand physician adoption and perception of key market trends of interest to the health plan, provider, life sciences, and government sectors. In 2016, 600 primary care and specialty physicians were asked about a range of topics on the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA), value-based payment models, consolidation, and health information technology (HIT). This document outlines HIT and electronic health record (EHR) data, and provides comparisons from our 2014 survey.

The national sample is representative of the American Medical Association file with respect to years in practice, gender, geography, practice type, and specialty to reflect the national distribution of US physicians.
Physicians believe that EHRs are most useful for analytics and reporting capabilities compared to other attributes (such as supporting value-based care or improvements to clinical outcomes); this also increased since our 2014 survey.

78% of physicians believe that EHRs are useful for analytics and reporting capabilities, the top selection in 2016.

68% of physicians found them useful for analytics and reporting in 2014.
The majority of physicians hold relatively negative perspectives on some aspects of EHRs, similar to the 2014 survey.

3 out of 4 physicians believe that EHRs increase practice costs, outweighing any efficiency savings.

7 out of 10 physicians think that EHRs reduce their productivity.
Physicians are less likely to think that EHR capabilities support clinical outcomes than they did in the 2014 survey.

47% of physicians believe that EHRs improve clinical outcomes versus 55% in 2014.
Physician satisfaction with EHRs varies by practice characteristics.

Employed physicians—compared to independent physicians—are more likely to:

- Think that EHRs support the exchange of clinical information...
  - Employed physicians: 70%
  - Independent physicians: 51%
- And help improve clinical outcomes.
  - Employed physicians: 61%
  - Independent physicians: 40%

Employed physicians—compared to independent physicians—are also less likely to:

- Think that EHRs reduce productivity...
  - Employed physicians: 57%
  - Independent physicians: 72%
- And increase practice costs.
  - Employed physicians: 63%
  - Independent physicians: 80%
Although few physicians would stop using their current EHR system, nearly all physicians would like improvements.

- **3 out of 5** would keep the current EHR system they have and not replace it.
- **62%** want interoperability.
- **57%** want improved workflow and increased productivity.
- Only **12%** do not seek improvements to their current system.
About the Deloitte Center for Health Solutions

The source for health care insights: The Deloitte Center for Health Solutions (DCHS) is the research division of Deloitte LLP’s Life Sciences and Health Care practice. The goal of DCHS is to inform stakeholders across the health care system about emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities. Using primary research and rigorous analysis, and providing unique perspectives, DCHS seeks to be a trusted source for relevant, timely, and reliable insights.

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