

Health Information Technology Toolkit for Nursing Homes

The Health Information Technology Toolkit for Nursing Homes can be used for implementing a comprehensive HIT or EHR system, for acquiring individual applications, or for overhauling existing systems. While an overall organizational strategy is strongly recommended and supported through use of all the tools in the toolkit, each organization should construct its own timeline based on the applications, technology, and operational activities being undertaken.

For the nursing home, a carefully constructed foundation and the right tools to plan and implement HIT can mean the difference between systems that are not well-used or even add administrative burden, and those that achieve value. The purpose of this toolkit for is to supply tools, tested in this environment, that will help you plan and make the right choices, as well as to avoid having to re-invent the wheel.

Much like a carpenter's toolbox, the HIT Toolkit supplies a variety of tools for use at different points in your HIT adoption. Each tool includes:

- Brief statement of purpose - so you will know when to use the tool and what it should help you accomplish.
- Instructions for use of the tool - so you will be guided in effective use of the tool.
- Tool structure - depending on the tool itself, you may find you can customize the tool to help you perform a task or use it as a model to modify for your own needs.

The [HIT Toolkit for Nursing Homes](#) consists of seven stages categorized into three main sections. Descriptions of the individual tools are available on the Web pages for each section.

[Section 1. Adopt:](#) Assess - Plan - Select

[Section 2. Utilize:](#) Implement - Effective Use

[Section 3. Exchange:](#) Readiness - Interoperate

This toolkit was funded by Aging Services of Minnesota, Alliance Purchasing, and MHHA Service Corporation for use by nursing homes in Minnesota. Stratis Health developed the toolkit using our extensive experience in helping providers adopt HIT, working with nursing homes on quality improvement and patient safety, and developing toolkits.

Support

Stratis Health has extensive experience in working with health care facilities to help them adopt and utilize EHR systems and to prepare them for exchanging information.

For support using the toolkit, contact:

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