

PRESS RELEASE

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Salina Regional named a 2014 Most Wired Hospital

(July 30, 2014) – A survey and industry benchmarking study conducted by *Hospitals & Health Networks* magazine has named Salina Regional Health Center among the 2014 Most Wired Hospitals. About 1,900 or one third of all U.S. hospitals participated in the 16th annual Health Care's Most Wired Survey. Salina Regional was one of 375 hospitals in the country and one of four hospitals in Kansas to earn the Most Wired designation.

"The Most Wired data show that shared health information allows clinicians and patients to have the information they need to promote health and make the most informed decisions about treatments," says Rich Umbdenstock, president and CEO of the American Hospital Association. "Hospitals, their clinicians and their communities are doing tremendous work to enhance their IT systems in ways that support care and delivery improvement, and patient engagement goals."

In order to achieve Most Wired status hospitals have to demonstrate they meet rigorous criteria across four operational categories that include information technology infrastructure, business and administrative management, clinical quality and safety and clinical integration.

"Many hospital processes have changed over the years and it has taken a lot of dedication from hospital employees and medical staff to achieve this level of integration and patient-centered care," said Micheal Terry, president and CEO at Salina Regional Health Center. "Today a more robust information system plays a prominent role in patient documentation, clinical decision support and the implementation of evidence-based protocols."

"The Most Wired achievement is really a credit to the hard work of all of our employees and the time and expertise they've invested to implement more sophisticated information systems," said Larry Barnes vice president and chief information officer at Salina Regional Health Center. "It's much more than an IT award. Every department in the hospital is involved in these efforts."

One of the latest information technology enhancements implemented at Salina Regional includes the addition of a Patient Portal, which allows patients to log on through the hospital's website to view information about test results, prescriptions, billing, upcoming appointments and to securely message a physician. Many patients who have signed up for this service are enjoying the ability to view lab results as soon as the data is available, and see itemized information about their bill.

- The July Hospitals & Health Networks cover story detailing results is available at www.hhnmag.com
- Additional information also is available at www.hhnmostwired.com