

Summer 2014



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Indiana CAHs Named 2014 Most Wired



As the nation's health care system transitions to more integrated and patient-centered care, hospitals are utilizing information technology to better connect care providers, according to the 16th annual Health Care's Most Wired Survey, conducted by *Hospitals & Health Networks*.

Health Care's Most Wired Survey, conducted between January 15 and March 15, asked hospitals and health systems nationwide to answer questions regarding their IT initiatives. Respondents completed 680 surveys, representing 1,900 hospitals, or more than 30 percent of all U.S. hospitals.

"Woodlawn Hospital's mission has been, and will continue to be, to provide excellent healthcare services by highly skilled staff in a compassionate and caring manner. In recent years the continued investment and implementation of information technology has allowed us to push this mission even further than ever. Having information gathered, available, and meaningful in a timely and secure manor has become a key component to providing the best healthcare possible to our community," says Travis Albright, Information Systems Director of Woodlawn Hospital.

"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."

The current survey structure is being used to compare hospitals based on progress in adoption, implementation and use of information technology in four areas. Participating organizations' achievements were identified in each of four focus areas for use of IT:

- Infrastructure
- Business and Administrative Management
- Clinical Quality and Safety (Hospital Inpatient/Outpatient)
- Clinical Integration (Ambulatory/Physician/Community)

Critical Access Hospitals in Indiana Receiving This Distinction:

Indiana University Health Blackford Hospital, Hartford City: Most Wired
Rush Memorial Hospital, Rushville: Most Wired–Small and Rural
Woodlawn Hospital, Rochester: Most Wired–Small and Rural

About the Most Wired Survey

The 2014 Most Wired Survey is conducted in cooperation with McKesson Corp., AT&T, the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives, and the American Hospital Association.

Hospital Laboratory Receives Perfect Rating



The [Jasper County Hospital](#) Laboratory has been notified by the Indiana State Department of Health of the results of a recent survey. The Laboratory was found to have no deficiencies and, therefore, recommended for CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments) certification.

“With so many areas within the laboratory surveyed,” states Beckie Courtright, MT/HEW, Jasper County Hospital Laboratory Director, “the achievement of a deficiency free inspection is a great testament to the technicians who work in the Hospital’s Laboratory. Without their hard work and dedication, the quality evidenced by the Indiana State Department of Health’s survey would not be possible.”



All laboratories that test human specimens for the purpose of providing information for the diagnosis, prevention or treatment of any disease must be inspected every two years for adherence to CLIA standards. The Indiana State Department of Health reviews many aspects of a laboratory’s functions and outcomes. Surveyors look at the annual test volume, all policies and procedures pertaining to the laboratory, patient normal values, critical values, turnaround times and quality assurance. Also, surveyed are how personnel are trained, their credentials, and continuing education.

JCH Hosts State Senator Charbonneau



[Jasper County Hospital](#) recently hosted the Indiana State Senator from District 5, Ed Charbonneau. District 5 includes Pulaski county and portions of Jasper, LaPorte, Porter, and Starke.

Senator Charbonneau was accompanied by Jasper County Commission President Kendall Culp. Both individuals met with the senior management staff of the Hospital and discussed the proposed Healthy Indiana Plan expansion, staffing for small and rural hospitals, physician shortages and the economic impact of health care providers in the senator’s district and

beyond. Jasper County Hospital remains one of the top three largest employers in the county.

Tricia Walters, MD, is 2014 Doc Hollywood Award Winner

Practicing medicine is hard work these days. Practicing rural medicine is even harder. Practicing rural medicine in Indiana where resources for “excellent” care are often limited is almost impossible. Dr. Walters has set those hurdles aside in her pursuit of always and only providing excellent care for her patients in the small rural community of Wyatt, IN.



Dr. Walters could have had her pick of jobs given her education and training, but commitment to community and a strong desire to find work that would allow her to balance family and medicine, led her to consider a rural practice. She had already seen in medical school how even one more family doc can revitalize a

community and open the doors of access to healthcare for its citizens. Spending time in Paoli, Indiana, as a student opened her eyes to how family physicians can be fully integrated into a community – not in ways that constantly drain you, but in ways that are constantly energizing you.

The *Doc Hollywood Award* is about recognizing the many individuals who care professionally for folks in our rural and other underserved communities across the nation. It is a time for celebration and fun. It also has a serious side. Access to quality healthcare is a key component in terms of individuals' physical and mental health; it is also a key component in communities' economic vitality. Without healthcare, along with schools, industry, water systems and other infrastructure, communities wither and die. Yet many people do not know about or understand the rewards of practicing in rural and other underserved communities or even realize that they have the potential to become one of these heroic providers. Raising visibility and awareness about these unsung heroes, and celebrating their contributions, enhances our ability to recruit people into these professions and areas to ensure access to quality health care and viable, thriving communities. It is about fun, celebration, and so much more.

Family Practice Associates Opening *QuickCare* Clinic in Sullivan



On May 5, 2014, Family Practice Associates, in conjunction with [Sullivan County Community Hospital](#), opened the Family Practice Associates *QuickCare* Clinic at the east end of the Sullivan County Community Hospital. Staffed by nurse practitioners, the Family Practice Associates *QuickCare* offers a convenient and viable option for medical conditions that cannot wait for a scheduled appointment with a primary care physician or do not need urgent attention at the Emergency Room.

Patients may visit the *QuickCare* Clinic for treatment of minor and common illnesses such as sore throats, ear aches, seasonal allergies, colds, flu, pink eye, minor skin conditions, bronchitis, insect stings, athlete's foot, and poison ivy. In addition to providing care for non-life-threatening emergencies, the clinic also provides X-ray and imaging services through SCCH. DOT physicals, pre-employment health screenings, and laboratory services are available.

Patients receive treatment on a walk-in basis. No appointments are taken. Most insurance plans are accepted and payments and insurance co-pays are expected at the time of service. *QuickCare* will accept cash, check and credit cards.

According to Michelle Franklin, SCCH CEO, "The main purpose of the *QuickCare* Clinic is to give the community an option to receive prompt medical care for minor injuries and illnesses without waiting for an appointment with their family physician. For well-child visits, prescription refills, or monitoring for chronic conditions like high blood pressure or diabetes, patients are referred to their provider's office."

SCCH Reduces Costs for Electricity Usage

Sullivan County Community Hospital's efforts to reduce electricity usage and spending were highlighted as best practice in the May 2104 Hospitals in Pursuit of Excellence (HPOE) guide, *Environmental Sustainability in Hospitals: The Value of Efficiency*.



[Sullivan County Community Hospital](#) consulted with Duke Energy consultants to implement retro commissioning – a process that seeks to improve how building equipment and systems function together at the facility. The process identified low-cost approaches to improving efficiency. The facility reevaluated its HVAC controls and created nighttime settings for unoccupied spaces.

According to the HPOE Guide, The Sullivan County Community Hospital estimates its annual savings are more than \$20,000 (\$15,200 in electric costs plus \$5,500 in gas savings). The project payback period is about 3.5 years.

"It is always our goal to look at reducing costs and getting better functionally in our everyday operations at SCCH," said Ron Shake, director of Facilities at SCCH. "We need to do whatever we can to help reduce expenses. It does help on the bottom line for SCCH."

Hospitals in Pursuit of Excellence (HPOE) is the American Hospital Association's strategic platform to accelerate performance improvement and support delivery system transformation in the nation's hospitals and health systems.

IU School of Public Health-Bloomington Launches Free Online Courses for Hoosier Health Workers

The Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington has announced the launch of the "Public Health & You" initiative, a new program aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of Indiana's front-line public health workers.



Designed specifically for professionals and practitioners whose work impacts the health of the public, the initiative offers [free online courses](#) that were developed in conjunction with the Indiana State Department of Health, IU Health Bloomington Hospital and the Indiana Public Health Association.

"The School of Public Health-Bloomington is committed to our long-standing partnerships with those who work each day to improve the health of Hoosiers," said Mohammad Torabi, founding dean and chancellor's professor at the IU School of Public Health-Bloomington. "By providing these dedicated health professionals with these no-cost and community-focused tools, we not only help them enhance their knowledge and skills, but ultimately help all of us here in Indiana, because a better-prepared public health workforce means a healthier Indiana. A healthier Indiana means improved economic stability and enhanced quality of life for all Hoosiers."

According to the American Public Health Association, Indiana is one of the 10 least healthy states, with high obesity and smoking rates and low rates of physical activity. The state has one of the worst rates of cancer deaths per capita. In addition, public health funding is less than half of the national average.

"Critical to our mission at the School of Public Health-Bloomington is doing everything possible to help our community-based partners brush up on the latest public health trends and best practices, build the capacity of their organizations, and ultimately improve the health of their local communities," said Michael Reece, associate dean for research and graduate studies at the IU School of Public Health-Bloomington.

"The Public Health & You campaign," Reece said, "also seeks to expand the reach of traditional public health to ensure that all of those who promote health on a daily basis can benefit from the work of IU and the School of Public Health-Bloomington."

"Thousands of individuals in the state, from such diverse organizations as traditional public health departments to fitness centers, churches, parks and recreation departments, and youth-serving organizations, provide important services every day that influence health," he said. "This set of easy-to-use online courses was designed in partnership with these individuals and is appropriate for anyone who wants to enhance their work to promote the health of those in their community."

The agencies and organizations that helped develop the courses will be among those using Public Health & You as a valuable professional development tool for their employees and affiliates.

"We will use the Public Health & You courses to increase awareness of the important role public health professionals play," said Carol Weiss-Kennedy, community health director for IU Health Bloomington Hospital. She worked closely with the school on the development of the initiative. "We see the series of courses as an important tool to promote the skills and responsibilities of public health with the hope of encouraging individuals to explore this area of study."

Currently, five courses are being offered, and the initiative will be expanded over time. Courses can be taken alone, or if all five are successfully completed, the participant can earn a Professional Development Certificate in Public Health from the IU School of Public Health-Bloomington.

Adams Memorial Hospital Adds Fourth ER Physician

[Adams Memorial Hospital](#) is pleased to announce they will add, as of August 1, 2014, a fourth full-time physician in the Emergency Room to handle the needs of our patients.



Dr. Jason F. Tanner, who has done both his internship and residency with the Fort Wayne Medical Education Program, will join forces with Dr. Scott Smith, Dr. Nick Lazoff, and Dr. Cam Nelson to provide 24-hour-a-day emergency room coverage at the hospital.

He graduated in 2011 from the American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine in Cupecoy, Sint Maarten. His residency program included work with surgical obstetrics patients as well.

Dr. Tanner has been working shifts in the AMH emergency room for the past year while in his residency in Fort Wayne and looks forward to joining the three physicians on staff now to provide an excellent level of care for patients coming to AMH for treatment.

Free Medical Station Was Offered at the Decatur County 4-H Fair



Decatur County
Memorial Hospital
The Quality Care You Want. Close By.

At the Decatur County 4-H fair this year (July 10-17), there was many attractions going on all day. One of the more beneficial events this year was a med station, provided by [Decatur County Memorial Hospital](#) (DCMH). This med station included a fully-trained Registered Nurse at all times and an Emergency Medical Technician crew and ambulance near the Grand Stand when needed.

At such a large event, there can often be instances where medical treatment is necessary; whether it be from the livestock stables or from the fun and games being held around the fairgrounds. The nurse that was stationed at the med station was trained in handling any situation that could arise from the fair. This med station was available to the public from 5-9pm each evening of the fair.

The med station, which was located in a large, air-conditioned trailer next to the community building, responded to acute care problems, referred people to Decatur County Memorial Hospital, if necessary, and even offered free blood pressure checks to the public. Signs were displayed throughout the fairgrounds letting patrons know where the med station was located for the convenience of all fair-goers.



DCMH Creates Patient Record Portal

In the ever-changing world of healthcare, innovation and consumer knowledge have become increasingly prevalent. Patients, in the last few years, have wanted and needed to coordinate their care and be more in control of their care. Have you ever wondered how you can access your health records and better manage and coordinate your health options? July 1, [Decatur County Memorial Hospital](#) (DCMH) began offering a new

patient portal program called “MY HEALTH.” This is a brand new opportunity that gives patients personal access to their health records securely on the internet. When you register for treatment at DCMH, you will be asked to provide your email address to set up your account. In doing so, Decatur County Memorial Hospital will send you a link, through the provided email address, to register for your MY HEALTH patient portal. After this registering email, you will not receive any other emails for MY HEALTH. After registering for your portal account, a summary of your care is automatically added to your account after each visit. The MY HEALTH patient portal will be easily accessible on the homepage of the new website by clicking the MY HEALTH icon.

The information in each patient’s portal will only be accessible to users that the patient allows. These users can include: the patient, a family member, a spouse, and any other person that the patient provides an email address for. This ensures that the utmost patient confidentiality is kept. With a greater knowledge of their health records and health history, patients will be able to better manage and track their own health. Studies show more involved and knowledgeable patients end up having better health outcomes and have lower healthcare costs in the long term. This is just the first step for Decatur County Memorial Hospital in creating a more connected and coordinated healthcare world for their patients.



**Decatur County
Memorial Hospital**
The Quality Care You Want. Close By.

Margaret Mary named a Top 100 Great Community Hospital

[Margaret Mary Health](#) has been named one of the 2014 top “100 Great Community Hospitals” in the United States by Becker’s Hospital Review. This is the third year in a row Margaret Mary has received this distinguished award.



“We are proud of this award, but what makes us most proud is having the opportunity to be part of such an impressive community,” said Tim Putnam, hospital President and CEO. “What makes our hospital great are the qualified doctors and support staff who choose to work here, the local businesses and organizations that choose to support us, and the patients who trust us with their care year after year.”



The hospitals featured on the list have fewer than 550 beds and minimal teaching programs. Many are located in rural areas and are their communities’ sole hospital. All have worked to provide the experience and quality of care their patients expect and deserve. Hospitals were selected based on rankings and awards which considered clinical, operational, and financial performance.

“I am proud of our hospital for again being named a ‘Top 100 Great Community Hospital,’” said Jim Roberts, EdD, Batesville Community School Corporation Superintendent and MMH board member. “With that said, the recognition is not a surprise to me, as ‘great’ seems to describe everything about us: GREAT schools, both public and private;

GREAT businesses, both big and small; GREAT eating establishments, both old and new; GREAT churches; GREAT people; GREAT families; GREAT community. Margaret Mary is an extremely important part of our GREAT community and goes above and beyond to ensure we receive the best service possible.”

Cancer Center Opens at Jay County Hospital

After much anticipation, the IU Health Ball Memorial Cancer Center at [Jay County Hospital](#) is now open and began seeing patients on May 1, 2014. This unique partnership with IU Health Ball Memorial Cancer Centers allows Jay County residents to receive leading medical oncology locally.

The Center is located in the north end of the Surgery Center building next to the hospital. There are 5 treatment areas which replaced the former Orthopedics office. Dr. Sulfi Ibriham continues to see oncology patients each Wednesday, in addition, patients are now able receive chemical radiation (chemotherapy).

Thanks to the partnership with IU Health Ball Memorial Cancer Center and the support of the local residents, along with the recently added PET/CT Imaging, state of the art cancer care is now available in Jay County.



Pictured: Terry Pence, IU Health Ball Memorial Cancer Center; Dave Littler, JCH Board President; Sharon Hammers, JCH Board Member; Dr. Sulfi Ibriham; Dave Hyatt, JCH CEO



JayCounty
HOSPITAL
Quality Care By Those Who Care



Cancer Centers

Partnering for a healthier Jay County