The Path to EHR Implementation: Strategies for Success

Length: 1.5 hours

Target Audience: Mid- to senior-level healthcare executives

Description: Interest in electronic health record (EHR) systems is gaining momentum. Development of an HER adoption strategy is crucial to the success of healthcare organizations. The effective use of EHRs is essential to achieve advances in healthcare quality and to improve patient safety. The challenges to adopting an EHR system include insufficient financial resources and lack of buy-in from physicians. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides for incentives as well as potential future penalties for institutions that do not implement such a system. This program discusses the strategies that healthcare executives need to employ to address in the selection, planning and implementation of an EHR system.

Faculty: Moderator and two to three panelists. The moderator should be a senior healthcare executive who has been involved in the information technology decisions for an EHR integration and implementation project. Recommended panelists may include other healthcare executives who have been involved in EHR planning, a chief information officer, a technology vendor or a consultant who has developed or implemented an EHR system in an integrated healthcare system.

Topics for Discussion:

- Assess organizational needs and determine EHR “meaningful use”
- Identify approaches to implementing an EHR strategy
- Gain C-suite involvement and physician buy-in for successful implementation
- Understand government incentives and penalties to promote the adoption and use of EHRs
- Assess the large capital and operating budgets required to support EHRs
- Examine lessons learned from organizations that have successfully adopted EHRs

Questions for Discussion:

1. How do you determine the needs and capabilities of your organization
1. How do you determine the timeline for launching the EHR system by the 2011 deadline?
2. How do you calculate the return on investment for your organization?
3. What is the current state of your organization’s quality reporting initiatives?
4. What are your EHR-related safety needs? How will your vendor address those needs?
5. How do you conduct a system-wide workflow analysis for consistency and functionality? What are the roadblocks?
6. How do you refine the request for proposal process to select a Certification Commission for Healthcare Information Technology–approved vendor?
7. What role should managers and allied health personnel play in the EHR decision-making process and implementation?
8. What kind of training and incentives are necessary to maximize use of the system? What is the estimated cost?

Material for Distribution:


Additional Resources:


