



The US Oncology Network

At the Forefront of Cancer Care Health Information Technology

There is no question that health information technology (HIT) improves cancer care delivery and treatment, and The US Oncology Network is proud to have developed the leading HIT system for cancer care (iKnowMed). Our system is used across the nation by nearly one thousand of the best cancer care providers along with thousands of their staff.

The use of HIT is critical to our fight in advancing the science of cancer care and rewarding evidence-based care. As early adopters, we have already taken our HIT system where most aim to go, utilizing it to drive new reimbursement models aimed at providing the most innovative, highest-quality, and most cost-effective care. We've invested and developed in a system that is utilized for:

- Application and measurement of evidence-based medicine
- Benchmarking and reporting of quality standards
- Measurement of patient clinical outcomes
- Patient clinical trial matching
- Nationwide physician collaboration

We created Healthcare Informatics to help physicians in The Network report, analyze and study clinical data. This group includes pharmacists, oncology nurses, outcomes researchers, clinical data analysts and statisticians. The Network has published HIT articles in peer-reviewed journals; among our most important recent publications was a [study](#) that demonstrated that the use of our Level I Pathway for non-small cell lung cancer resulted in 35% lower costs with equivalent health outcomes.

Our HIT system is a critical tool in improving cancer patient safety. Key features include the following:

- Provides oncologists with instant access to their patients' medical records, empowering physicians to make treatment decisions across the country
- Eliminates handwritten notes and orders, minimizing misinterpretations and clerical errors
- Generates "safety alerts" when it detects potentially dangerous chemotherapy dosing levels or possible medication conflicts

As a leader in HIT, we have earned Complete EHR Certification and our practices have begun to qualify for incentives from the HITECH provisions in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

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