

# Sharing Data, Saving Lives

America's hospitals and health systems agree: connected, shared health information helps achieve the best possible outcome for every individual.

## The Benefits of Sharing

Achieving the reality of fully interoperable health information offers many benefits, including:



**Strengthened care coordination.** Providers, patients and caregivers can work together to make fully informed care decisions.



**Improved safety and quality.** Interoperable patient data translates to a better, safer and more efficient experience.



**Empowered patients and families.** People can make better informed clinical decisions and can become partners in their own care.

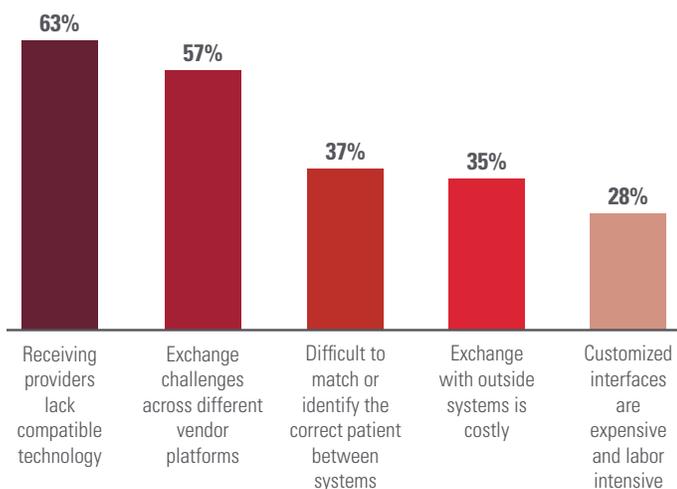


**Increased efficiency and reduced costs.** Information sharing reduces costs in time and resources for patients, insurers, clinical and administrative staff.



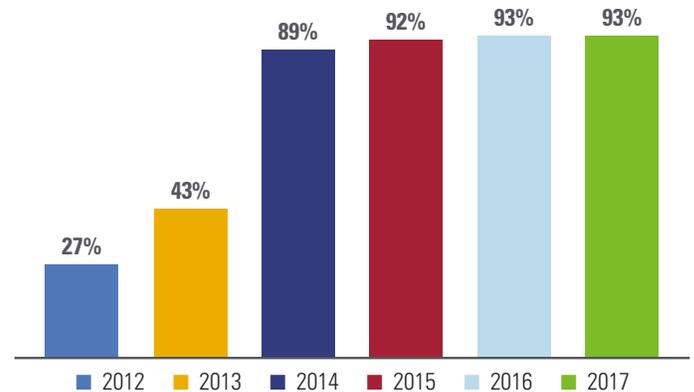
**Robust public health registries.** The sharing of aggregated health information supports more accurate tracking and prevention efforts for disease and other public health threats.

## Barriers to Exchange and Interoperability, 2017



Source: AHA analysis of American Hospital Association Annual Survey Information Technology Supplement data, 2017.

## Patients Are Increasingly Able to View Health Records Online



Source: American Hospital Association Annual Survey Information Technology Supplement data, 2012-2017.

## Pathways to Interoperability



**Security and privacy.** Stakeholders must be able to trust that shared data is accurate, secure, and used in accordance with best practices and patient expectations.



**Efficient, usable solutions.** Data must be available where and when it is needed, in a useful format and support accurate patient matching.



**Cost effective, enhanced infrastructure.** Information sharing networks will require consistent use of standards, semantics and a common set of "rules of the road" for exchange.



**Standards that work.** Connected systems require improved – as well as new – standards used consistently to minimize proprietary solutions and gatekeeping.



**Connecting beyond electronic health records (EHRs).** To improve health and care, interoperable systems must support population health, address social determinants of health and facilitate remote monitoring and patient-generated data.



**Shared best practices.** All stakeholders should share best practices to build on what works.