

Alaska eHealth Network

Status of EHR Use in Alaska

Executive Summary By



January 28, 2010

Copyright © 2010, Craciun Research All rights reserved.
1334 K Street, Suite B, Anchorage Alaska 99501
t: 907.279.3982 f: 907.279.0321

KEY FINDINGS FROM SURVEY

Sample

In April, 2009 the survey was made available to 1401 physicians and 180 clinic managers using the Alaska State Medical Association medical license database and the Alaska Medical Group Management Association’s membership.

Total number of completed surveys from 2009:

Physicians	378	85.9%
Clinic Managers	<u>62</u>	<u>14.1%</u>
TOTAL SAMPLE	440	100%

The margin of error is not as reliable on a “self-selected” sample such as this. However, if it was a true random selection, the margin of error would be about +/- 4.0%.

Ownership of Medical Practice

58% of our study population own or share ownership of the practices represented in this report.

Size of Practice

The median number of physicians in our study per practice is four, and the mid-level practitioner is one. Forty one percent (41%) of the practices have no mid-level practitioners. The combined medical staff has a median of five individuals per practice. More of the doctors are in solo practice (26.8%) than any other category of size: 2-3 physicians, 4-6, 7-12, and 13-100.

Type of Practice

Thirty five percent of our respondents (35%) work in Family Practice and the next group represented is Pediatrics at 12%. Many physicians and clinic managers gave multiple answers, with 27% selecting “other” and specifying a different type of practice. In addition to the 10 categories provided, respondents specified 60 other types of practice.

Update Sampling 2010

In January, 2010, physicians who had not reporting having an EHR in the earlier study were called and asked whether they had establish an EHR to their practice during the previous nine months. Those answers were incorporated into the original study to produce the new EHR results below.

EHR USE IN ALASKA

Use of EHRs and ePrescribing

More than half of our study sample (60%), use an EHR, with or without practice management.

Note: This number cannot be ascribed to the total population of Alaska Physicians due to the self-selecting nature of the survey. However, in the unlikely case that not one of the physicians who did not take the time to complete the online survey actually have an EHR, then one can safely assume that at a minimum, 19% of Alaska physicians use EHRs. Under the much more likely assumption, that a modest fifteen percent use an EHR, the figure would rise to be 28% of physicians in Alaska use an EHR.

Use of EHRs by size of Practice

A third of physicians in one-doctor practices have an EHR. Those with the largest clinics are most likely to have an EHR.

Fifty-five percent or more of Family Physicians, Internists, Pediatricians, and Ob/Gyn's use EHRs.

Brands of EHRs in Use in Alaska

Currently no EHR holds a significant portion of the EHR market in Alaska. Centricity holds 11%; eClinicalWorks, 8%. There are approximately 55 brands of EHRs in use at this time.