

Health Information Compliance Alert

Industry Note: New ONC Data Shows Majority of Providers Use CEHRT

The healthcare industry has adopted health IT at a quick pace over the past decade, making paper-based forms obsolete.

"Virtually everyone has a digital footprint of their care because of the dramatic uptake of electronic health records [EHR]," explained **Karen DeSalvo, MD** and **Vindell Washington, MD** in an HHS Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) blog post. "Recent data have helped quantify just how rapidly technology has transformed clinical settings."

According to the ONC release, 96 percent of hospitals and 78 percent of physicians now utilize certified EHR technology (CEHRT). "This transformation is the result of 2009's Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, when fewer than one in 10 hospitals and 17 percent of physicians used EHRs. This rapid uptake of technology reflects the unyielding effort by clinicians and health systems across the board who helped usher in this new era of medicine," the blog post noted.

Review the ONC data at www.healthit.gov/buzz-blog/health-data/numbers-progress-digitizing-health-care/.