

ePrescribing readiness survey

This survey is intended to assess the readiness of your practice to successfully implement an ePrescribing system, and the readiness of personnel to accept and productively use it. Your responses will help you determine the present state of technology adoption, prerequisites for change, potential barriers, user needs, time-sensitive factors and appropriate action steps.

The following questions relate to critical success factors and potential barriers to the implementation and use of ePrescribing and other health information technology (HIT). Please indicate the degree to which you agree with each statement from the perspective of your practice as a whole.

Statement (please circle one response for each)	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
1. Most physicians and clinical staff in your practice believe there is an urgent need to improve health care through ePrescribing and other technology.	SD	D	N	A	SA
2. Most physicians and clinical staff in your practice see technology, including ePrescribing, as critically important to their future success.	SD	D	N	A	SA
3. Most physicians and clinical staff in your practice are willing to put forth the extra time and effort required to learn how to use an ePrescribing system.	SD	D	N	A	SA
4. Physicians in your practice will regularly use an ePrescribing or other automated system to retrieve patient medication history or other health related information.	SD	D	N	A	SA
5. Physicians in your practice will regularly use an ePrescribing system to generate new prescriptions, complete renewal requests, check formulary and benefit information, use clinical decision support tools such as alerts during clinical encounters.	SD	D	N	A	SA
6. The executive leadership of your practice is visionary and supportive of efforts to improve health care through technology, including ePrescribing.	SD	D	N	A	SA
7. Your practice has a guiding coalition of influential leaders committed to successful implementation and continued use of ePrescribing.	SD	D	N	A	SA
8. Formal and informal leaders in your practice are willing and able to serve as ePrescribing champions, pushing or pulling as needed during times of success or failure to promote use of ePrescribing.	SD	D	N	A	SA
9. Your practice has a clear plan for how it will use ePrescribing to meet its overall practice goals, with strong executive support.	SD	D	N	A	SA
10. Leaders and managers in your practice believe that continuing efforts to advance organizational culture will be required for effective clinician use of ePrescribing.	SD	D	N	A	SA
11. Your practice has a strong track record of successfully implementing information technology (e.g., scheduling and billing or lab ordering systems) for use in clinical care.	SD	D	N	A	SA
12. In your practice physicians and staff trust each other, work well together in teams, and are willing to be accountable for using ePrescribing to improve patient care.	SD	D	N	A	SA
13. Physicians and clinical staff in your practice are willing to change how they work if needed to improve patient care.	SD	D	N	A	SA

Statement (please circle one response for each)	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
14. Your practice will provide meaningful incentives to reward appropriate clinician use of ePrescribing.	SD	D	N	A	SA
15. Your practice will set clear expectations for use of ePrescribing and other technology.	SD	D	N	A	SA
16. Your practice has the necessary technology, training, and support resources needed to implement an ePrescribing system or other new clinical information systems.	SD	D	N	A	SA
17. Leadership in your practice ensures that important processes and outcomes are regularly measured, with information communicated to physicians and clinical staff in a timely manner.	SD	D	N	A	SA
18. Technology vendors doing business with your practice consistently provide functional, sustainable products and timely, high-quality support services.	SD	D	N	A	SA
19. IT professionals or other office staff in your practice are capable of effectively adapting software to support appropriate clinical workflows.	SD	D	N	A	SA
20. People who will be using new computer information systems in your practice have a realistic understanding of what the systems are capable of doing.	SD	D	N	A	SA
21. Your practice has an effective mechanism in place to ensure that people who will be using the new ePrescribing system have meaningful roles in deliberations, decision-making and communications regarding ePrescribing system planning, selection, implementation and modification.	SD	D	N	A	SA
22. Your practice has an effective mechanism in place to ensure that comments and concerns shared by people who will be using the new ePrescribing system are received, acknowledged and responded to in a timely manner.	SD	D	N	A	SA

Readiness scale	
Response	Numeric score
SA	5
A	4
N	3
D	2
SD	1

Maximum score = # of items x 5 = 22 x 5 = **110 points**

Estimated† overall readiness*	Not ready	Probably not ready	Possibly ready	Probably ready	Ready
Average total score	0–76	77–87	78–88	89–99	100–110
Percent of single item scores <3	≥20	15–19	10–14	5–9	≤5

† Draft estimate—not yet empirically tested.

* Overall readiness is determined by the lowest readiness classification in any category.

Examples:

- Average total score = 94
 - Percent single item scores <3 = 7% → Probably ready
 - Percent single item scores <3 = 12% → Possibly ready
 - Percent single item scores <3 = 17% → Probably not ready
- Percent single item scores <3 = 2%
 - Average total score = 94 → Probably ready
 - Average total score = 84 → Possibly ready

References

Gunasekaran, S., Garets, D. (2004). Managing the IT Strategic Planning Process. *Healthcare Information Management Systems: Cases, Strategies, and Solutions*. M. J. Ball, Weaver, C.A., Kiel, J.M. New York, Springer-Verlag: 22–34.

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