

2015 Impact of the Informatics Nurse Survey

Executive Summary

April 2015



To explore today's changing landscape, a wide range of healthcare professionals were asked to identify the impact that informatics nurses can have on the health information technology (IT) environment. According to the 576 respondents of the 2015 HIMSS Impact of the Informatics Nurse Survey, informatics nurses were widely seen as bringing value to the use of clinical systems and technologies at their healthcare organizations. Respondents indicated that informatics nurses bring greatest value to the implementation phase (85 percent) and optimization phase (83 percent) of clinical systems process.

Key survey results include:

Quality of Patient Care: Respondents reported a direct positive impact on the quality of care patients receive as a result of the work of informatics nurses. Sixty (60) percent of respondents indicated that informatics nurses have a high degree of impact on the quality of care.

Direct Impact on Clinical Systems: Respondents reported that informatics nurses have a high degree of impact on workflow, patient safety and user acceptance.

Hiring Informatics Professionals: Approximately one-quarter of respondents (23 percent) reported that their organization hired their first informatics professional prior to 2000.

Executive Leadership: Nearly two-thirds of respondents (61 percent) work for an organization that employs an informatics professional in a leadership position. Twenty (20) percent of respondents reported working for an organization that employs a Chief Nursing Information Officer (CNIO).

Longevity: Finally, the survey results suggest that longevity matters. The longer a healthcare organization has employed informatics professionals, the greater impact and value they have on the various aspects of the clinical systems process, as well as on the overall quality of care that patients received.

Involvement of Informatics Nurses with Emerging Technologies: Informatics nurses were most likely to be identified (70 percent) as providing assistance in the area of medical devices integration. At least half of respondents also indicated that informatics nurses would play a role with regard to smart devices.

About HIMSS

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How to Access the Full Results

The entire report is available at <http://www.himss.org/ni>.

How to Cite This Study

Individuals are encouraged to cite this report and any accompanying graphics in printed matter, publications, or any other medium, as long as the information is attributed to the 2015 HIMSS Impact of the Informatics Nurse Survey.

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