



Health Care Technology (HCT)

Overview

The health care industry is facing a fast-moving digital revolution. Hospitals are adopting new methods of technology to streamline processes and procedures and reduce costs. From electronic health records (EHRs) to telehealth capabilities, artificial intelligence (AI), and medical equipment advancements, technological innovations have enhanced clinical outcomes, improved patient care, and transformed the possibilities for care delivery.

As the demand for specialized health care services continues to increase, technology will continue to play a critical and necessary role in the comprehensive care process. Management of technology and medical equipment requires a high level of communication and collaboration to maintain an integrated system of care, services, and providers that make up the continuum of care. Establishing processes and procedures for efficient integration and oversight is paramount for success.

Standards

The following is a list of all standards for this function. They are presented here for your convenience without their intent statements or measurable elements. For more information about these standards, please see the next section in this chapter, Standards, Intents, and Measurable Elements.

Information Technology in Health Care

- HCT.01.00** Hospital leaders identify a qualified individual to oversee the hospital's health information technology and processes.
- HCT.01.01** When patient data and information are sent electronically, via mobile devices or other forms of electronic communication, the hospital implements processes to ensure quality of patient care, compliance with local laws and regulations, and maintenance of security and confidentiality of patient information.
- HCT.01.02** For hospitals providing telehealth services, the hospital implements guidelines for the protection of patient data and information.
- HCT.01.03** For hospitals using artificial intelligence clinical decision support tools, there are processes for selection, implementation, oversight, and improvement.
- HCT.01.04** The hospital develops, maintains, and tests a program for response to planned and unplanned downtime of data systems.
- HCT.01.05** The hospital develops and maintains processes and procedures for cybersecurity and cyber risk management.

Management of Lasers, Electrosurgical, and Other Optical Radiation Devices

- HCT.02.00** The hospital establishes and implements a program for the safe use of lasers, electrosurgical, and other optical radiation devices used for performing procedures and treatments.