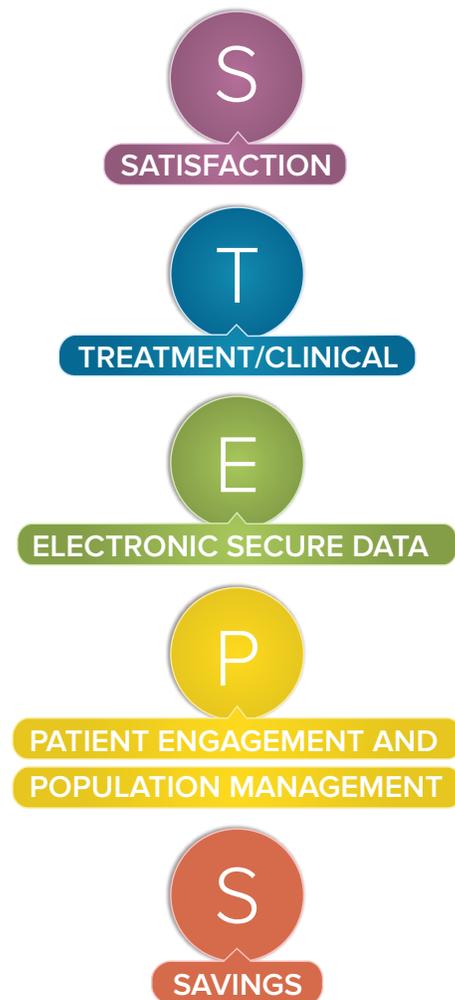




Finding Value in Health IT: Five Things You Should Know About the HIMSS HIT Value STEPS™ Framework

In the last few years, a critical mass of healthcare organizations has adopted electronic medical records and other health IT solutions into their clinical workflow. In response to that critical mass and its movement from implementation to optimization, HIMSS created the HIT Value STEPS™ framework to provide best practice guidance to organizations seeking to optimize their health IT capital, process and personnel investments.

The HIMSS HIT Value STEPS™ value realization framework provides an easily understood vocabulary for stakeholders to leverage when formulating strategies related to operating in a value-based business model. The STEPS™ value realization framework is built around five major categories of value that can be driven through the use of health IT: Satisfaction, Treatment/ Clinical, Electronic Secure Data, Patient Engagement & Population Management, and Savings.



Here are five ways to get the most out of the HIMSS HIT Value STEPS™ Framework:

1 Utilize the Value STEPS Framework In Your Strategic Planning Process

Use the HIMSS HIT Value STEPS™ framework to create and implement custom value-based strategies designed to optimize processes and clinical outcomes. Use the searchable Value STEPS interface within the HIMSS Value Suite to find examples of value realized by other organizations that align with your organization’s goals and demographics. Use the Value STEPS™ framework value optimization categories as guides to track and assess your own organization’s clinical- and operational-focused value strategies. Organizations that have optimized their health IT and associated process and personnel investments can submit their own value stories and, if included in the collection, can use their inclusion within the collection as an external indicator to the marketplace of best practice.

2

Analyze best practices from a diverse & globally-focused value optimization data collection

The HIMSS STEPS™ value optimization framework utilizes the HIMSS Value Suite data collection as its primary data source. The globally-focused, proprietary collection, brings together examples of HIT value realization from over 40 different countries and thousands of care settings.

Sources include:

- HIMSS Davies and EMRAM Stage 7 case studies
- Other HIMSS sources such as HIMSS Conference sessions, JHIM articles, cases written for individual business entities in HIMSS, Newsletters, etc.
- Government sources such as the previous RECs
- Other association publications
- Peer-reviewed publications
- Articles in the general media (publications, news reports, etc.)

The collection comprises cases that represent a variety of types of healthcare delivery-related organizations and cases in which patients have reported specific values that they have achieved through the successful integration of health IT into their clinical and operational workflows.

The types of organizations included in the collection:

- [Academic medical centers](#)
- [Community health organizations](#)
- Community hospitals
- Consumers
- [Critical access hospitals](#)
- [Healthcare systems](#)
- Health information exchanges
- National healthcare systems
- [Other](#) (including long-term care, rehabilitation, mental health and so on)
- [Public health organizations](#)
- Rural hospitals
- [Large primary care practices](#) (>10 physicians)
- [Small primary care practices](#) (<= 10 physicians)
- Large specialty care practices (>10 physicians)
- Small specialty care practices (<= 10 physicians)
- States

Additional organization type subcategories include:

- Accountable care organizations
- Beacon Communities
- Patient-centered medical homes

3

Explore evidence-based, curated value stories

Each data source in the Value Suite data collection is assigned a level of evidence based on the level of peer review and overall credibility of the source. Each value story in the collection is assigned “level of evidence” score between 1 and 4. For example, if the source is a Davies Award for which the case has been thoroughly reviewed by unbiased professionals, the score is “1”; if, on the other hand, the source is a vendor-authored article that has not been through an unbiased peer review process, the assigned level of evidence is “4”.

4

Standardize your organization's value vocabulary

There are two ways the HIMSS STEPS™ value realization framework can standardize the way your organization discusses health IT value.

- Bucket your value metrics around five major categories of value that can be driven through the use of health IT: Satisfaction, Treatment/Clinical, Electronic Secure Data, Patient Engagement & Population Management, and Savings.
- When the Value Suite data collection team reviews a value story, the team identifies and assigns Standard Value Statements (SVSs) to each of the value statements that are extracted from the original published article on the case. The SVSs provide a way of standardizing the value statements, which can range from very broad to very specific statements. In some cases, the value statements have related metrics and these are reported in the collection.

5

Understand the relationship between the HIMSS Value STEPS™ Framework & the HIMSS Value Score

The HIMSS Value STEPS™ Framework is one of the foundational best practice resources utilized in the formation of the evaluation metrics utilized in the assignment of a client's [Value Score](#).

To get started on finding the value of your healthcare organization's health IT investments, go to [ValueSuite](#).



Explore the profound impact of how #HITworks and share your stories.