



Health IT Adoption: Whaddya know? (not much, you?)

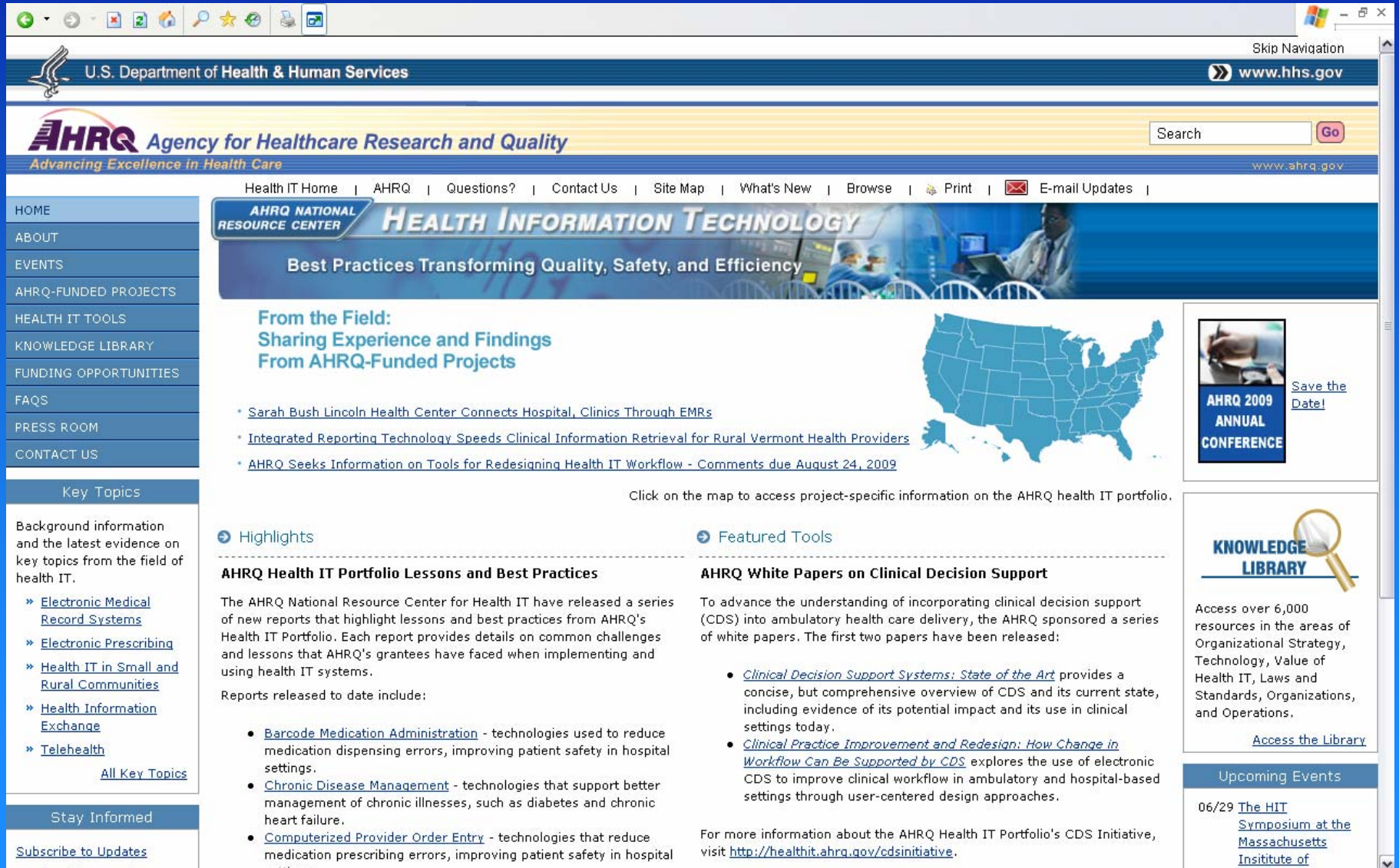
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AHRQ's Mission

Improve the quality, safety, efficiency and effectiveness of health care for all Americans





The screenshot shows the website's layout with a navigation menu on the left, a main content area with a banner for Health Information Technology, and several content blocks including highlights, featured tools, and a knowledge library. The browser window title is "U.S. Department of Health & Human Services" and the URL is "www.hhs.gov".

- HOME
- ABOUT
- EVENTS
- AHRQ-FUNDED PROJECTS
- HEALTH IT TOOLS
- KNOWLEDGE LIBRARY
- FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
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HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
 Best Practices Transforming Quality, Safety, and Efficiency

**From the Field:
Sharing Experience and Findings
From AHRQ-Funded Projects**

- [Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center Connects Hospital, Clinics Through EMRs](#)
- [Integrated Reporting Technology Speeds Clinical Information Retrieval for Rural Vermont Health Providers](#)
- [AHRQ Seeks Information on Tools for Redesigning Health IT Workflow - Comments due August 24, 2009](#)



Click on the map to access project-specific information on the AHRQ health IT portfolio.

➔ Highlights

AHRQ Health IT Portfolio Lessons and Best Practices

The AHRQ National Resource Center for Health IT have released a series of new reports that highlight lessons and best practices from AHRQ's Health IT Portfolio. Each report provides details on common challenges and lessons that AHRQ's grantees have faced when implementing and using health IT systems.

Reports released to date include:

- [Barcode Medication Administration](#) - technologies used to reduce medication dispensing errors, improving patient safety in hospital settings.
- [Chronic Disease Management](#) - technologies that support better management of chronic illnesses, such as diabetes and chronic heart failure.
- [Computerized Provider Order Entry](#) - technologies that reduce medication prescribing errors, improving patient safety in hospital settings.

➔ Featured Tools

AHRQ White Papers on Clinical Decision Support

To advance the understanding of incorporating clinical decision support (CDS) into ambulatory health care delivery, the AHRQ sponsored a series of white papers. The first two papers have been released:

- [Clinical Decision Support Systems: State of the Art](#) provides a concise, but comprehensive overview of CDS and its current state, including evidence of its potential impact and its use in clinical settings today.
- [Clinical Practice Improvement and Redesign: How Change in Workflow Can Be Supported by CDS](#) explores the use of electronic CDS to improve clinical workflow in ambulatory and hospital-based settings through user-centered design approaches.

For more information about the AHRQ Health IT Portfolio's CDS Initiative, visit <http://healthit.ahrq.gov/cdsinitiative>.



AHRQ 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Save the Date!



KNOWLEDGE LIBRARY

Access over 6,000 resources in the areas of Organizational Strategy, Technology, Value of Health IT, Laws and Standards, Organizations, and Operations.

[Access the Library](#)

Upcoming Events

06/29 [The HIT Symposium at the Massachusetts Institute of](#)



What do we know?

- Adoption
- ePrescribing
- Health Information Exchange
- Quality Measurement



Adoption

- Most significant barriers were financial (most pronounced in small practices)
- Adoption associated with lower malpractice settlements
- Adoption does not equal usage of key functions like decision support
- Relationship between adoption and high quality is complex and depends on usage of key functions



ePrescribing

- Uptake steady but partial
- Younger and pediatricians more likely
- eRx controlled substances a key challenge
- Formulary functionality saves \$\$\$



Health Information Exchange

- Frequently not an issue on providers radar
- Some benefits are certainly perceived
- \$\$\$ and interoperability are issues. But...
- Who stands to gain must lead



Quality Measurement

- Citizens Memorial Hospital, Bolivar, MO
- American Medical Association - Physicians's Consortium for Performance Improvement Cardio-HIT I and II
- Primary Care Improvement Project in NYC
- National Quality Forum Health IT Expert Panel I and II



In Sum

- Adoption - necessary but not sufficient
- ePrescribing - growing but incomplete
- Health Information Exchange - community leadership is key
- Quality Measurement - under construction

Thank you!

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