

# Accelerating the Electronic Health Record in Arizona

Byron Davies, Ph.D.

Chair

Arizona HIT Accelerator (AHITA)

# Current Status of EHRs in Arizona

- IDNs and hospitals are well on their way
- Approximately 4,000 physicians in small and medium practices in Arizona
- 200-600 have an electronic health record system fully implemented
- Very few are able to share data electronically with hospitals or other practices

# Goal Status

- All 4,000 have – and reap the benefits of – electronic health records systems
- All 4,000 can securely and electronically communicate patient data to and/or from labs, insurers, hospitals, and other providers.
- All 4,000 can use EHR data to support quality and productivity improvement initiatives.

# Current Statewide HIT Activities

- AZ DOQ-IT
- Medical societies
- HIMSS
- Arizona Health-e Connection
- AHITA

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# AZ DOQ-IT Contacts

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# Medical Societies

- National: Policy, Education, Practical Research
- Arizona: Education

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# Medical Societies

- ACP: Policy, Quality Initiatives
- AAFP: Center for HIT
- AOA: AOAMI
- AMA: PEHRC, National Alliance for HIT

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# AHITA (Short) History

- Begun informally as the Arizona EHR Accelerator in February 2005
- Incorporated as AHITA in August 2005 with initial board
- Still developing bylaws and 501(c)(3) application
- Working closely with AZ DOQ-IT, AZ HIMSS, and the Governor's initiative

# AHITA

- **Goal:** accelerate the adoption and effective use of health information technology by healthcare providers in Arizona
- **Unique position:** collaboration of providers, technologists, and change management specialists.
- **Roles:** education, guidance through the adoption process, community building
- **Motto:** “You are not alone.”

# AHITA Board

- Byron Davies, Ph.D. (Chair)
- Scott Endsley, M.D.
- Roy Frieband, D.O.
- Francine Hardaway, Ph.D.
- Marilyn Teplitz, M.B.A.

# Survey

- Raise your hand if:
  1. You have a fully implemented EHR system.
  2. You have purchased an EMR system.
  3. You plan to purchase such a system during 2006.
  4. 2007.
  5. 2008.

# Survey

- Raise your hand if the following is a major barrier to your EHR adoption:
  1. Cost
  2. Vendor uncertainty
  3. Lack of knowledge
  4. HIPAA concerns
  5. Standards

# AHITA's Job

1. Everyone knows HIT's going to happen.
2. There's growing evidence that HIT's actually a good thing -- even for physicians.
3. Our job is to collaborate to break down the barriers so HIT can happen more quickly, more smoothly, and more effectively in Arizona

# For More Information

- [azdoqit.com](http://azdoqit.com)
- [doqit.org](http://doqit.org)
- [ahita.org](http://ahita.org) (download these slides)