TRACE3

Improving Technology **Prioritizing Patients**

5 REASONS TO MIGRATE YOUR CLINICAL SYSTEM TO THE AWS CLOUD

At community hospitals, FQHC's, surgery & imaging Centers, and large ambulatory clinics, ensuring the highest quality patient care is mission-critical—but with smaller staffs, limited resources, and legacy clinical systems that are not keeping up with the needs and expectations of today's patients, many small and mid-sized hospitals feel stuck. As cloud-based health technology expert Morris Panner writes in a recent article for Entrepreneur: "Most hospitals still rely on outdated software systems that have been repeatedly patched. Building atop shaky foundations like this leads to major inefficiency and frequent errors. Healthcare professionals lose a great deal of time that could be better spent on patient care to these inflexible and unreliable systems."

Cloud-based clinical systems empower hospitals to take charge of the patient experience — which is why in this e-book, we're sharing five reasons every hospital should consider migrating their clinical systems to the AWS Cloud.

1

IMPROVE SECURITY WITHOUT EXPANDING YOUR IT TEAM

In 2020 alone, one-third of healthcare organizations were hit by ransomware attacks—and smaller, rural hospitals are often the most vulnerable. By upgrading their clinical system to the AWS Cloud, hospitals can protect themselves against cyberattacks without worrying about funding additional IT personnel. And they don't have to do it alone. AWS Partner Trace3, for example, offers OneHealthEQ, a turnkey solution that leverages ongoing HIPAA assessments to ensure that patient information is secure and compliant, along with penetration tests to safeguard your system against hackers.

Community hospitals share many of the same IT needs as large ones, but they are constrained by limited funding and staff. In fact, many small hospitals operate with only a single IT expert on staff—who may lack the experience and resources they need to stay up-to-date on cybersecurity best practices. Moving your clinical systems to the AWS Cloud not only guarantees your hospital is embracing the latest in cybersecurity technology, but also allows you to offload many of the security tasks that your IT team used to do manually. The result? A protected system and a happier and more productive IT staff.

2

SAVE LIVES WITH STREAMLINED DISASTER RECOVERY

As the pandemic overwhelmed hospitals, hackers took advantage of the distraction to increase their attacks, with the healthcare sector comprising 79% of all data breaches in 2020. What happens in the event that a cyberattack should happen? Unfortunately, without a viable disaster recovery plan in place, many community hospitals are left in a precarious position.

How much time can your hospital afford to be without access to its systems or data? Operating without a disaster recovery plan after a cyberattack is more than just an inconvenience. It damages the reputation of a hospital, destroys patient trust, impacts revenue, and can even lead to patient deaths. By moving their clinical systems to the cloud, however, hospitals avoid the fallout of a cyberattack. Cloud-based systems are not only more secure but are also backed by disaster recovery protection, which means recovery of data after a breach often shrinks to mere minutes. Plus, with all your solutions in one place, it's easier to discover damages and repair or restore systems after an attack.

3

MAINTAIN PATIENT TRUST WITH REDUCED DOWNTIME

Unreliable legacy systems lead to downtime, not only when those systems fail in a cyberattack, but also because they must be taken down regularly for scheduled maintenance. And when medical records and critical test results are inaccessible, patients are put at risk—and they often lose faith in their providers as a result.

When you move your clinical systems to the AWS Cloud, your hospital will benefit from AWS's guaranteed 99.999% uptime—which equates to less than five minutes of downtime over an entire year. And if you opt for a turnkey solution like OneHealthEQ, your provider will schedule maintenance and updates ahead of time, mitigating the impact of downtime on your medical staff and patients.

REDUCING DOWNTIME AT MOSAIC HEALTH

At Mosaic Health in Rochester, NY, doctors and nurses frequently experienced unexpected downtime on their legacy system. Sometimes, those outages lasted for an entire day. Staying compliant and secure also required the continual updating of hardware, which was expensive, time-consuming, and complicated. To solve this problem, Mosaic migrated to Trace3's OneHealthEQ platform. Not only did OneHealthEQ solve their latency problems, but the solution was right-sized for a smaller, community hospital—making it much more cost-effective than their existing platform.

4

BE PROACTIVE ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY'S HEALTH DATA

Over the last few years, the U.S. medical system has been shifting toward value-based care, in which payments are made based on the quality of care provided, not the service itself. This system incentivizes patients to work with the same integrated team of providers to treat their health concerns—but for some small hospitals with fewer resources at their disposal, it also leads to financial challenges.

To solve this problem, many hospitals are leveraging community health data to be proactive about treatment. Data points like "population health" and "social determination of health" help doctors identify common diseases in their communities and work with patients to mitigate the risk of those conditions. For example, doctors might discover from community health data that people living in a poorer, less educated county are less likely to eat healthy foods and exercise, which increases the risk of diabetes and heart disease. Practitioners can then consult with patients during annual check-ups to educate them on diet and exercise, and connect them to community resources.

Tapping into health databases can be a game-changer for community healthcare, but on-premises systems often make it difficult, or impossible, to capture and analyze this critical data. But via the AWS Cloud, hospitals take charge of their data and leverage dozens of easy-to-use reporting tools, like Amazon QuickSight. Cloud-based data storage is also interoperable, which means simplified data sharing is enabled between clinics, or even with hospitals across the country.

HEALING PATIENTS PROACTIVELY AT RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Rush University Medical Center in Chicago was able to build an analytics platform that aggregated and analyzed data on COVID-19 patients from dozens of local hospitals. The team leveraged Amazon HealthLake, which enabled them to store, query, and report on critical data—like admissions, discharges, transfers, and hospital capacity—in mere minutes. By the end of 2021, Rush University Medical Center plans to compile data from all 32 hospitals in Chicago working in their AWS Cloud-based data lake.

5

DEDICATE MORE MONEY AND TIME TO PATIENT CARE

Many hospitals assume that cloud-based systems will be more expensive than their legacy software, but migrating to the cloud is often more cost-effective, particularly for community hospitals. Why? On-premises systems are often more expensive to maintain and require a large up-front investment in hardware and licensing. Cloud-based systems, on the other hand, scale up or down to meet the needs of your organization. Clinical systems in the cloud also require less labor for your team, particularly for organizations that choose to pay for managed services. That additional support from your cloud provider means moving your IT personnel away from time-consuming maintenance and toward projects that directly impact patient care—resulting in cost-savings of both time and staff salaries.

PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST WITH CLOUD-BASED CLINICAL SYSTEMS

Small and mid-sized hospitals are the under-sung heroes of the medical system. These hospitals often care for patients across entire lifespans—supporting multiple generations through births, deaths, illnesses, and injuries. Now, with cloud-based technology, community hospitals can do even more to support health and wellbeing in their communities, without straining their small but mighty staff. Simply put, the AWS Cloud allow hospitals to dedicate more of their time to their patients—all while providing the people in their community access to the latest advancements in healthcare technology.

Trace3 is an AWS Advanced Consulting Partner with deep expertise in cloud-based solutions for healthcare organizations of all sizes. Our OneHealthEQ solution makes it easy for organizations to embrace all the benefits of the AWS Cloud, for automatic fail over, enhanced security and guaranteed uptime for the best patient care. To learn more, go to https://www.trace3.com/managed-services/onehealtheq