



HTM: Transforming the Future of Healthcare Technology and Patient Care



With increasing dependencies on sophisticated and expensive healthcare technologies, healthcare executives must make strategic and sustainable choices for acquiring and managing technology. Healthcare Technology Management (HTM) professionals are vital partners to help executives achieve this goal. Clinical engineers, biomedical equipment technicians, and other HTM professionals use their expertise to ensure around-the-clock safety, efficacy, and availability of life-saving technologies, while keeping healthcare costs down.

The imperative to control costs while maintaining the highest standards in patient safety is necessary in today's healthcare climate. In addition to participating in the strategic planning and acquisition of healthcare technologies, HTM professionals offer in-house maintenance, clinical staff training, and expeditious repair of healthcare equipment. They also manage equipment service contracts to maximize facility healthcare technology portfolios while providing critical cost savings.

To make sure you maximize the return on your HTM investment, consider:

- ▶ Including HTM in technology team meetings

- ▶ Involving HTM in capital planning, budgeting, and approval processes
- ▶ Inviting HTM to actively participate on key committees including:
 - Patient Safety
 - Disaster Preparedness
 - Financial Planning
 - Capital Acquisition
 - Product Evaluation
 - Facility Design and Innovation

“Healthcare organizations need professionals with deep knowledge of the complex issues associated with today’s healthcare technology challenges. In our view, healthcare technology managers are ideally suited for this role and have a great opportunity to become a critical part of any healthcare organization’s future success.”

— Tony Montagnolo, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at ECRI Institute



IMPROVING PATIENT OUTCOMES

HTM departments play a vital role in patient safety by:

- ▶ Inspecting, installing, and quickly repairing healthcare technology
- ▶ Educating clinicians on the safe and effective use of equipment
- ▶ Managing technology networks
- ▶ Preparing operating rooms and other patient areas to ensure electrical and fire safety
- ▶ Managing medical device recalls and alerts, and investigating device failures and near misses, as part of a multidisciplinary team

CONTROLLING COSTS

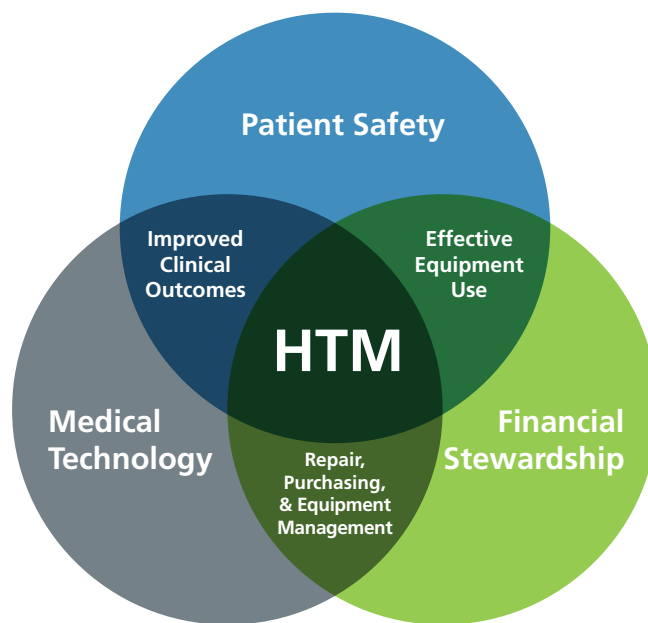
HTM departments have a major impact on protecting a facility's bottom line through:

- ▶ Technology assessment and value analysis
- ▶ Strategically planning equipment acquisition and replacement
- ▶ Managing vendors and equipment service contracts
- ▶ Developing in-house maintenance capabilities where indicated
- ▶ Coordinating technology assets to maximize utilization and effectiveness, in collaboration with clinical colleagues
- ▶ Improving clinical efficiency through excellent customer service
- ▶ Maximizing technology investments by advising on life expectancy and decommissioning of equipment

PROVIDING CLINICAL SUPPORT

Providing excellent customer service is a top priority – and essential to physicians, nurses, and other caregivers. They:

- ▶ Support hospital staff with on-call technical expertise
- ▶ Remain up to date about cutting-edge technology and trends
- ▶ Offer guidance on healthcare technology purchasing, planning, and facility design
- ▶ Serve a key role in disaster preparedness and other safety issues
- ▶ Ensure hospital compliance with accreditation surveys and other regulations



To learn more about Healthcare Technology Management, visit www.IamHTM.org

The Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation (AAMI)—representing a unique alliance of nearly 7,000 healthcare technology professionals—offers a wealth of information about the field of healthcare technology management at www.AAMI.org/htmconnect. Share your experience and opinions by contacting Patrick Bernat at pbernat@aami.org