

NEWS RELEASE

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BOTHWELL ONCE AGAIN EARNS NATIONAL HONOR *Health Center Recognized in America's Top 100 Most Wired Hospitals*

SEDALIA - Bothwell Regional Health Center has been recognized for the third time as one of the nation's Most Wired hospitals, according to the results of the 2012 Most Wired Survey released this week in the July issue of *Hospitals & Health Networks* magazine.



Bothwell Regional Health Center was recognized this year as one of the Top 100 Most Wired Hospitals in America with other esteemed health-care

organizations, such as Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York; the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.; University of Missouri Health Care, Columbia; and Citizen's Memorial Hospital, Bolivar.

Members of Bothwell's IT Department celebrate their Most Wired 2012 achievement. Pictured from left, back row: Jeff Neas, Eric Walton, Josh Appleman, Tia Demand, Director Tom Fairfax and Thomas Martin. From left, front row: Grace Sims, Bobby Simon, Tony Mitchell, Jen Hesse, Veronica Hiller, Kathy Friedley and Jody Teague.

The nation's Most Wired hospitals are leveraging the adoption and use of health information technology to improve performance, according to Bothwell IT Director Tom Fairfax.

"Hospitals are focusing on expanding and adopting information technology while protecting patient data and optimizing patient flow and communications," said Fairfax.

The Most Wired recognition was earned through information submitted by Fairfax, whose vision and philosophy of IT as a service department has led to Bothwell's success as a Most Wired hospital for the third time.

Bothwell uses IT tools, including integrated lab systems, radiology filmless picture archiving and communications systems (PACS), bedside medication verification (BMV) and computerized provider order entry (CPOE) to name just a few, to help staff across the health center care for patients. Bothwell's dedicated IT staff, along with select individuals from other departments, works tirelessly with physicians to ensure that the IT systems meet the needs of our patients.

The nation's Most Wired hospitals, including Bothwell, use technology to check drug interactions and drug allergies when medications are ordered. This is a major step in reducing medication errors and improving patient safety.

"Bothwell has received national recognition for being ahead of the curve in the information technology systems we use to help ensure the safest and best possible patient care," said Bothwell President and CEO John Dawes. "We realize the value and leadership of our IT department and the teamwork of our clinical and support staff, and we are very proud of this achievement."

"I'm very proud of my team," echoed Fairfax. "I would be remiss to not also gratefully acknowledge the commitment of time and expertise provided by our physicians and other department staff in helping us improve the quality and safety of patient care."

The Most Wired list represents hospitals nationwide that scored the highest in a national survey. Bothwell was one of five hospitals recognized in Missouri.

In 2010, Bothwell Regional Health Center was recognized as one of the Top 100 Most Wired Hospitals in America based on its progressive implementation of electronic health records. In 2009, Bothwell Regional Health Center was named one of the nation's 25 Most Wired Hospitals in America in the category of Small & Rural Hospitals for its computerized health-care information technology.

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Bothwell Regional Health Center is a 140-bed regional health center serving west-central Missouri with state-of-the-art technology and comprehensive health and wellness services including surgical, cancer, orthopedic, cardiovascular, women's health, and therapy services. For more information on Bothwell Regional Health Center and its services, visit the Web site at www.brhc.org or find them on Facebook.

The American Hospital Association is the national organization that represents and serves all types of hospitals, health care networks, and their patients and communities. Close to 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks, other providers of care and 40,000 individual members come together to form the AHA. The 2012 Most Wired Survey is conducted in cooperation with McKesson

Corporation, the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives and the American Hospital Association.