

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **BOTHWELL REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION AS 'MOST WIRED' HOSPITAL**

SEDALIA, MO - Bothwell Regional Health Center has been 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.

The Most Wired list represents health-care systems nationwide that scored the highest in a national survey. Bothwell was one of four health-care systems recognized in Missouri.

The results were reported July 6, 2009, in the 2009 Most Wired Survey and Benchmarking Study conducted by [Hospitals & Health Networks](#), the journal of the [American Hospital Association](#). Marking its 11th year, the Most Wired Survey and Benchmarking Study leads the field in analyses and benchmarking of health-care information technology (IT).

"We are honored to have earned this distinction and believe it is evidence of our continuing commitment to provide our patients with the safest and highest quality care," said Chief Executive Officer John Dawes. "We tend to think of IT as one of those behind-the-scenes support systems and take it for granted. At Bothwell, we recognize the significance of investing in cutting-edge information technology to enhance the abilities of our physicians and staff to deliver safe care."

Survey results found that [Bothwell Regional Health Center](#) is in a group of leading edge hospitals and health systems making significant progress automating four core components of an electronic medical records (EMR) system: current medical records, medical history, patient demographics and nurses' notes. The survey measures the nation's hospitals on their use of web-based technologies for quality, customer service, public health and safety, business processes and workforce issues.

"Bothwell Regional Health Center consistently invests in its technology infrastructure to ensure patient safety and quality care," Dawes said. "We work as a team to enhance immediate access to patient information to improve care. It's not technology for technology's sake. Our commitment to enhancing and continually upgrading system technologies allows us to better perform our No. 1 job, which is to care for our patients in the safest manner possible."

Bothwell's designation as a Most Wired hospital was based in large part on the health center's

2007 facility-wide implementation of the [Meditech](#) clinical and financial system. The conversion replaced 79 different disparate systems with a comprehensive solution that offered a coordinated approach.

“Meditech provided us with the opportunity combine technology with clinical knowledge, employ creativity with a focus on improving outcomes, making care safer and more streamlined for both patients and clinicians,” said Greg Collins, Information Systems Director.

The Most Wired hospitals show better outcomes in patient satisfaction, risk-adjusted mortality rates and other key quality measures through the use of information technology, according to a new analysis.

“Health IT has shown incredible promise in helping us improve the quality and safety of the care hospitals deliver every day,” said Rich Umbdenstock, president and CEO of the American Hospital Association. “The results of the Most Wired survey confirm that today's patient also understands the benefits of IT in improving care and improving the overall hospital experience.”

The survey also confirmed that Most Wired hospitals have made considerable investments in other key technologies, such as radiology systems and picture archiving communications systems for diagnostic tests.

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Bothwell Regional Health Center is a 180-bed regional health center serving west-central Missouri with state-of-the-art technology and comprehensive health and wellness services including surgical, cancer, orthopaedic, endovascular/cardiac, women's health, and therapy services. For more information on Bothwell Regional Health Center and its services, visit the website at [www.brhc.org](http://www.brhc.org).