

Three European Hospitals are awarded at the HIMSS Europe CIO Summit in Valencia, Spain

HIMSS awards issued for operating in a paperless environment and representing best practices in the implementation of Electronic Medical Records (EMR)

Valencia, Spain, 8 October 2015: Two Turkish public hospitals and one Spanish hospital all received the prestigious [HIMSS EMRAM](#) (Electronic Medical Record Adoption Model) Stage 6 Award during the HIMSS Analytics EMRAM Awards Ceremony and Dinner in Valencia, Spain.

Giresun Tirebolu Public Hospital and *Balıkesir Bandırma* Public Hospital from Turkey were both accredited with an EMRAM Stage 6 level. *Tirebolu*, despite being a relatively small hospital with 75 beds, have successfully managed to prioritize and implement medication dispensing and administration safety. At the *Bandırma* Public Hospital, transformation through IT is being successfully pioneered and managed by the hospital administration.

[New research](#) was recently undertaken by HIMSS Analytics in Europe into more than 320 Turkish hospitals, which found significant investment opportunities for healthcare IT companies following decades of financial transformation. The research focused on key metrics regarding the maturity of electronic medical records in public acute care hospitals under supervision of the Turkish Ministry of Health, which these two hospitals have exemplified fully with their recent recognition and achievement.

The *Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre*, which has over 1,000 beds, has become the fourth EMRAM Stage 6 hospital awarded in Madrid, and the seventeenth in Spain. The Spanish hospital has been working solidly with the aim to eliminate paper, which will ultimately bring them to achieving a paperless EMR environment. The highlights during the site visit, back in June, included a special mention to the hospital-wide usage of electronic nursing and physician documentation as well as very high business continuity and disaster recovery standards. *Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre* continues to demonstrate a commitment to improve patient safety and care by implementing a high level of digital maturity systems.

John Hoyt, Vice President of HIMSS Analytics, who presented the awards following the prestigious [CIO Summit](#), which attracted more than 200 CIOs from across Europe said: “European hospitals are becoming increasingly of the importance of working towards a paperless environment to patient care, quality and safety. Whilst Spain has been leading the way for digital maturity in Europe for some years, the commitment by the Ministry of Health in Turkey to measure and enhance digital maturity has seen the emergence of some truly exemplar sites in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. It is an honour for me to be at this year’s CIO Summit handing over awards to three European front-running hospitals.”

EMRAM has been adapted to meet the needs of European healthcare institutions as a methodology for evaluating the progress and impact of electronic medical record systems in hospitals. Tracking their progress in completing eight stages (0-7), hospitals can review the implementation and utilisation of information technology applications with the aim of reaching Stage 7, which represents a superior electronic patient record environment.

-ENDS-

Editors' notes

Please contact Inés Burton at iburton@himss.org for press enquiries

About HIMSS Analytics in Europe

HIMSS Analytics in Europe provides healthcare organisations, governments and industry with extensive data resources and services about the adoption and use of healthcare IT in Europe. HIMSS Analytics' offerings include database and advisory solutions which encompass market research, IT adoption benchmarking, IT Maturity Models for topics like Electronic Medical Records or Continuity of Care. These offerings are designed to support Management and CIOs, IT Executives and Clinicians from across Europe to compare and measure their progress.