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## NEWS BRIEF | 06.01.10

### BridgeHead Surveys Healthcare Providers: Data management found to be the top priority

BridgeHead Software recently polled a group of 133 healthcare executives worldwide to determine the issues most important to them. Results placed data management at the very top of the list globally and for the U.S. in particular. Healthcare providers have set data backup and disaster recovery as their top priority. The survey showed that Picture Archiving Communications Systems (PACS) came in second on the investment priority list for providers.

Increases in data volume growth are the direct result of more and more hospitals making the transition to digital. Radiology images are the main contributor, along with scanned documents and files stored in EMRs.

When asked about storage platforms, the survey found that most U.S. providers lack a full migration policy with tiered storage data archiving. In addition, 88% of U.S. providers have yet to employ cloud computing storage solutions, with many not expected to consider this option in the next few years.

[Read the BridgeHead Press Release >>](#)

[Read the full story >>](#)

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### CMS proposes changes to telemedicine credentialing rules

Smaller hospitals are challenged to follow the current credentialing process for providing telemedicine due to their lack of resources. CMS' proposed telemedicine rule would make the credentialing and privileging process easier for critical access hospitals, as well as hospitals in general.

Hospitals would have the ability to outsource the task of credentialing to a third party credentialing verification organization. However, the hospital would still be held responsible for making any privileging decisions.

The proposed rule opened for public comment on May 26th and will remain open for sixty days.

#### Collaborative Health IT "CHAT"

June 2 | 1 - 2:30 p.m. CST  
Health Information Exchange (HIE)

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[View the Federal Register](#) to learn more about the proposed rule and/or submit your comments by using the reference code CMS-3227-P.

[Read the full article >>](#)

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## ONC Releases Beacon Community Funding Opportunity

The ONC has announced the availability of an additional \$30.3 Million dollars in funding to support Beacon Communities. The two cooperative agreement grants will be awarded in August of 2010, bringing the total number of Beacon Community grants awarded to 17.

The purpose of the Beacon Communities is to unite healthcare professions and expand upon current health IT infrastructure and exchange capabilities in an effort to achieve widespread meaningful use and improve healthcare overall. A letter of intent is due June 9 with the full application due on June 26.

[View the full announcement by searching for CFDA# 93.727 >>](#)

[View the HHS website for more information >>](#)

**Want to learn more about the exchange of information across the healthcare community? Register for our June 2nd webinar on Health Information Exchange**

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