Healthcare providers today are in the technology business. Most every discussion on the betterment of healthcare – from saving lives to saving costs – involves technology. Used effectively, technology helps providers make sense of information, save time and effort, and cut down on mistakes. It frees doctors and staff to deliver better medical care to patients, and it helps administrators take better financial care of systems.

Technology also brings unique challenges. Moore’s Law describes a long-term trend in the history of computing hardware – where the number of transistors manufacturers can place inexpensively on a computer chip doubles every two years. This trend helps medical equipment providers create smaller, smarter, newer generations of devices at a rapid rate. To keep pace with advances on the frontier of healthcare, new technologies often come to market before the old grow obsolete.

Innovation is good in medicine, of course, especially when it helps eliminate suffering and improves quality of life. But while providers can justify it in a clinical setting, rapid innovation may have a very different impact in the administrative realm. Multiple generations of computing technology mean multiple service plans, contracts, hardware models, software versions, training requirements, security features, printers, and so forth. If not managed carefully, technology adds unneeded complexity, with attendant confusion, wasteful processes, and higher costs.

Standardization reduces complexity. Taking unnecessary time and steps out of processes makes hospital staff more productive and less prone to error. Standardization also provides a means to ensure a consistent and appropriate level of service to patients and staff. The consistency of standardized practices and systems matters even more in a healthcare industry characterized today by rapid business change – stemming from mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and right-sizing – as well as rapid change in medical diagnostics and therapy.

Business process standardization isn’t easy. It requires both broad industry overview and specific product knowledge. Providers need IT processes that they can adapt quickly to changing circumstances. Most of all, providers need a technology partner with a proven track record of cutting through the Gordian knots of IT systems and infrastructure.

Today, your partner in hospital system standardization can be Xerox. Here are just two examples of the value we provide many healthcare systems.

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**Not-for-profit healthcare system.** A large provider saw an opportunity to contain costs by establishing standard tools to access patient data across its hospital system. Working with Xerox, health IT directors planned and executed an Epic medical software integration without disruption to the care of patients or system operations. They also passed savings from this standardization into new electronic health records technology designed to drive more consistent patient care and increased access to clinical information.

**Allegiance Health System.** Allegiance, a 411-bed regional health system in Michigan, struggled with ‘care clutter’ – different generations of equipment scattered throughout the enterprise. The system faced hundreds of forms, steps, and administrative details in conducting operations and complying with regulations. Managing this underlying complexity was not core to its business – the business of providing first-rate medical care.

Xerox developed a cost-effective print-on-demand solution saving $20,000 a year and streamlining information management. Problems (and costs) associated with the storage and obsolescence of large volumes of printed forms disappeared. Regulatory compliance improved. In all, our remedy freed Allegiance to focus full attention – and badly needed financial resources – on what it does best, delivering quality care.

The very best medicine for complexity today is a strong IT system that provides the information and support your hospital needs to reach your goals. Xerox can help you provide world-class healthcare that frees you from fretting over IT, data management, and documentation busywork.

Standardization cuts through the clutter that comes with Moore’s Law.

And, like Moore’s Law, we’ll double our efforts to help you.

**For more information visit our landing page:** [www.xerox.com/healthcaresolutions](http://www.xerox.com/healthcaresolutions)