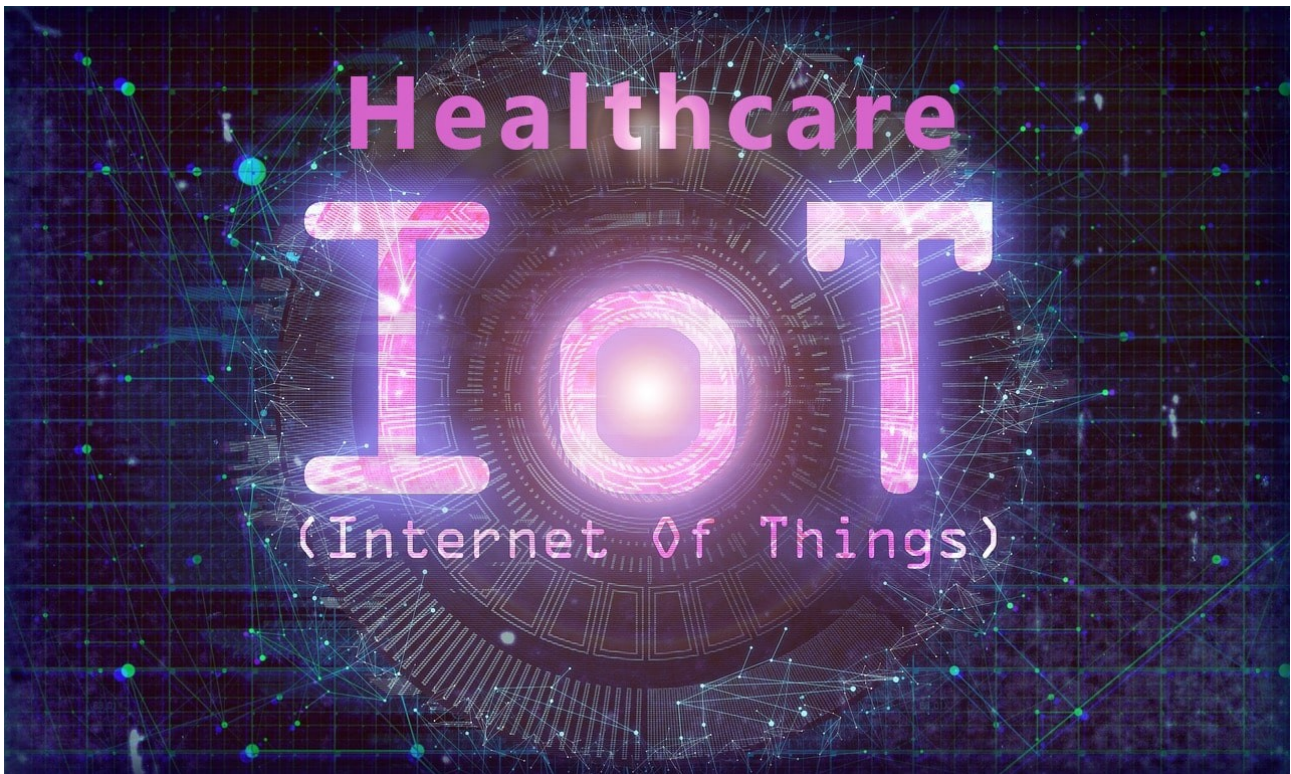


Top benefits of Internet of Things (IoT) in healthcare





The Internet of Things (IoT) has already transformed our world. It affects the way we work and live our life. In today's world when Broadband Internet is easily available everywhere at an affordable price, different sensors have been developed, a wide range of gadgets and devices entering our world, affordable smartphones are stabbing. All of these reflect how IoT is involved in our day to day lifestyle and in countless sectors of the economy, also in the health sector.

It won't be wrong to say that the healthcare industry lags behind other sectors when it comes to technology. It needs government inspiration to get physicians to adopt electronic health records (EHRs) widely, and it seems as it will take incentives and discipline to drive interoperability. Because interoperability and integration both are now big challenges for the healthcare industry.

Role of IoT in Healthcare

The patient experience is really meaningful for the healthcare industry to measure its success. Technology plays a vital role when a patient is getting treatment, wants to have an appointment or interacts with physicians through telehealth. In modern healthcare, continuously changing rules, regulations, insurance, and physician-patient engagement are both a challenge and an opportunity.

A solution that allows healthcare to transform user exposure, financial issues and efficient workflow is the best form of 'Integrated Healthcare Management'. The patient's experience, better health, and interaction of patients are the main ingredient of an integrated healthcare system. Electronic Health Record (EHR) provides integrated healthcare solution that seamlessly offers information transparency, appropriate treatment, patient-centric data, and efficient workflow. EHR is an integrated point-to-care system which is developed to manage distant patients from your clinic. EHR links all specialists, connects patients with their physicians, moves reports from one place to another. It can be viewed as a facilitator of quality care.

IoT helps in implementing an integrated healthcare platform.

Benefits of an integrated healthcare platform

According to the survey of Black Book in 2014, **89% of independent practice providers** agreed that to stay profitable, it is necessary to upgrade their practice management system.

There is a lot of research in the area of benefits of an integrated healthcare system for small practices and large healthcare industry. West Health Institute estimated that integration and interoperability can save as much as **\$36 billion for the industry**. Earlier Black Book survey also highlighted that 90% of managers in the healthcare industry agree that an innovative EHR system improved profitability.

Obviously while utilizing IoT, healthcare providers should comply with HIPPA security and privacy rules. Generally IT departments of medical and hospitals uses a secure method to share data on the cloud, but still, there are some challenges to overcome.

Adopters of the Internet of Things are growing steadily in the healthcare industry. There are countless solutions for applications, like monitoring patient visits, collecting data, monitoring hospital assists, automated devices.

So now it is definite that the IoT is a boon for the healthcare sector.

Let's see what are the benefits of IoT:

◆ Lower price

Healthcare providers can monitor patients in real-time by using IoT solutions and connected medical devices. This results in lesser visits to physicians, fewer hospital stays and unnecessary readmissions all thanks to data collection.

◆ **Improved patient experience**

Patients are more engaged in their health by being connected through IoT, leading to a more accurate diagnosis since the doctors have all the necessary data at hand.

◆ **Better drug management**

IoT solutions provide better drug management as medical staff don't have to spend much time searching drugs and medicine, track hygiene practices and hence prevent infection in a hospital. Through the IoT monitoring system now the patient can adhere to medical treatment plans and physicians can track compliance to prescriptions.

◆ **Removed Faults**

There is an excellent cut down in waste (like unnecessary tests) after using IoT resulting in reduced system costs and errors (due to humans).

◆ **Better outcomes**

By connecting healthcare solutions to technologies like Cloud computing, Big data, and IoT, caregivers are now able to track real-time data that are used for better decision-making and hence offer better evidence-based solutions.

◆ **Customized treatment**

By collecting and accessing patient's real-time medical information provided by IoT networked devices, providers can provide customized treatment and better patient experience.

In today's hectic world people don't have time to visit clinics back to back so healthcare mobile apps play a vital role in our society. Medical practices now can easily implement a single platform to manage their all aspect of their business, hence no need to implement multiple software. Now it's the right time to consider a change and adopt technology. Healthcare IoT offers lots of opportunities and benefits. All thanks to the evolving technology which gives us such powerful and useful applications that can be used to better manage our health.