STAYING AHEAD OF RISING COSTS OF
QUALITY PATIENT CARE

For the past 15 years, driving revenue was a main concern of health system executives. But with a transforming healthcare landscape, costs are rising and patients are looking for affordable care. In turn, healthcare executives' number-one concern has changed to lowering the cost of quality patient care and improving staffing practices.

ShiftWise™

WHY ARE HEALTHCARE COSTS RISING?

Government policy

Hospital consolidation

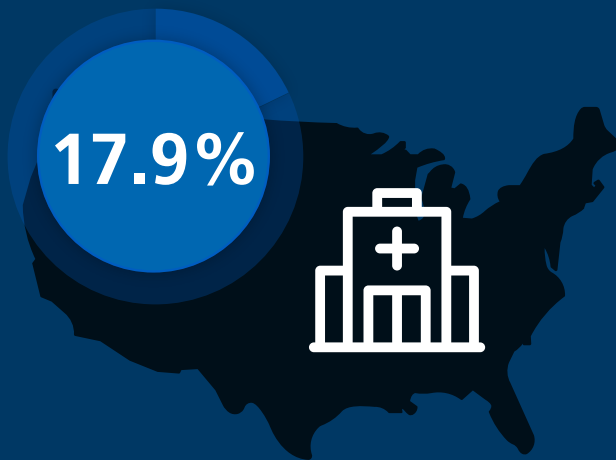**Patient lifestyle changes**

Complex healthcare systems

Aging populations

Advancements in technology

HOW MUCH ARE COSTS RISING?

Health systems, healthcare providers, and patients are all feeling the sting of skyrocketing healthcare

17.9%

The U.S. spends $3.3 trillion/year on medical care —

17.9% of the GDP, or $10,000 per American annually.[1]

19%

Costs are projected to average $6 trillion by 2027 —

19% of the GDP and $17,000 per American.[2]

CARE SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY ARE EVOLVING — **AND TIMING IS IMPORTANT**

Healthcare executives should leverage business intelligence (BI) technology to gain analytics and information needed for enterprise-wide feedback systems. This will improve the quality of patient care while driving costs down.

**Three factors impacting quality patient care costs and healthcare staffing:**

**Technology innovation · Mergers and acquisitions · Compliance requirements**

HEALTHCARE TECH: WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS AND THE INTERNET OF MEDICAL THINGS (IOMT)

Patients rely on modern technology to minimize hospital visits and medical bills. Health systems can leverage technology to help staff work faster, diagnose illnesses more accurately, and devote more time to quality patient care. All of these will lead to lower patient care costs.

93%
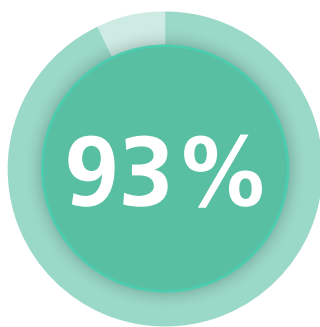
of radiologists who used 3D VR technology were more confident in diagnoses.[3]

53%
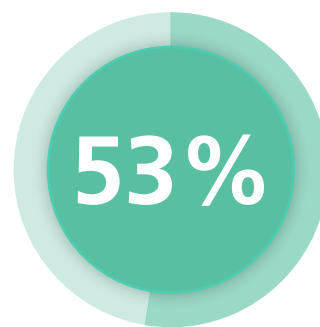
of those who use health monitors or wearable fitness trackers share data with their doctor.[4]

Important healthcare IT trends to watch for in the coming years:

- The healthcare IT market is projected to reach $390.7 billion by 2024.[5]

- Machine learning: Personalizing patient experience with virtual assistance, AI-enabled clinical support, and telehealth services.

- Blockchain technology: Securing medical data such as electronic health records.[6]

- IoMT devices: Wearables and devices equipped with monitoring and connectivity.[7]

- Natural language processing (NLP): Improving the diagnosis process.

- 3D printing: Used for prosthetics and repairing damaged tissue.

Through 2025, the number of locum tenens staff is expected to **grow faster than any other healthcare staffing segment.[8]**

To keep up with credentialing and management of contingent workers, health systems need modern system-level workforce solutions that use BI and analytics instead of department-level solutions and traditional reporting.

IMPACTS OF MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS (M&AS)

50%

In a study, **50% of M&As failed** due in part to employees' struggles to cope with cultural differences, corporate politics, and ineffective

To help staff cope with new cultures and processes while controlling costs of quality patient care, executives are shifting focus to:

Transitioning ownership

Maintaining quality patient care
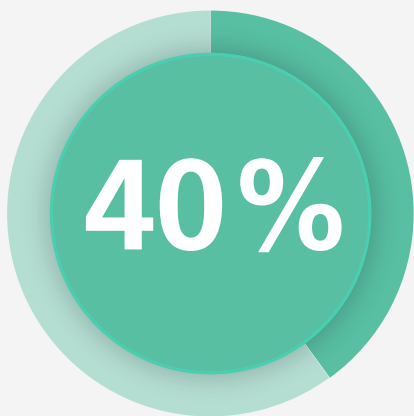
Supporting quality patient care

Reevaluating staffing needs

Analyzing community impact

Ensuring teams and culture align

INCREASE IN COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

With changes in the healthcare landscape come changes in compliance regulations. The Joint Commission is focusing more on the following in evaluations, which can be challenging for facilities with contingent workers:

Quality and safety for patients and staff[10]

Impacts of mergers and acquisitions

Ways technology is used in health systems

Health systems turn to workforce management systems or enterprise-wide vendor management systems (VMS) that use BI to deliver high-quality, consistent care and avoid penalties while managing contingent workers:

AI technology · **Biological data** · **Environmental data** · **Patient history**

40%

of U.S. workers are employed in "alternative work arrangements" like contingent work.[11]

There is a strong demand for workers to fill shifts and adapt to the floating hospital system.

A good VMS maximizes core staff utilization before relying on contingent labor, helping to drive down the cost of quality patient care. Rotating contingent workers can be a smooth process with the organization of workforce management systems.

HOW CAN HEALTH SYSTEMS REDUCE EXPENSES AND THE COST OF QUALITY PATIENT CARE?

Staffing is often one of the highest expenses in a health system. One strategy for reducing costs is improving talent management by implementing a system-wide VMS that integrates with a health system's workforce management system.

This can significantly lower the cost of quality patient care while encouraging consistent growth.

SHIFTWISE'S WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY ALIGNS HEALTH SYSTEMS WITH FUTURE TRENDS:

Supports the entire health system and future delivery model

Reduces dependency on contingent labor and maximizes full-time talent

Has real-time market data management and analytics

Prepares you for changes in compliance

Is transparent about costs

Is flexible and scalable to all outsourcing options

Manages contingent labor standards in alignment with full-time talent governance standards

ShiftWise™

LEARN MORE ABOUT KEEPING UP WITH THE CHANGING HEALTHCARE LANDSCAPE. CONTACT SHIFTWISE TODAY.

www.shiftwise.com

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