



Cloud Based vs. Client-Server EHR Comparison Chart

This is an extra resource to go along with the original article:
[Cloud-based or client server? What to know about your EHR system?](#)

This comparison chart is designed to help you decide between cloud-based EHR and client-server EHR as the best solution for your practice. Be sure to consider things like cost (setup and maintenance), IT support, and the growth potential of your practice when making a decision.

		Cloud Based	Client server
Setup Costs	Average setup costs for hardware and software installation as well as any installation or licensing fees	\$\$\$ --- \$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$ --- \$\$\$\$\$\$
HIPAA	Who is responsible for meeting HIPAA regulations and keeping patient data private?	HER vendors responsibility	Your responsibility
Transition	The ability to easily transition or integrate with another HER system	High accessibility	Low accessibility
Data accessibility	The ability to access data from any location or device	High accessibility	Low accessibility
Connectivity	Reliance on internet connectivity to store, manage and access patient data	High needs for connectivity	Low need for connectivity
Security	Includes physical or non-physical protections such as security equipment, software and data encryptions	Non-physical – firewalls, anti-virus, anti-malware, data encryption	Physcial and non-physical – security cameras or security equipment, firewalls, anti-virus, anti-malware, data encryption

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Security Costs	Payments and fees for keeping data secure	\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$
Errors	How data errors are handled	Errors handled by third-party team	Errors handled internally
Data control	Who has control over your patient data?	EHR vendor	You or your IT team
Data Priority	The prioritizing of your data when something goes wrong	Shared priority with other clients	High priority
Customization	The ability to adapt and change systems or features based on distinct needs	Low customization	High customization
Flexibility	The ability for your practice to use EHR systems when you grow (without adding to costs)	High flexibility	Lower flexibility
Better for:	The type of practice best benefited by the EHR system, its costs and its features	Small to mid-sized practices with a small (or no) IT team	Mid-sized to large healthcare practices with an IT team or department