Now in its eighth edition, this bestseller (formerly Austin and Boxerman’s Information Systems for Healthcare Management) provides readers with the comprehensive knowledge necessary to understand healthcare information technology (HIT) and to hone their skills in HIT management. The book explores the areas where leaders must exhibit basic awareness or competency, including hardware, software, and communication systems; operational, management, and clinical applications; and selection, implementation, and valuation. Each chapter has been updated to reflect current trends and challenges in the field as well as the implications of the 2010 healthcare reform law and other relevant federal mandates. Each chapter also features learning objectives, web resources, and discussion questions. This revised edition includes a glossary that clarifies technical terms as well as a list of abbreviations for important terms. Links to Internet sources are provided to supplement the information on the major topics covered in each chapter.

What’s New in This Edition

This edition has updated all of the subsequent edition’s chapters and configured the chapters into sections to provide a logical flow of information. A summary of major changes include:

- Aligning IT and Organizational Strategy in the prior edition becomes HIT Strategic Alignment. This reflects the growing importance of external factors on the strategic thinking and executive of HIT. This change makes the clear distinction between external forces shaping healthcare delivery in general and the need to find the right leadership for HIT and to establish appropriate governance systems. Understanding the external environment and having people and structure in place is also essential. The original chapter on external environment and government policy became two chapters: External Environment (Chapter 2) and Government Policy and Healthcare Reform (Chapter 3).

- Blocking and Tackling as a section was replaced by HIT Operational Effectiveness to better consolidate the major “how to” components of the text. This section contains updated chapters on HIT Architecture and Infrastructure (Chapter 6) and HIT Service Management (Chapter 7). A new chapter was added, System Selection and Contract Management (Chapter 8), to address the growing concern organizations have with this crucial leadership task. The section also moved Applications from the last section to operational effectiveness.
to mirror how crucial applications are to effectively running HIT. Applications were also separate to two chapters: Applications: Electronic Health Records (Chapter 9) and Applications: Management/Administrative and Financial Systems (Chapter 10). As in earlier changes, this reflects the major change that electronic records are having on HIT management in delivery organizations.

- **Strategic Competitive Advantage** remains a section, but HIT Project Portfolio Management (Chapter 11) has been added to the section. While this crucial HIT management infrastructure fit in the section of strategic alignment to some degree, it better supports efforts by the organization to attain competitive advantage. The successful HIT management cannot operate within the narrow confines of an organizational division. They must reach out systematically to other areas of the organization, to senior leadership and the Board and even to constituencies outside of the organization. Along with The Knowledge-Enabled Organization (Chapter 12) and HIT Value Analysis (Chapter 13). This crucial section helps the student consider strategies for the successful future of their organization.

**Chapter Breakdown**

**PART I: HIT Strategic Alignment**

1. **Connecting the Strategic Dots: Does IT Matter?**
   - Update of prior Chapter 1 with emphasis on the strategic importance of effective HIT.

2. **External Environment**
   - This partially new chapter is one portion of the Chapter 5 External Environment and Government Policy. Along with the next chapter, these reflect the growing importance of an understanding of the external environment to HIT.

3. **Government Policy and Healthcare Reform**
   - This partially new chapter is one portion of the Chapter 5 External Environment and Government Policy. Along with the next chapter, these reflect the growing importance of Government and healthcare reform to HIT.

4. **Leadership: The Case of the Healthcare Organization CIO**
   - Update of prior Chapter 2.

5. **HIT Governance and Decision Rights**
   - Update of prior Chapter 3.

**PART II: Operational Effectiveness**

6. **HIT Architecture and Infrastructure**
• Update of prior Chapter 6.

7. **HIT Service Management**
   • Update of prior Chapter 3.

8. **System Selection and Contract Management**
   • New chapter addressing a crucial element of HIT management and leadership increasingly must rely upon vendors for hardware, software and select contract services.

9. **Applications: Electronic Health Records**
   • New chapter flowing from the prior Chapter 8. This chapter is devoted solely to the EHR applications to HIT.

**PART III: Strategic Competitive Advantage**

10. **Applications: Management/Administrative and Financial Systems**
    • Update of prior Chapter 8 with Electronic Health Record materials moved to new chapter 9.

11. **HIT Project Portfolio Management**
    • Updated location and name change for Chapter 4.

12. **The Knowledge-Enabled Organization**
    • Updated and name change for prior Chapter 9.

13. **HIT Value Analysis**
    • Update of prior Chapter 10.