WHITE PAPER

7 Must-Ask Questions Before Adopting a New Healthcare Analytics Platform

Health Catalyst Editors

Adopting new technologies promises to enhance patient outcomes and revolutionize how data and healthcare analytics drive decision-making in today's healthcare environment. However, as organizations grapple with integrating these innovations into their existing frameworks, many questions arise that, if left unanswered, can stifle progress and lead to costly missteps.

This comprehensive resource outlines the top seven essential areas healthcare leaders must consider when assessing a data and healthcare analytics platform's compatibility with existing systems, compliance with regulations, and potential to improve patient outcomes, streamline operations, or bolster financial standing.

This guide also explores key aspects of Health Catalyst Ignite™ Data and Analytics. This modern ecosystem combines best-in-class technologies, healthcare-specific data models, self-service tools, and industry expertise.

By providing clear answers and actionable insights, we hope to demystify the path toward successful healthcare technology integration—allowing healthcare leaders to focus on what truly matters: delivering exceptional care while harnessing the full potential of their digital resources.

Focusing on What Matters in Healthcare Data and Analytics

1. How Does Your Healthcare Technology Integrate with Current Systems?

Dive Deeper

Interoperability: Can the platform integrate smoothly with our existing Electronic Health Record (EHR) systems and other vital healthcare applications? How does it manage data from various sources?
Data Migration: What steps are involved in transferring historical data, and how will the platform address legacy data?

Insight

Regarding Ignite, we aim to get you the data you need to make timely decisions. That said, we undertake a system-wide review, allowing users to review data artifacts for retirement,

proactively clean up environments, and reduce migration scope. Our validation and efficiency methods migrate code from legacy DOS Marts and Custom SAMs to Ignite. Ultimately, Ignite natively integrates clinical, financial, and operational data to support healthcare's most important use cases.

2. In What Ways Does Your Technology Enhance Patient and Operational Outcomes?

Dive Deeper

Clinical Decision Support: In what ways does the platform offer actionable insights that can assist clinicians in enhancing patient care?

Predictive Analytics: Does it provide predictive analytics capabilities to foresee patient needs, manage population health effectively, and minimize readmission rates?

Insight

Ignite engages end-users throughout the

> "By leveraging our data and analytics, we've been able to significantly improve patient flow – reducing length of stay, decreasing costs, and increasing revenue – all leading to enhanced healthcare delivery and an improved patient experience."
>
> – Matthew Ing, MD, VP of Medical Affairs and Chief Medical Officer, The Queen's Medical Center

process to ensure a predictive and seamless transition. We employ a proactive method for planning and implementing best practices, which means less agonizing, more forward movement, and better results for various healthcare use cases. Ignite is also embedded with healthcare expertise. In fact, Ignite users work smarter with generative AI capabilities built in.Healthcare.AI: Ignite Advisor amplifies the ecosystem with generative assistance for coding, exploration, search, and quality. Indeed, AI-enriched with healthcare knowledge streamlines operations and minimizes routine data-handling duties, resulting in meaningful clinical quality, financial, and operational improvements.

3. How Does Your Solution Comply with Security and Compliance Protocols?

Dive Deeper

HIPAA Compliance: Does the platform adhere to HIPAA guidelines and other pertinent regulations to safeguard patient information?

Data Encryption: What methods are employed for encrypting data when stored and during transmission?

Access Control: What strategies exist for managing and monitoring access to sensitive information?

Insight

Technical safeguards include secure VPN and multi-factor authentication connections, no local data storage on contractor laptops, and U.S.-based-only cloud access controls. Other security measures include training to comply with HIPAA, Acceptable Use Policies, and Secure Software Development Lifecycle. When partnering with Health Catalyst, you can trust that your information is in safe hands. We have robust security measures

in place that comply with strict privacy certifications, so you can feel confident that your private data remains confidential, secure, and accessible only to those who need it.

4. Beyond Cost Considerations, What Values Does Your Healthcare Technology Offer?

Dive Deeper

Initial vs. Ongoing Modernization and Upgrades: How does your team approach ongoing technological modernization and updates to ensure the solution remains relevant and effective in our industry? Return on Investment (ROI): What specific efficiencies can your technology provide, and can you share any case studies or metrics demonstrating these improvements?

Insight

Health Catalyst provides a holistic partnership that enhances healthcare efficiency, reduces costs, and supports strategic growth. With our extensive healthcare knowledge, we proactively spot and tackle frequent issues that can inflate expenses, such as operational inefficiencies, duplicated data efforts, and complicated system integrations.

By focusing on healthcare-specific solutions, we enable smoother implementations and adaptability to evolving practices and regulations. This enables our clients to sidestep the expensive trial-and-error phase associated with adapting generalized, DIY, or off-the-shelf healthcare technology for healthcare use. We also ensure that each expansion or new feature you introduce to your data and analytics ecosystem aligns with your operational demands and growth goals.

This focused strategy guarantees that your

> "... Health Catalyst ... gives us actionable data to support clinical transformation throughout our system. Not only have we saved money, we have been able to positively impact thousands of patient lives."
>
> – Neal Chawla, MD, FACEP, Chief Medical Information Officer, **WakeMed Health and Hospitals**

investments yield meaningful results while avoiding the challenges posed by overly complex or underutilized technologies.

With over 360 success stories from our customers, it's clear that we're dedicated to achieving real results for those we serve.

5. What Kind of User Experience Can We Expect, and What Skills Will Our Team Need to Leverage Your Solution?

Dive Deeper

Ease of Use: Is the interface user-friendly for clinical staff and administrative personnel? What level of training is necessary?

Customization Options: Can we tailor the platform to suit our organization's needs without extensive IT assistance?

Insight

Data's true power lies in making it accessible and actionable for all users across your organization. Our focus on democratizing

data ensures that high-quality insights are available directly to those who need them most without the typical barriers associated with complex IT systems.

Ignite provides intuitive, self-service healthcare analytics that empowers end-users with access to data. Whether you're a clinician making decisions at the bedside or an administrator managing operational efficiency, the platform is designed for ease of use, enabling users to access, analyze, and act on data without extensive technical training or IT intervention.

Ignite Advisor is an AI tool trained on years of healthcare experience. It provides personalized insights directly relevant to your organization's needs without depending on data scientists or IT personnel for interpretation. What's more, Healthcare.AI integration links data from multiple sources and presents it in a user-friendly format while adapting to your organization's unique workflows and needs.

6. What Types of Training and Support Services Can I Access?

Dive Deeper

Training Opportunities: What training sessions are offered for various user roles (e.g., clinicians, IT personnel, administrators)? Customer Support Services: What customer support options are available? Is 24/7 assistance provided, along with typical response times for issue resolution?

Insight

Health Catalyst offers continuous training to maintain and extract the greatest value from Ignite. Plus, our teams provide 24/7 support, allowing users to submit tickets for infrastructure needs (e.g., server, network, etc.), standard model and Expert Data Collection (EDC) issues, and challenges

"By creating a culture of data advocacy and data democratization through self-service tools, all users benefit from having access to additional information, which allows them to gain new insights and context based on their curiosity, which may not have been possible in the past."

– Warren Budreau, MSN, RN Director, Quality Outcomes and Impact Service, Texas Children's Hospital

that might arise using Health Catalyst applications.

7. How Does Your Solution Address Scalability and Ensure Adaptability for the Future?

Dive Deeper

Scalability: Can this platform grow alongside our organization, and how does it accommodate increasing volumes of data and users?

Innovation: How frequently is the system updated? How will you integrate new technologies into future iterations?

Insight

Health Catalyst aims to deliver healthcare-specific data insights through strategic technology integration, but our contribution goes further. Ignite incorporates top-tier technologies, ensuring seamless growth that adapts to evolving data and user needs.

This integration enhances data utilization, enabling informed decision-making without expensive re-platforming.

By leveraging extensive healthcare expertise, we enhance the data environment so that the insights produced are precise and contextually aligned with your clinical, operational, and financial objectives. Additionally, we are dedicated to ongoing innovation, regularly updating the platform to incorporate the latest advancements in data and healthcare analytics and maintaining flexibility for future integrations without operational disruptions.

Taking a Leap Toward Revolutionary Data and Healthcare Analytics

Health Catalyst's commitment to democratizing data ensures that your organization can harness the full potential of your data resources. With user-friendly interfaces, AI-powered insights, and customizable analytics tools, Ignite empowers every user to access and utilize high-quality data, driving better decisions and improved outcomes without extensive IT support.

While core technologies are powerful tools, their actual value in healthcare comes from being expertly tailored to your organization's unique needs. Health Catalyst transforms these evolving technologies into scalable, high-impact solutions that drive meaningful outcomes and ensure a strong ROI.

Going it alone often leads to poor ROI, as off-the-shelf solutions rarely meet the complex demands of healthcare. This guide highlights the importance of partnering with experts who can mold and integrate these tools effectively, helping you achieve a future where data-driven innovation enhances every aspect of care delivery.