

The general trend in Business and Health Care Operations is to reduce technical infrastructure and operating costs by leveraging economy-of-scale, remotely hosted services that are made possible by internet technologies.

The decision to partner with AthenaNet has been a major step in the direction of this trend.

Since the implementation of AthenNet the following functions have been moved fully or in part from "on-site" to "off-site":

Billing and Coding operations.

Accounting/Payroll data storage and operations.

Practice Management and Patient Health Data Storage and Server Functions

The strategic plan for Information Systems at GCMC is to continue to develop in this direction.

Targets of investigation for simplification include:

Office productivity functions such as MS Windows Domain Services and File Shares.

Locally Hosted Email Services.

Locally Hosted Radiology "Store and Forward" server.

GCMC "Intranet Services"

Security features (traffic sniffing and user management)

Systems that are unlikely be replaced and may increase in scope include:

Med Lab "LIS" system.

HVAC management system.

Broadband connectivity with improved fail-safe features.

The current IT strategy goal which is about %50 complete:

Consolidate multiple machine functions into a virtualized hosting environment.

Improve network monitoring for more robust fault detection and preventive maintenance.

Engage in more depth with with AthenaNet features.

Future IT projects:

Investigate replacing the current office environment with Google Office.

(which has been done successfully by other healthcare networks).

Establish a budget for replacement of the IT infrastructure as a "lump-sum" project.

Streamline operations to accommodate remotely managed network options.

(ie: managed service provider.)

The End