This Week in Health Tech

HIStalk's 5 Top Stories in 60 Seconds

February 4, 2026

HIStalk
HEALTHCARE IT NEWS & OPINION

#1 Meditech Honors Legacy of Founder

💡 **What Happened:**

Meditech honors the legacy of founder Neil Pappalardo, who died last week.

🤔 **Why It Matters:**

Pappalardo's passing at the age of 83 has prompted numerous industry long-timers to reflect on the influence he had not only on Meditech, but on the birth of the EHR industry.

#2 Tenet Regains Ownership of Conifer

💡 **What Happened:**

CommonSpirit Health sells its stake in Conifer Health Solutions back to Tenet.

🫢 **Why It Matters:**

CommonSpirit's decision to take its RCM operations back in house gives Tenet Healthcare renewed interest in accelerating subsidiary Conifer's expansion into AI, automation, and global operations.

#3 Sword Health Acquires Kaia Health

💡 **What Happened:**

Sword Health acquires German competitor Kaia Health.

🤔 **Why It Matters:**

The $285 million deal gives Sword Health the ability to sunset Kaia Health's digital MSK product in the US in favor of its own product.

#4 Epic's AI Charting Tool Debuts at GHC-SCW

💡 **What Happened:**

Epic's new AI Charting tool launches at a provider in Wisconsin.

🤔 **Why It Matters:**

Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin becomes the first organization to implement Epic's new AI Charting tool, first previewed at Epic UGM last fall.

#5 FDA Issues New CDS Guidance

💡 **What Happened:**

The FDA issues guidance on clinical decision support software regulation.

🤯 **Why It Matters:**

The guidance clarifies that the FDA won't regulate clinical decision support software as a medica device unless it meets certain criteria.

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