

**Additional file 2 Solution strategies adopted by survey participants**

Solution Strategy	Description	Frequency (%)
Best of Breed	<p>Multiple and different departmental systems are typically implemented gradually and incrementally. Individual modules or departmental systems (i.e. clinical decision support, e-prescribing) are chosen based on the needs of the clinical specialty with the replacement of one module not affecting or disrupting other specialties</p> <p>Interoperability is therefore a large factor and refers to making the different systems work together, this is usually achieved through an integration engine.</p>	19 (32)
Megasuite	<p>A term used to describe the EPR systems provided by suppliers such as Cerner (Millennium) or Meditech (EPIC). These systems normally contain the full range of clinical and non-clinical EPR functionality that a hospital requires in the form of a single integrated solution rather than via a suite of separate systems interfaced to each other via an integration engine as in a best of breed approach.</p>	10 (16)
Write it yourself	<p>Providers or trusts that choose to build their own EPR solution rather than procuring one from a commercial supplier. The provider may source the development capacity in-house or contract it out to an external development resource. For example, trusts who have a team of programmers supporting in-house EPR.</p>	3 (5)
In Development	<p>Participants who indicated that their solution strategy was in development or undecided.</p>	4 (6)
Combined approach	<p>Best of Breed and write it yourself (n=3)</p> <p>Best of breed and clinical EPR with separate interfaced PAS (n=3)</p> <p>Best of breed and someone else to write it (n=2)</p> <p>Best of breed, clinical EPR separate interfaced PAS someone else to write it,</p>	17 (28)

	<p>write it yourself (n=1)</p> <p>Best of breed, write it yourself, clinical EPR with separate interfaced PAS (n=1)</p> <p>Best of breed write it yourself, someone else to write it (n=1)</p> <p>Best of breed and own developments (n=1)</p> <p>Best of breed someone else to write it and clinical EPR with separate interfaced PAS (n=1)</p> <p>Primary system, some best of breed some procured some own developments (n=1)</p> <p>Someone else to write it and clinical EPR with separate interfaced PAS (n=1)</p> <p>Write it yourself and other unspecified solutions (n=1)</p> <p>Unspecified combination (n=1)</p>	
Other	An integrated EPR and Integrated system with community	2 (3)