

New Book, 'Unvendor,' Calls on Healthcare Organizations to Rethink IT

CHARLESTON, SC, UNITED STATES, April 29, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- In the new book [Unvendor: Innovate Healthcare With a Diverse IT Stack](#), Dr. Harm Scherpbier makes the case that healthcare organizations have allowed their IT systems to become too reliant on individual large vendors.

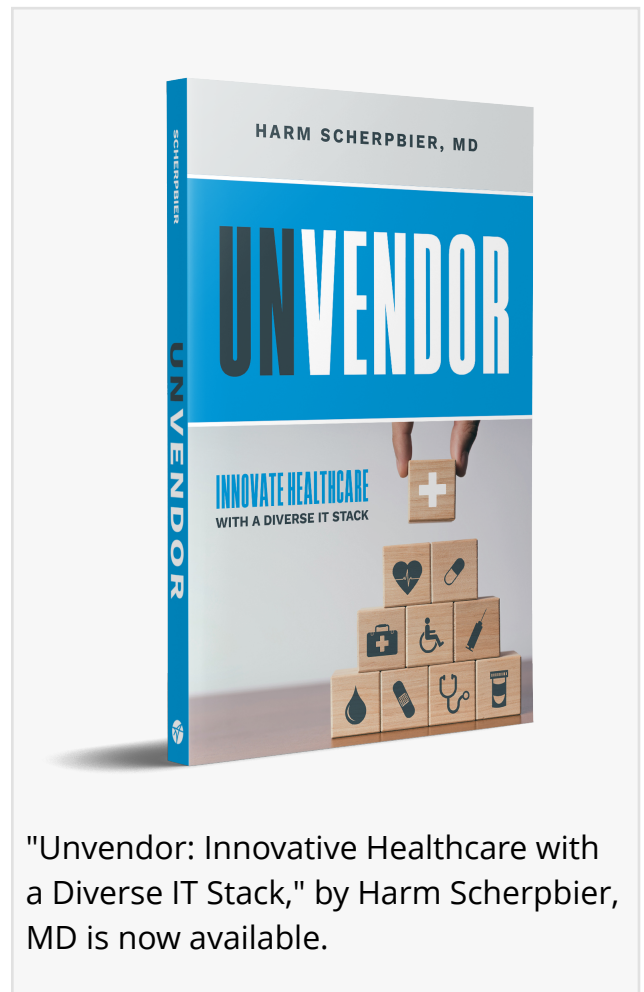
By branching away from such single-vendor IT systems, Scherpbier writes, healthcare facilities will be able to better keep up with changes in reimbursement, care processes, patient expectations, and technology trends.

"It is time that we question the single-vendor mentality and diversify our health IT environments, reduce our dependence on a single IT megavendor, and bring other information technologies, from other firms, into the organization," Scherpbier writes.

In *Unvendor*, published by Advantage Books and now available, Scherpbier explains the history behind how most U.S. health systems and healthcare provider organizations have come to rely on IT from a single large vendor. There are three megavendors that handle such areas as electronic health records, patient accounting, general ledgers, lab results, radiology and pharmacy reports, as well as decision support and analytics.

Scherpbier has worked on, as he puts it, "both sides of the health IT fence." He was a physician advisor for large health IT vendors and chief medical information officer at a five-hospital health system.

He says his book should not be seen as a diatribe against large health IT vendors, and he acknowledges the single-vendor approach has benefits, including fewer contracts to manage,



fewer IT vendors to work with, and fewer interfaces and connections between systems. But there are also downsides, such as high costs, innovation delay, and forced workflow uniformity when groups of employees within hospitals and health systems have a variety of needs. Making the change to a multi-vendor system, Scherpbier writes, will create a more agile and responsive IT environment.

Scherpbier's book is aimed at leaders and executives in healthcare organizations, including CEOs, CFOs, chief information officers, chief medical information officers, chief nursing information officers, and others. Leaders of small and midsize health IT firms also will benefit from the book.

"I hope my call to unvendor," Scherpbier writes, "will also result in more opportunities for innovative companies and a thriving health IT industry."

[About Harm Scherpbier, M.D.](#)

Dr. Harm Scherpbier, author of *Unvendor: Innovate Healthcare With a Diverse IT Stack*, is a health IT strategy advisor who partners with firms on clinical system development, population health solutions, data analytics, and health IT implementation and strategy. He is the chief medical information officer at HealthShare Exchange, the Philadelphia regional Health Information Exchange.

Scherpbier was born and raised in the Netherlands, where he completed his medical training at the University of Groningen. During his medical training, he became fascinated by computers

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Harm Scherpbier, MD, author of "Unvendor: Innovative Healthcare with a Diverse IT Stack"

and information systems, and pursued a master's degree in medical informatics from the Erasmus University Rotterdam.

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