

HIPAA-compliant Integration with EPIC

CLARITY



Integrations Within the Healthcare Field

The challenges of integrating diverse healthcare standards, intranet and Internet communications, patient and consultant accessibility to EHRs and internal business systems require an exceptionally mobile, intuitive and secure platform.

EMR and EHR software are designed to integrate electronic health records into healthcare businesses to provide HIPAA compliance. However, to meet or exceed these requirements and offer patients, medical staff, insurance providers and outside consultants access to EMRs and EHRs, healthcare businesses need a robust communications platform to connect these stakeholders.

The benefits of offering Web access to health records include better patient care, cost savings and efficiencies, better coordination between medical service providers and greater patient participation in his or her own care.



Integrations Within the Healthcare Field

Getting faster information to patients, physicians and outside affiliates generates demonstrated statistical benefits as reported by physicians. These statistics show that 74 percent of physicians have remotely accessed a patient's chart and that 50 percent have been alerted to critical lab results. About 40 percent of doctors have been alerted to medication errors or possible interactions, and 29 percent of clinicians have ordered fewer tests based on receiving lab results faster.

An experienced vendor can connect all the different EHRs and API apps to generate a secure, interconnected website that patients can trust while providing all the advantages that electronic record-sharing produces for healthcare companies. The right connecting software connects to any API or EHR.



While CPOE and CDS functionality will still be included in EHRs, CMS will no longer require a certain number of orders, that a physician enter the orders, and that physicians implement a certain number of CDS tools. This means that as of Jan. 1, 2017, physician practices are free to develop policies around CPOE and CDS in ways that blend with their workflows and improve care.

Key Features

Certified

As Connect's platform is designed to add modules, it means that as we integrate each line-of-business application, we can save that as a "Connector." This connector can be updated and modified later, as new versions of the software becomes available. What this means is that we can integrate your site to your back-office application in weeks and months instead of months or years, at a fraction of the normal integration cost.

With over 3,000 integrations done with our platform, we also have implementations with hundreds of applications (Salesforce, NetSuite, SAP, Sage, JD Edwards, HP Financials, Oracle, Sugar CRM) including native payment gateway support for thousands of payment gateways.

Key Features

Integration Types

While some would argue that there are only four main integration methodologies (data warehousing, ETL, hub-and-spoke, bus), there are so many different technologies and methods to designing and developing an integration solution. Clarity Connect is designed to handle any and all of your integration needs (see diagram).

Including:

HIPAA

Analytics

B2B Affiliates

Apps/Mobile

Web Services

Data Format

File Exchange

ERP

CRM

EMR

EDI

Databases

Web Portals



Security and Auditing

Security is a top priority when dealing with storing and transferring your clients' sensitive medical information. You need to ensure that security and HIPAA compliance measures are in place. It is recommended that only the necessary integration points are exposed to the middleware/integration layer, which has to authenticate by using a specific internal IP address and a valid key value. This system should live behind the firewall and only transfer data from external systems to the internal EHR system securely after the data has been sanitized.

To meet or exceed HIPAA requirements, you should require all data transactions, reads, creations, updates, and deletions to be logged and recorded. When data is "at rest" it should be securely encrypted to minimize risks of data being used improperly if your security measures are compromised.



Security and Auditing

Standard Protocols

Health Level Seven, versions two and three (HL7v2, HL7v3) and Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) are international standards and common interfaces for healthcare data transfers and integrations. You need to ensure that the integration layer of your systems that will communicate with your EHR software can work with these standards and protocols. Using these standards and creating a seamless integration will help enable seamless upgrades in the future.

Queuing Model

When performing an integration, it is vital to have a middleware layer that is modeled after and acts as a queue. The middleware layer is attached to both the EMR or EHR and the systems that they are integrated with. When data or information is being sent from the EMR to the other piece of software, the middleware layer receives, stores, and continually tries to send the data until it is successfully received by the recipient. This process works the same when data is sent from the other system to the EMR. This type of queuing model middleware layer ensures that data is always successfully sent and received because it persistently and continually sends the data until it gets a message that it was successfully transferred.



Security and Auditing

Performance

How your EHR integration performs is directly affected by how it was set up. In order to have an integration that functions efficiently, you should make use of intelligent caching and asynchronous data processing and communication.

Using asynchronous communication allows one system to send the other one data without having to wait for a response, just in case the other system is being worked on or running slowly. Intelligent caching enables only new or updated data to be transmitted, saving time, energy, and resources, while keeping data fresh and up to date.

Using both of these processes allow your EHR integration to perform better, faster, and more efficiently.



Integrating with Epic

Epic software is an electronic health records (EHR) software that helps doctors, physicians, hospitals and other healthcare providers easily add, update, store and view patients' medical and health records.

Healthcare businesses use Epic to keep track of their patients and observations, improve workflows, and better manage aspects of the business.



Benefits of an Epic integration



Use HL7v2 to Integrate

Clarity uses HL7v2 (Health Level 7 version 2) to integrate Epic with other healthcare and business systems to allow them to communicate and send data and information.



Utilize Clarity Connect

Our advanced middleware solution, Clarity Connect, together with the APIs, help connect Epic with other business applications and ensures that data is properly received.



Employ SSL

When dealing with sensitive healthcare information, patient privacy is your number one concern. Clarity always arranges data transfers to happen over SSL to help keep that information secure.



Endless Integration Possibilities

Clarity can connect your Epic software with almost any other application you use or want to use. The integration capabilities and your uses for them are practically limitless.

Benefits of an Epic integration



Empower Better Patient Interactions

Integration enables your staff to easily find patient information, allowing them to spend more time communicating with the patient, leading to better customer service.



Allow Employees and Patients to Easily Access Their Records

Integration between Epic and your other systems, can allow your staff and patients to quickly and easily look at their medical records and test results.



Streamline Billing

Integrating Epic with your billing processes allows fields to be auto-filled and claims to be submitted with less need for human intervention.



Integrating with Epic


Clarity Connect communicates with FHIR API (HL7v2) to establish a connection between Epic and the other healthcare or business system. Clarity Connect then serves as a communication hub, storing data until it is successfully transferred to and received by the software. Because of Clarity Connect's robust nature, it can be used to connect Epic with various other business systems and applications.

There are numerous ways that an Epic integration can aid your healthcare business. Some businesses integrate their Epic systems with their websites to allow patients to make appointments online, view their test results, and have access to their patient charts. One Clarity implementation employs Epic integration with inventory management systems to keep track of instruments used when operating on patients. Chances are if you use Epic systems, an integration could help your business succeed.



Get in Touch with Clarity

If you are a business, ready to move forward or need more information for your iproject, please call or visit our website.

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