Send health information electronically to your patients

The secure exchange of health information is fundamental to the meaningful use of electronic health records, with the potential to improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of healthcare.

To that end, the Direct Project was launched in 2010 to benefit both patients and providers by improving the electronic transport of health information.

What is the Direct Project?

The Direct Project is a public-private initiative working to develop specifications for a simple, secure, standards-based method for participants to send encrypted health information directly to known, trusted recipients over the Internet. It focuses on technical standards and services to push content from a sender to a receiver with appropriate levels of security, bringing it in line with Meaningful Use requirements that encourage the sharing of clinical data amongst providers. As part of our involvement in the Direct Project and our increasing investment in the world of healthcare, Microsoft has developed Microsoft HealthVault Message Center.

What is Microsoft HealthVault Message Center?

HealthVault Message Center allows patients to receive encrypted email messages through their HealthVault accounts from participating providers. The result? Providers gain the ability to deliver better and more continuous care by sharing visit summaries, important reminders, and other information with their patients.

How does it work? Using technology built to Direct Project specifications, an encrypted copy of a patient’s clinical information is transmitted electronically to an email address the patient creates in HealthVault. The message is saved there as a part of the patient’s personal health record. Notification is up to the patient—they can opt to receive a message at their regular email address to let them know a Direct message has arrived.

What is Microsoft HealthVault?

HealthVault is a free, privacy- and security-enhanced online service that puts patients in control of their health information. HealthVault offers patients a central place to store and share personal health information to help them better manage their own health, or the health of those they care for. With HealthVault, patients can easily use their information with a range of connected health and fitness tools, upload data from devices like blood pressure monitors and pedometers, and share health information with physicians and others they trust. Visit www.HealthVault.com to learn more.

To try out the new patient experience yourself, visit: www.HealthVault.com/messagecenter
Interested in getting connected?

PROVIDERS

To learn more about connecting with HealthVault and connecting with your patients through the Direct Project:

- Ask us how you can drive patient engagement through Microsoft HealthVault and Direct. Email: hvbd@microsoft.com
- Ask your electronic medical records provider about their support for the Direct Project and whether they enable information sharing via Microsoft HealthVault.
- Vendors that have already announced plans to support the Direct Project include:
  - Allscripts
  - CareEvolution
  - Cerner Corporation
  - Covisint
  - eClinicalWorks
  - Epic
  - Greenway Medical Technologies
  - Kryptiq Corporation
  - MedPlus (A Quest Diagnostics Company)
  - Microsoft Corporation
  - NoMoreClipboard.com
  - OpenEMR
  - Siemens
  - Surescripts
  - VisionShare

RESOURCES

Check out Microsoft Chief Architect Sean Nolan’s blog on connecting to Direct.

- [http://familyhealthguy.com](http://familyhealthguy.com)

For more information on getting connected:

- Visit: [wiki.DirectProject.org](http://wiki.DirectProject.org)
- Email your questions to hvbd@microsoft.com