

Use Cases: Direct for Certified Nurse Midwives

Direct is being utilized by nurses, physicians and hospitals across the nation. Some of the current use cases for Direct include:

- ✓ Receive admit/discharge notifications about your patients
- ✓ Receive diagnostic test results
- ✓ Refer patients to PCP or specialists

Scenario:

An expectant mother presents at the hospital with concerns about early contractions. The patient is admitted and undergoes fetal testing which includes a non-stress test and urinalysis.

Receive admit/discharge notifications

Use Case: Through Direct Messaging, the hospital can notify the patient's CNM of the admission. The CNM can then send the hospital all pertinent information regarding the patient including information such as patient and family health history, vital signs, and fetal health status.

Benefits: Direct improves the care coordination between the hospital and CNM, allowing the hospital to avoid unnecessary testing and treat the patient in an efficient manner. Providers can access these notifications from mobile devices, home or office computers, allowing the CNM to quickly respond and to ensure the appropriate follow up care. The data can be automatically consumed by the current EHR, so information does not get lost or delayed.

Diagnostic Testing

Use Case: The patient provides a urine sample and undergoes fetal testing. The urinalysis reveals abnormal protein levels, however the fetal testing indicates a healthy fetus. Through Direct Messaging, these time sensitive results are sent to the patient's CNM, who is able to integrate the results into their EHR.

Benefits: Direct ensures that test results are sent immediately to the provider, so all of the information is in the provider's hands before the patient's follow-up visit. Direct also eliminates difficulties reading test results that come over the fax machine.

Refer patients to specialists

Use Case: The patient's follow up appointment reveals the need to refer to a high risk obstetrician for regular monitoring. The CNM, through Direct Messaging, can easily send a referral to the desired obstetrician. The obstetrician can receive the referral instantly, along with the patient's history, diagnostic testing, lab results, medications, and current diagnosis.

Benefits: Sending referrals and histories via Direct is faster and more reliable than sending the information by mail or by fax. The obstetrician will have all of the information needed before seeing the patient, and it will be simple and fast for the specialist to respond to the CNM with a summary of care. Direct simplifies the communications between the CNM and specialists, improving transitions of care.