Use Cases: Direct for Dentists

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

- ✓ Send/Receive x-rays
- ✓ Refer patients to specialists

Scenario:

A female patient presents at her dentist's office after being hit in her jaw by a baseball. She undergoes x-rays, and is diagnosed with a cracked tooth. She is prescribed pain medication and instructed to follow-up with an oral surgeon.

Send/Receive x-rays

Use Case: The patient underwent x-rays during their dentist visit. Through Direct Messaging, the results of these tests are sent to the oral surgeon and are integrated into their EHR.

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

Refer patients to specialists

Use Case: The patient needs a referral for an oral surgeon. Her dentist, through Direct Messaging, can easily send a referral to the desired oral surgeon. The oral surgeon can receive the referral instantly, along with the patient's history, medications, x-rays, 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 specialist will have all of the pertinent information before seeing the patient, and it will be simple and fast for the specialist to respond to the dentist with a summary of care. Direct simplifies the communications between dentists and specialists, improving transitions of care.