

## Use Cases: Direct for APRNs

Direct is being utilized by nurses, physicians and hospitals as part of the nationwide health network. Current use cases for Direct include:

- ✓ Receive admit/discharge notifications about your patients
- ✓ Receive lab results
- ✓ Refer patients to specialists and receive referrals
- ✓ eConsults and H&P's

### Scenario:

A female patient is admitted to the hospital with syncope. She undergoes an EKG and a CT scan while in the hospital, and is diagnosed with an arrhythmia. She is prescribed propranolol and is discharged after two days with instructions to stay on her medication and avoid caffeine. She is also instructed to contact her PCP immediately.

### Receive admit/discharge notifications

**Use Case:** Through Direct Messaging, the patient's APRN is instantly notified when the patient was admitted to the hospital with syncope. The notification may include information such as the patient's name, DOB and reason for admission. Upon discharge, the APRN will be notified and will receive information including the patient's diagnosis and follow up instructions.

**Benefits:** Direct improves the transition of care from the hospital to the APRN, allowing the APRN to respond quickly to changes in their patients' health. Automated admit/discharge notifications are faster and more reliable than fax or mail. Providers can access these notifications from mobile devices, home or office computers, allowing the APRN to quickly respond and to ensure the appropriate follow up care. The data can be easily consumed by their EHR, so information does not get lost or delayed.

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## Receive lab results

**Use Case:** The patient underwent a CT scan and an EKG during hospitalization as well as routine blood work. Through Direct Messaging, the results of these tests are sent to the provider and are integrated into their EHR.

**Benefits:** Direct ensures that lab results are sent immediately to the APRN, so all of the information is in the APRN's hands before the patient's follow up visit. Direct also eliminates difficulties reading test results (such as EKGs) that are sent via fax machine.

## Refer patients to specialists

**Use Case:** The patient's follow up exam reveals the need to refer to a cardiologist. Her APRN, through Direct Messaging, can easily send a referral to the desired cardiologist. The cardiologist can receive the referral instantly, along with the patient's history, hospitalization details, medications, lab results, 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 information needed before seeing the patient, and it will be simple and fast for the specialist to respond to the APRN with a summary of care. Direct simplifies the communications between the APRN, and specialists, improving transitions of care.