



WHITE PAPER

How to Securely go Digital in Healthcare



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In this paper, we selected the top five scenarios in which using Foxit can be an invaluable aid as you prepare to go digital in the healthcare industry.



From Paper to Paperless



Digital Enrollment with Collaboration



Leverage Mobile Solutions



Patient Confidentiality



Interoperability with PDF API/SDK

This paper is intended for dedicated healthcare IT professionals to ensure their organization's transition to digital is as smooth as possible. This community ranges from clinicians, IT leaders, analysts, content managers, operation managers, architects, developers, and designers to the individual contributors responsible for digital strategies.

From Paper to Paperless

Paper products, sorting, storage, and mailing cost the healthcare industry billions of dollars annually. Additionally, the waste generated from these processes is harmful to the environment. Eliminating paper is no longer an option; it's a necessity that relies on timing and developing the right strategy. The benefits of going paperless include better collaboration between departments and more insights on patient care, which result in improved patient satisfaction and increased clinical productivity.

Even the most prepared companies typically overlook the vast amount of paperless options that are available when migrating from paper to paperless. We already know that when companies go paperless patient satisfaction increases, retention rates for clients are higher, collection costs decrease, and online payment methods are more efficient. However, companies still neglect document solutions that would otherwise make them more efficient.

When it comes to going paperless, a growing number of healthcare organizations require file formats to be compressed, web-optimized, and easily accessible through various platforms. Foxit Enterprise Automation server solutions can handle high volume compression in any application where you need compact, searchable PDF files. Existing image files are often difficult and time-consuming to locate and retrieve. However, organizations like the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are using Foxit's PDF Compressor to efficiently and securely deliver large text-searchable files.

Paperless features:

- Turn paper into text searchable files with desktop, mobile, web, or server automation for mass quantities of document processing
- Convert large volumes of documents of various kinds into a standardized format so medical staff can have a uniform way of maintaining, sharing, and producing health documents and records.
- Compress scanned content into smaller files to save space and allow faster transmission to others (PDF vs. TIFF)



Digital Enrollment with Collaboration

Switching to paperless is a necessity; it reduces human involvement, which helps reduce the risk for error and the cost of correction. With your paperless strategy in place, having a digital document network enables healthcare professionals to quickly and securely send important health information to other healthcare professionals, resulting in better patient care. Information like referrals, specialist letters, patient forms, and hospital discharge summaries, make the patient experience a lot less frustrating and can result in a better-informed diagnosis with a connected document system.

Patient treatment is complex, and those with multiple conditions often need to be managed by numerous specialists with a high degree of collaboration. Paperless healthcare technology makes it easier for patients to quickly check on their records, reminders, history, and lab work.

With advanced document collaboration and editing tools, such as Foxit PDF Editor, enhanced healthcare information messaging has never been easier. Unlike traditional paper forms, which cannot be converted to different formats, collected or distributed, Foxit interactive forms can fill that void.



Foxit interactive form features:

- Automatic form field recognition
- Designated field tab to list all fillable fields
- Autocomplete form filling enabled
- Ability to make forms accessible for Section 508
- Intuitive digital signature capabilities
- Integration with DocuSign
- Ability to complete validations and other custom interactions with JavaScript
- 2D barcode creation to capture field data
- Checkboxes and drop-down menus
- Automate workflows with action wizard

Leverage Mobile Solutions

Making patient-centered records available and safe is important. When migrating to paperless, patient consent data collection is especially at risk. Transitioning to an electronic health system is no longer sufficient to enable communication. It's now necessary to consider internal workflow vulnerabilities, too. When the process of capturing consent becomes inadequate (i.e., missing patient signatures from paper documents), the legal ramifications of malpractice claims increase significantly.

To proactively manage these legal risks, informed consent processes need to be significantly improved. This can be done by using a comprehensive solution such as Foxit PDF Editor *Mobile* which utilizes digital signatures, mobile scanning features, auto-complete data collection, and SDK enterprise application enablement. Foxit PDF Editor *Mobile* eliminates the risks associated with managing paper documents while leveraging digital technology on smartphones, tablets, and Windows-based mobile devices to create a positive patient care experience and improve clinical efficiency.



Foxit PDF Editor *Mobile* features include:

- Available on Android, iOS, and Windows
- Digital signature
- Scan high-quality documents on any mobile device
- Create, open, save, copy, move and rotate pages
- Compress PDF files
- Integrated with Microsoft Intune support for Enterprise Mobility Management
- Annotate and comment
- Easy-to-use interface navigation through bookmarks and text search
- Enforce device and app passwords for increased physical security

Mobile Scanning Solutions:

- Foxit PDF Scanner app
- Award-winning PDF MRC compression, including JBIG2, JPEG2000 and more
- Rapid-scan app development tools
- Mobile compression SDK
- Interfaces for integration with OCR output
- Machine-readable list of all scanned documents

Patient Confidentiality

Recent reports show that the healthcare industry is falling short in its security efforts. Compared to other industries, healthcare is much more complex and heavily regulated. Staying compliant in healthcare is a balancing act involving legacy technology, organizational challenges, and strict regulations. A small selection of these regulations includes:

- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
- Payment Card Industry (PCI)
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH)



To effectively manage risks, the IT department needs to proactively manage regulations in advance rather than reacting to new updates. Inability to keep up with these ever evolving risks can lead to severe consequences, including monetary losses, legal ramifications, and civil penalties.

It's tempting to believe that by going digital, security will be easier than with traditional paper, however in many instances where unprotected data is distributed across many channels, security risks increase. On top of that, new security patches require updated software, but because of legacy systems in place, IT staff are forbidden from patching, updating, or modifying – even if the task is easy.

According to a recent report by Verizon, 58%¹ of all healthcare data breaches and security threats are the result of insiders, with medical records (treatment plans, identities, and history) being the focus of breaches. Compromised patient data is one of the most prevalent healthcare security threats. Without careful oversight, these electronic health records – as well as other patient information – can quickly become sabotaged or even worse, subjected to ransomware.

Setting up Foxit for the redaction of Personal Health Information (PHI) like social security numbers and credit cards is an excellent strategy for complying with regulations and mitigating the risk of a data leak. Foxit is the only solution that searches and removes PHI permanently and can redact documents at scale. It can redact hundreds of documents quickly using automated redaction based on pattern recognition.

Interoperability with PDF API/SDK

Healthcare APIs have started a digital revolution, and the leaders of the healthcare industry are beginning to realize the importance of open APIs in expanding the reach of their organizations. The benefits of this transformative technology will pave the way for health IT interoperability, increased quality of care, cost reduction, enormous innovation, and incredible patient experiences.

For patients, it means the ability to control their health data without going through a third-party. With the growing popularity of connected health systems that include smart gadgets such as sensors, the Apple Watch, etc., patients would benefit from the integration of smart devices with EHR systems because more data means more meaningful insights into diagnosis and treatment.

For hospitals, it means the ability to expand upon the offerings of existing EHR systems with third-party software apps for clinicians. Doctors can readily use a mobile note-taking app to provide more efficient patient treatment. IMGN Technologies uses Foxit PDF SDK to develop mobile charts, drawings, treatment notes, interactive consent forms, and intuitive signatures that integrate with the EHR system. Doctors can now create, sign, email, save, and archive digital forms directly on a smartphone or tablet. Hospitals have the freedom to customize any document or form with the Foxit PDF SDK.

Some things to consider when looking for PDF technology to embed in Healthcare applications:

- Do you need integrated access to healthcare databases?
- Do you have built-in tools for scanning text searchable files and digitizing patient health records?
- Does your platform allow integration of health data from smart devices?
- Have you set up backup systems or archival methods for patient records?

Foxit PDF SDK, a worldwide leader in SDK technology is used by many healthcare organizations (Pfizer, Sutter Health, Department of Health & Human Services, etc.) to create comprehensive document solutions that allow different systems to exchange essential patient data. Foxit PDF SDK provides a secure, cost-saving, and dependable way to embed document solutions within your healthcare applications across any desktop, web, and mobile platform. With over 500 SDK customers, Foxit PDF SDK helps organizations reduce errors, improve productivity, increase patient satisfaction, and most importantly, accelerate software delivery and reduce the time to market.



Foxit Overview

Foxit is a worldwide leader in electronic document technology and solutions, with over 650 million users located in more than 200 countries. Foxit customers include major technology and healthcare companies, global financial services firms, and government agencies, including companies like Volvo, Bank of America, Dell, Google, Amazon, and many more.



Healthcare organizations rely on Foxit to capture clinical information, create a better patient experience, and utilize advanced document technology to make intelligent decisions across all spectrums of care. Medical administrators, physicians, nurses, and staff can collaborate/co-annotate PDFs in real-time, edit files, manage and track documents, and scan, search, and organize their files quickly and easily. IT staff, in-house developers, and third party application developers can reduce costs, increase end-user productivity, create automation at scale, and embed PDF technology into healthcare applications, while legal and compliance departments maintain compliance with healthcare regulations including HIPAA.

Regardless of the industry Foxit serves, all of Foxit's customers benefit from PDF solutions that are fast, affordable, and secure. Foxit solutions provide greater access to information in the digital healthcare footprint, helping with document organization and compliance, with state-of-the-art technology.

Getting started is easy. With a downloadable free-trial solution, Foxit lets you take advantage of the latest document technology and provides you with the best 24/7 support team, ready to assist you every step of the way. Foxit delivers easy-to-use desktop software, mobile apps, cloud services, and developer solutions that meet the needs of any scaling business.

Other Healthcare Firms that use Foxit

