Connecting with 3rd Party Applications via FHIR-API

One of the requirements of the Promoting Interoperability program (f.k.a. Meaningful Use) is to allow the patient to find and use a 3rd party application where they can organize their personal health information (PHI) from various organizations electronic health records (EHR) and provide the ability incorporate their health data for nutritional or fitness application use, if applicable. To "allow" this, Epic developed an **Application Program Interface (API)** *using an interface standard called* **FHIR (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources)** which 3rd party application developers can configure to allow a patient to access their Epic data in the 3rd party application.

When the patient uses an app, the app might prompt the patient to connect to their health data. Exactly how the app works is up to the app developer, and each app developer might approach it differently.

Once prompted to load a patient's health data, the connection between the patient's app and our Epic database uses the OAuth 2.0 standard for secure authentication. The app launches a link to our Baptist Health MyChart authentication page. The patient enters his *MyChart username and password*. **Entering information in MyChart (and not in the app) provides a security safeguard because the app never has direct access to the patient's credentials.**

If the patient's credentials are correct, the app can then use the FHIR APIs to query for health information, such as to request the patient's allergies, and our database responds with that information to the app.

The FHIR standard lets the app access several types of clinical content, including the following types specified in Promoting Interoperability requirements:
➢ Allergies
➢ Conditions
➢ Devices
➢ Document Reference
➢ Family History
➢ Goals
➢ Immunizations
➢ Lab results
➢ Medications
➢ Procedures
➢ Smoking status
➢ Vital signs

After a certain amount of time, the connection between the app and your Epic database expires, as another security feature. If the patient wants to continue pulling information after this, they need to enter their credentials again.

Disclaimer: Baptist Health does not endorse any 3rd party vendor's product for use

It is recommended that the patient read the 3rd party vendor's Terms and Conditions before use. Any issues or incorrect information in the 3rd party app please contact that vendor, not Baptist Health.