



The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Interoperability rule establishes standards to securely exchange information between payers, providers, and authorized third-party applications. The format for these data exchanges is FHIR-based Application Programming Interface (API).

Who is Eligible:

The following members are eligible:

- Medicare Members
- Medicaid Members
- CHIP Members

What This Means for You

The rule recognizes eligible members right to consent to share their information with a third-party application. Health plans are required to make certain patient data available via Application Programming Interface (API) to Third-Party App developers or via Payer-to-Payer data exchange.

This service enables you (if you choose) to:

- Access your information securely
- View your healthcare information in one place
- Share information with healthcare providers

Information available through the API:

- Prescription History
- Office Visits
- Provider Directory Information
- Pharmacy Formulary Information
- Claims History

Benefits of Data Sharing

- Ability to track and manage your personal health information
- Secure and convenient access to your health information
- Ability to share healthcare information with providers

Important Considerations Before Using a Third-Party App



EL Paso Health recognizes an eligible member's right to share their information with a third-party application of their choice. However, members should understand that there may be privacy and security risks when sharing data with third-party apps.

Before authorizing an app to access your health information, carefully review the app's privacy policy and terms and conditions to understand how your information will be used and protected.

Consider the following questions, when reviewing an app's privacy policy:

- Individuals should look for an easy-to-read privacy policy that clearly explains how the app will use their data. If an app does not have a privacy policy, individuals may not want to use the app. Individuals should consider the following questions when reviewing privacy policies. If the app's privacy policy does not clearly answer these questions, individuals may want to reconsider using the app to access their health information.
 - What health data will this app collect?
 - Will this app collect non health data (such as location information)?
 - Will my data be stored in a de-identified or anonymized form?
 - How will this app use my data?
 - Will this app disclose my data to third parties?
 - Will this app sell my data for any reason, such as advertising or research?
 - With whom will my data be shared, and for what purpose?
 - How can I limit this app's use and disclosure of my data?
 - What security measures does this app use to protect my data?
 - Could sharing my data affect others, such as family members?
 - How can I access and correct incorrect information?
 - Does this app have a process for handling user complaints?
 - If I no longer want to use this app, how do I revoke access?
 - What is the app's policy for deleting my data after access is terminated?
 - How does this app notify users of changes to its privacy practices?

Personal Representatives

EL Paso Health recognizes individuals with legal authority to act on behalf of a member in healthcare decisions (such as health care proxy, power of attorney, conservator, legal guardian, etc.) as a Personal Representative.

If you are the Personal Representative of a member, and have not yet submitted documentation to El Paso Health, please complete and submit the Personal Representative form along with the required legal documentation so we can update our records.



Understanding Your Rights Under HIPAA

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office for Civil Rights (OCR) enforces the HIPAA Privacy, Security and Breach Notification Rules, and the Patient Safety Act and Rule.

You may find more information about your rights under HIPAA and who must comply with HIPAA by visiting the links shown below:

- www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-individuals/guidance-materials-for-consumers/index.html.
- HIPAA FAQs for Individuals: www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-individuals/faq/index.html.

Are third-party apps covered by HIPAA?

- Most third-party health apps are not covered by HIPAA unless the app is provided directly by a healthcare provider as part of their services. Most apps typically fall under the jurisdiction of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and are subject to the FTC Act.
- The FTC Act protects consumers against deceptive practices. For example, it prohibits an app from sharing personal data in ways that contradict its stated privacy policy.
- Members may visit the FTC website for additional information about mobile app privacy and security at the link shown below:

www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0018-understanding-mobile-apps.

If You Believe Your Health Data Has Been Misused or Improperly disclosed:

- To file a complaint related to HIPAA violations, visit www.hhs.gov/hipaa/filing-a-complaint/index.html.
- To file a complaint with the FTC using the FTC complaint assistant, visit: www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/#crnt&panel1-1.

Third-Party Developers

Developers interested in offering interoperability API services to El Paso Health members may register using the link below:

<https://prodepftzinterop.developer.trizettoconnect.com/>



Member Registration to Grant Permission for Access to Health Information

EPH members interesting in registering to grant permission to an API vendor or Healthcare Provider for health information exchange register using the link below. After completing the registration, you will receive an email with further instructions.

<https://www.elpasohealth.com/iomember.asp>

Revoking Consent

To revoke consent and stop sharing your information with API Vendors or Healthcare Providers, please click the link below to access the opt out form.

NOTE: Previous consent to share information with API vendor's and Healthcare Provider is not revoked as part of this process. You will need to work with the API vendor and Healthcare Provider to revoke use.

<https://www.elpasohealth.com/iomemberrevoke.asp>

Questions

For any questions, please email: IOAPI_Support@elpasohealth.com