RingCentral: A platform for healthcare communications with patients at the centre

Healthcare stakeholders are facing disruption and demand from every direction. Unprecedented mergers are driving new business models for providers, researchers, and insurers alike, while the trend towards accountable care will impact payment constructs for patient services.

That accountability is also propelling the need for increased engagement—while the bar for satisfying, personalised experiences seems to move higher every day.

No matter what area of the healthcare marketplace you operate in, you need to navigate all these trends successfully, but both new and inherent issues pose complex challenges, including:

**Better outcomes at better costs.**
Profitability, speed, and collaboration are becoming more and more important across all aspects of the healthcare industry—with the ultimate goal of better outcomes at better costs. As the healthcare provider landscape has shifted to outcome-driven measurement and satisfaction scoring, the implications for patient volumes, reimbursements, and overall practice profitability have never been more critical. Both providers and payers will need data that proves patient progress and improvement, while better utilising staff resources and increasing patient/customer engagement. In the life sciences, organisations are pushed to create profitable products and services in increasingly shorter windows, which requires efficiency and informed cooperation amongst all stakeholders.

**Siloed interaction and collaboration.**
Fundamental industry changes and the need for increased collaboration exposes systems that are inflexible or incompatible. Existing silos continue to be reinforced and new ones created when all stakeholders cannot easily and seamlessly interact. For providers, this can produce less-positive patient interactions and outcomes. For multi-departmental life sciences organisations and insurers, the result is a negative impact on employee productivity, customer experience, and profitability.

**Communications without compliance.**
Providers who communicate with patients or payers across unsecured, non-compliant channels may run afoul of industry regulations, while researchers and hospitals leave themselves open to both privacy and competitive liabilities if personal, proprietary, or competitive data were to be compromised. For example, SMS may be popular and convenient for communication, but carrier-based texting is riddled with privacy and security issues.

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Drive better outcomes with the tools to improve collaboration and compliance

RingCentral delivers cloud communications technology crafted to compliantly support the drives towards personalised healthcare and increased engagement, while responding to the complexities brought on by disruption in the industry and traditional business models. No matter which part of the healthcare landscape you occupy, partnering with RingCentral will enable you to:

Unify care communications.
Eliminate silos with a single, cloud-based unified communications platform that offers a diversity of mediums including audio and video conferencing, voice calls, and team messaging, on mobile devices or desktops. For practices, staff can choose the channel that best supports specific clinical workflow actions, while offering patients multiple points of secure engagement. In a research setting, teams can share theories, results, and other information quickly and reliably—with past exchanges archived for easy reference. For hospitals, insurance companies, and other organisations with multiple stakeholders, RingCentral technology allows for seamless, multi-channel coordination between departments, institutions, and customers.

73% of healthcare professionals send and receive work-related texts2

Improve access, response, and performance.
RingCentral enables teams that collaborate frequently to exchange critical and timely information, files, and updates. In a clinical setting, for example, staff can easily update their ongoing availability status, which enables real-time team collaboration across the most optimal medium and device. For healthcare organisations, customised groups—such as eligibility, scheduling, lab, or physicians and nurses—can be created to implement automatic efficiencies and reduce the chance of miscommunication. Life sciences and others with heavy R&D investments can speed advances and development cycles by promoting easy, accurate information sharing between all teams engaged in the process.

Elevate communications compliance and security.
RingCentral replaces numerous shadow IT tools and the need to use personal devices when interacting with patients and providers, while meeting industry regulatory requirements. In addition, companies developing proprietary products and processes can protect their intellectual property investments by enabling secure communications that minimise accidental competitive exposure.

Increase touchpoints with friendly, future-proof features.
Options like click-to-chat and click-to-call in a patient portal support increased engagement, improved access, and better response times by allowing patients to reach providers in the most efficient way to address follow-up healthcare questions or scheduling needs. For practices and hospitals, automated outbound patient notifications and announcements can be added via SMS or phone, freeing up critical staff time to focus on in-office patients and services, while insurers can use those efficiencies to spend more time interacting with policy-holders and improve the customer experience.

Industry changes and digital transformation demand communications that meet regulations—and exceed expectations. With RingCentral, you will communicate on a platform optimised for innovation with patients at the centre.

For more information, please contact a healthcare account executive or the RingCentral healthcare team.

Visit ringcentral.com.au or call 1800 957 188.

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