

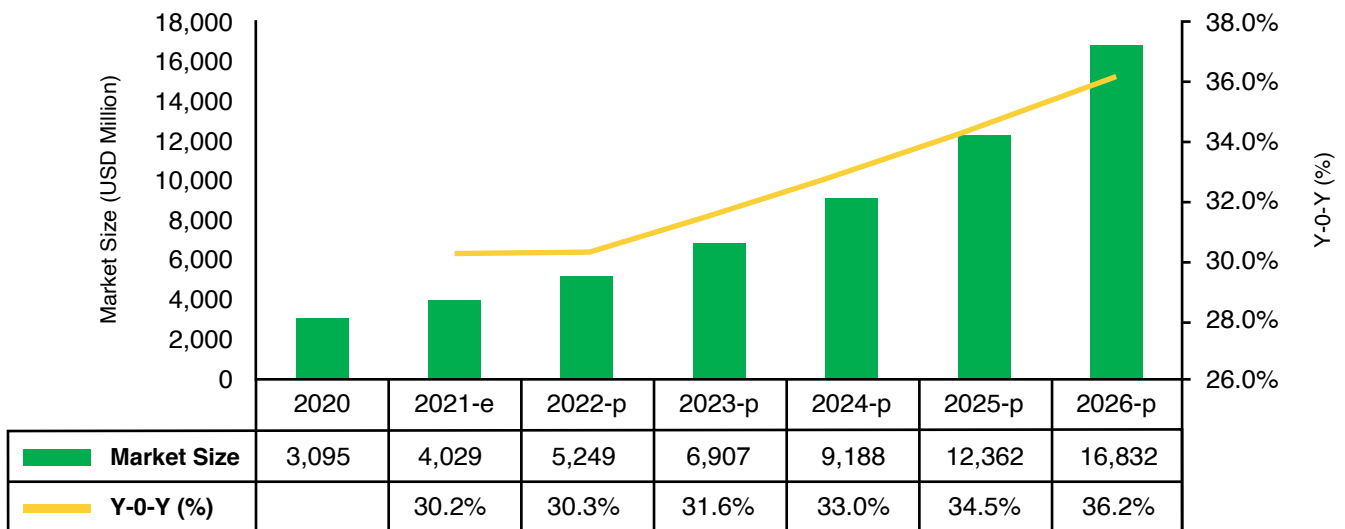
10

Transformative
Ways
**Healthcare
Professionals**
Can Use
Digital Signature
Solutions



Digital Signature Market Overview

The digital signature market has growth opportunities during the next five-six years by helping organizations in digitizing initiatives. Increasing technological advancements led organizations to adopt connected ecosystems. By adopting digital technology, organizations try to achieve benefits, such as streamlining workflows, reducing costs, automating business processes, improving revenues, and increasing customer and employee satisfaction.



The healthcare industry has been facing numerous types of challenges. Currently, the healthcare facilities are facing industry complexities such as difficulties in driving the workflow procedures, issues related to unforeseen expenditures, challenges to enhancing organization compliance, external pressures from government & legal authorities, and lately compromised patient satisfaction rates.

Moreover, the healthcare industry has challenges related to improved healthcare infrastructure, the issues of minimized expenses, contract management without digital signatures, types of equipment for patients, misplaced records, and business growth. Industry experts have predicted that accurate medical records related to all patients, operations, equipment, and workflow processes should be a key for all healthcare organizations. The healthcare industry can achieve it only through automation to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of medical staff and doctors.

The digital signature market is expected to grow significantly due to various business drivers. Such drivers and other challenges, restraints, and opportunities impacting the growth of the digital signature market have been listed below:

Digital Signature Market: Drivers, Restraints, Opportunities, and Challenges

Drivers



- Fast growth in investments in electronic documents by governments and enterprises
- Upgrade in end-to-end customer experience
- Enhanced security with a controlled and seamless workflow
- Improved operational efficiency at lower OPEX

Restraints



- Lack of awareness about the legality of digital signatures
- Variation in digital signature rules and regulations across regions

Opportunities



- Enhancement in the acceptance of cloud-based security solutions
- Growing number of partnerships and acquisitions
- Rise in use of artificial intelligence

Challenges



- Intensely entrenched traditional business practices
- Cost of implementation and legality issues

Why Digital Signature Solutions are critical in the Healthcare Industry?

Although, healthcare facilities can incorporate digital signatures for various processes, let's have a look at 10 ways to use digital signature solutions in the Healthcare industry:



**Client Charting
& Documentation**



**Amplified
Patient Experience**



**Medical Procedure
Approvals & Patient
Privacy Notices**



**Streamlining Patient
Admission Process**



**Prescriptions &
Medical Billing**



**Legal Authorities'
approval for Practicing
Doctors**



**Medical Reports
Signing**



**Enhance Confidentiality,
Security & Protection**



**Medical Equipment &
Pharmaceutical
Transactions**



**Environment-Friendly
Solution for
Healthcare Industry**



1. Client Charting & Documentation

- ❖ When a patient comes to a healthcare facility, the management prepares a file for them. This file contains their personal information, disease, symptoms, and medical treatment. It can also include medical history, future suggestions, and medicines in it. That means the file provides complete information about the patient to the healthcare facility.
- ❖ Accurate and concise patient charting is an important task. Through charting, healthcare practitioners communicate vital patient information to the entire healthcare team.
- ❖ It is crucial for a healthcare facility to manage this file in a well-documented way so that the medical staff can access and search them in the history. The doctors also need to prescribe medicines and treatments and after that, sign the document.
- ❖ The best practice in this regard, is to develop digital signature contracts so that the files will be available online, for the patients and doctors to implement changes and sign them after the procedure completion.
- ❖ Thus, the electronic signature solutions make the client documentation process easier and more convenient. At the same time, the healthcare facility can also get rid of paper documents that are difficult to manage and search and need a big and safe space for storage.

2. Medical Procedure Approvals & Patient Privacy Notices

- ❖ On the patient's arrival at the healthcare facility, they must sign an agreement with the facility to get a medical procedure or recommendations on their medication.
- ❖ This agreement is essential for the patient to charge the healthcare facility in court, in case of any disparity in the medical treatment that they enroll for.
- ❖ The use of digital signature software enables them to sign electronically to avoid traditional paper-based documents. Moreover, it is legally binding and can be upheld in a legal forum. It also helps as the document need not be printed as it is available online, on the cloud.

3. Prescriptions & Medical Billing

- ❖ The online availability of medical bills will also help healthcare facilities to keep their patients engaged, as both parties need to sign the bill. In the current scenario, if the facility does not have a digital signature solution in place, this process can outstretch.
- ❖ According to recent research, you can save more than 75000 hours a year by implementing online preparation and signing applications in your organization.
- ❖ This process also helps in avoiding occurrences. Therefore, the cloud-based enterprise-grade digital signature solution helps the medical units reduce the redundancy in the workflow processes.

4. Medical Reports Signing

- ❖ The doctors have to prepare reports about their patient's health status and sign these reports. In normal cases, they need to print these reports for signing.
- ❖ However, if a digital signature solution with an electronic documentation process is available, they can sign electronically to save time and minimize paper use.
- ❖ Moreover, they do not need physical papers to present to the patients, rather they can send them to the patient via an email or a link on the cloud. In this way, the whole process becomes easier and better the patient experience.
- ❖ Also, for future references, the patients can directly show these reports online, to the doctor anywhere, anyplace, and anytime.
- ❖ The use of digital signature solutions also makes it possible for healthcare facilities to issue online receipts to their clients. These solutions are also suitable for generating revenue reports because it is legally binding on all the concerned parties and appropriate signatories to sign.
- ❖ A cloud-based digital signature solution makes this whole process easier, and as it is available online, every individual who needs to sign the document can sign it within no time.
- ❖ This process also helps the patients in their payment process. The patients will not have any doubts regarding their payments, which normally happens when it is done physically.

5. Medical Equipment & Pharmaceutical Transactions

To establish a good ecosystem for purchasing & distributing medicines and equipment, the digital signature solution becomes the best fit. As this process involves signatures at every level, tracking those becomes very crucial.

- ❖ When all the concerned parties sign electronically on time, tracking becomes easier and keeps all the parties informed about the location of goods.
- ❖ For example, In the supply chain, when the supplier signs electronically and approves, other parties get to know that goods are shipped to the distributor and this process continues until the related department gets the supplies they have ordered.

6. Amplified Patient Experience

- ❖ When a healthcare facility incorporates a cloud-based electronic signature solution in their workflow, the process automatically speeds up, eliminating the manual preparation of the documents, and helping the healthcare facility avoid various difficulties.
- ❖ This in turn amplifies the patient experience and satisfaction, as they do not need to spend hours on documentation making the whole process smooth and simple.

7. Streamlining Patient Admission Process

- ❖ Imagine cases where the facility has to attend to large patient counts, it becomes difficult to streamline all the patients and their treatment with a manual system.
- ❖ By incorporating a digital signature solution, no patient will be allowed to start the medical procedure without completing the documentation, as each document needs a signature.
- ❖ Without an electronic signature, the medical procedure will not start, and by doing so, the healthcare facility will have a well-organized and well-monitored admission process to the facility.

8. Legal Authorities' approval for Practicing Doctors

- ❖ For medical practitioners, it is important to get permission from the concerned authorities to practice in a specific medical department. They are not allowed to practice if their accreditations are not approved by the concerned authorities.
- ❖ This needs a signature and, in the manual, signing process, the entire process slows down, which can stop doctors to practice.
- ❖ So, to improve the speed of the process, the incorporation of a digital signature solution has a key role to play. It's a great help to professional doctors when the process speeds up for renewing or updating their credentials with digital signature software.

9. Enhance Confidentiality, Security & Protection

- ❖ Personal health information (PHI) needs security, as it can be manipulated which can put the health of the patient at risk. In this case, doctors can also face the consequences.
- ❖ To provide maximum security and protection, the adoption of digital signatures has become necessary now. In this way, data manipulation minimizes without getting consent from all authorities and concerned individuals.
- ❖ Keeping the patient information confidential is another major duty of the medical practitioners and the healthcare facility as the patients may not want their disease or treatment to be shared with anyone.
- ❖ To secure patient data, the best way is to integrate a digital signature solution in the healthcare industry as with paper agreements, patient files, and medical receipts, it becomes difficult to maintain confidentiality and are less secure.

10. Environment-Friendly Solution for Healthcare Industry

- ❖ To improve the environment, industry experts want to minimize paper usage. In a healthcare facility, management and doctors are required to prepare numerous types of documents. With a manual system, too many papers are used for taking printouts and making patient files.
- ❖ By incorporating a digital signature solution, the facility can minimize the use of paper. It not only helps in saving money and time in taking prints and signing but also develops an image in society as an environmentally friendly organization.

Bottom Line

An efficient AI-enabled enterprise-grade digital signature solution has become today's necessity as it provides an option for the healthcare facility to prepare electronic documents and get them signed. It improves the entire process of sending medical reports and treatment from one department to another and the patient as well. It also helps improve the sanctity and security of the reports because, without the consent of all doctors, no one can change or manipulate patients' health information (PHI). Moreover, the validation process can also be improved with the incorporation of the timestamp feature. Finally, the healthcare facility can keep the backup of all the documents, contracts and agreements, and patients' reports without occupying much space, as a cloud-based digital signature solution allows them to keep an end-to-end medical record in a secure and reliable space and can be accessed anytime without spending the time and effort searching for a specific document. Research also confirms that having an efficient digital signature software solution makes the lives of doctors, medical practitioners, medical and non-medical staff, and patients easier and better.

Certinal eSign is a future-ready digital signature solution that provides trust, security, and global compliance. It is your trusted partner delivering the highest compliance standards in Healthcare.

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