

EPIC EHR-Integrated eSignature Workflow for Primary Care Documents

SMART on FHIR

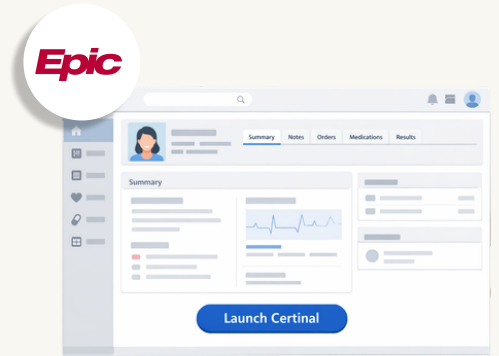
Certinal eSignature connects natively to Epic through a FHIR R4 API integration, embedding a complete physician document signing workflow directly inside the EHR.

No separate platform. No additional login. No parallel system to maintain.

Overview

The Certinal Epic Integration is designed specifically for the document reality of primary care networks – where a significant portion of documents requiring physician signature originate outside the organization, arrive in inconsistent formats, and need to be reviewed and signed without delay. By connecting at the FHIR layer, Certinal surfaces these documents as signing tasks inside Epic, routes them to the right physician, captures a legally binding signature, and files the signed artifact back to the patient record automatically.

What it replaces is straightforward: the print-sign-scan-upload loop that has historically handled documents that could not be processed any other way.



Core Capabilities

Any Document, Any Format

Non-standard documents – referrals, lab results, third-party correspondence – are signed as received, with no template mapping or preparation required.

Embedded in Epic Natively

Certinal lives inside the physician's existing Epic environment through a FHIR integration, making digital signing a natural part of the clinical workflow rather than a detour from it.

One Queue, One Action

All pending documents for a patient surface in a single unified queue, giving physicians full visibility and the ability to clear the entire stack in two clicks.

Zero Manual Filing

Signed documents return to the patient record automatically and instantly – no scanning, no uploading, no reconciliation between systems.

Audit Artifacts for Every Signature

Each signed document carries an immutable record of who signed, when, on which version – making audit response a retrieval task, not an investigation.

PHI Stays in the EHR

By routing documents through a secure, integrated digital workflow, patient information never travels through unencrypted fax channels or uncontrolled inboxes.

Document Types Supported

Certinal supports signing across the full spectrum of documents a physician encounters in clinical practice – not just forms the organization creates and controls.

Document Type	Description
Standard Clinical Forms	Templated consent forms, procedure authorizations, and internal clinical documents with defined fields
Outside Records	Externally originated documents received from other providers, facilities, or health systems – signed in original format without conversion
Referral Documents	Inbound referrals from external practitioners requiring physician review and acknowledgment
Lab & Diagnostic Results	Third-party lab reports and diagnostic findings requiring physician sign-off before action
Specialist Correspondence	Letters, clinical summaries, and care recommendations arriving from outside the organization
Non-Standard Administrative Forms	Any document requiring physician signature that does not conform to an internal template

Certinal's Epic integration is built on FHIR R4, connecting natively to the hospital's existing Epic environment without requiring middleware, custom connectors, or parallel infrastructure. The integration operates through a defined set of read-scope API calls that give Certinal the clinical context it needs to surface the right document to the right physician – and file the signed artifact back to the correct patient record automatically.

API Scope & Purpose

API Scope	Purpose
Patient.Read	Patient identity resolution and auto-mapping to the correct record in Epic
Practitioner.Read	Physician identity verification for accurate signature attribution
DocumentReference.Read – Clinical Notes	References to clinical note documents within the Epic record
DocumentReference.Read – Outside Record	Externally originated document references – the core use case for non-standard inbound documents
DocumentReference.Read – Document Info	Document metadata retrieval for routing and display
Binary.Read – Clinical Notes	Retrieval of clinical note binary content for in-workflow review
Binary.Read – Document Info	Retrieval of document binary content
Binary.Read – Outside Record	External document binary content – enables signing of outside records in their original format

Key Technical Parameter

Parameter	Detail
FHIR Version	R4
Integration Type	Native Epic FHIR API – no middleware required
API Access Scope	Read-only clinical and document APIs
Document Formats Supported	All formats accessible
Signing Execution	Within Epic UI – zero platform switching
Post-Signing Filing	Automatic return to patient record in Epic
Identity Resolution	Patient and Practitioner matched via FHIR before task surfaces

Global Compliance & Security



About Certinal

Certinal is an enterprise consent and eSignature platform built for high-stakes workflows. It unifies consent capture, patient rights, governance, and legally binding signatures into one audit-defensible system—purpose-built for the healthcare industry, where proof of consent is as important as the signature itself.

Ready to see Epic-native consent & signature workflows in action?

[Schedule a technical deep-dive](#)