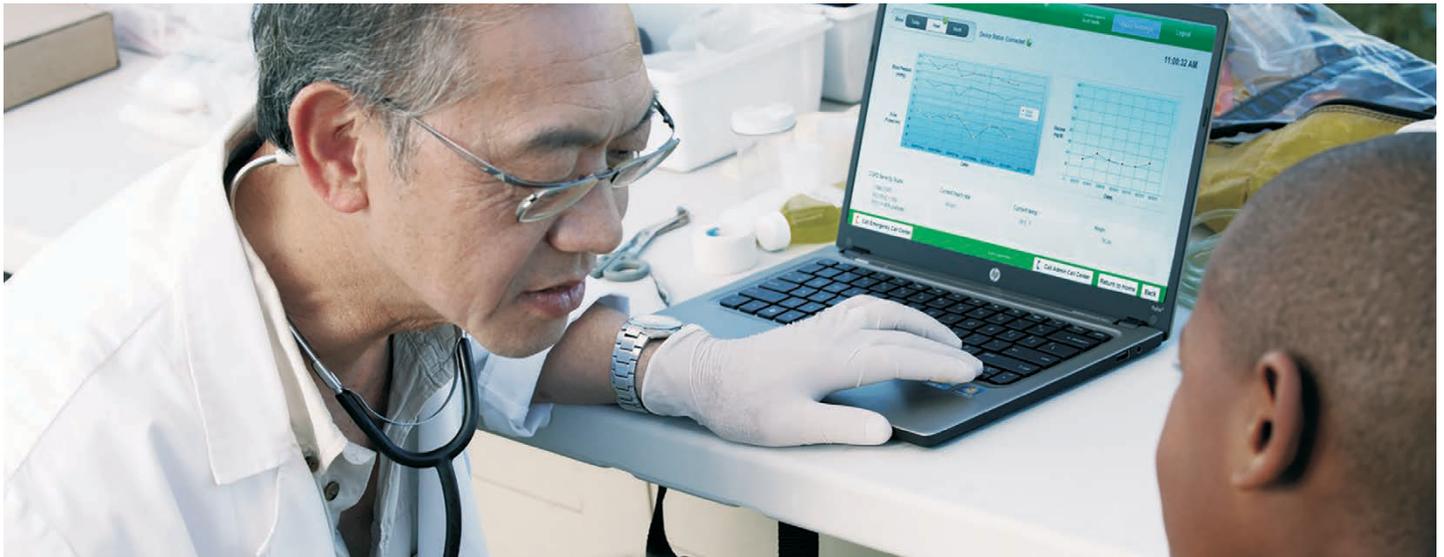


Gain efficiencies, improve patient safety



HP Patient Identification for Healthcare increases safety and efficiency



What if you could...

- Replace a copier, printer, fax, two thermal printers, and pre-printed forms with a multifunction printer (MFP)?
- Print color wristbands and patient admissions packets in the same step?
- Apply eSignatures to e-forms?

Executive summary

Patient safety and the reduction of medical errors are key drivers in the healthcare industry today. To address these needs, more and more providers are using printed patient wristbands at the critical juncture of admitting patients to the facility. With added safety elements, such as color warning codes and patient photos, in addition to linear, two-dimensional barcode panels, these laser wristbands are not only setting the standard for safety, but are helping to improve patient outcomes as well.

Relative to outdated manual patient identification methods, accurate, durable, digital patient identification can improve patient safety in medication administration, specimen labeling, and tamper resistance. Patient identification wristbands themselves must be soft, yet durable so they are comfortable for the patient to wear during the average four-day stay in a hospital. And patient identification media must be available in sizes to accommodate adults to neonates, as well as labels ranging in sizes suitable for syringe medications all the way up to IV drip bags.

Printed wristbands can also increase the accuracy of patient identification across all departments and in multiple applications. The devices used to make them—printers—are already in the majority of hospitals worldwide, so existing infrastructure can be used. And by using laser printers that are already connected to the hospital network, the devices can provide not only the hardware required for printing wristbands and labels, but also enable supplies replenishment, break-fix troubleshooting, and color access control via remote management.

In today's economic environment, IT benefits can help contribute real savings to the hospital budget. And the ability to save both capital and operating expenses by using existing infrastructure is a vital justification for capturing a simultaneous increase in medical value.

Printed patient identification is, therefore, becoming a key component of modernized, digital hospitals worldwide.

Today's healthcare environment

As the impact of the global economic crisis continues to unfold, the well-being of both patients and healthcare providers is changing. Consumers are pulling back on non-essential healthcare services, patients are less able to pay for those services, and many patients enter the healthcare system as sicker patients with higher needs. In turn, healthcare providers are seeing an increase in the incidence of healthcare-related bad debt.

In the past, healthcare was resistant to economic downturns. However, the increase in managed care and the higher amount of cost sharing through co-pays and deductibles are impacting providers' ability to collect fees from consumers. At the same time, they are being squeezed by governments and payers who are increasing the regulations and standards under which they'll reimburse. With the smaller income, healthcare providers are dealing with smaller budgets and a need to increase operational efficiency.

Some of the most frequent goals healthcare organizations strive to meet in order to help improve efficiency include:

- Speeding up critical patient workflows.
- Minimizing operational costs.
- Reducing medical errors.
- Providing a better patient experience.

The new regulations and smaller budgets are also leading to overworked nursing, managerial, and intake staffs. To help these people do their jobs accurately, healthcare organizations need to reduce administrative complexity even while they're focusing on improving patient safety and reducing medical errors.

EMR: a digitized solution to healthcare safety and error reduction

Safeguarding positive patient identification is a regulation set by healthcare accreditation agencies across the globe. In fact, proper patient identification is the foundation of patient safety. Wristbands that stay on the patient and remain readable after repeated use and extended treatments need to be easy to print, easy to read, and cost effective to deploy.

Using existing hardware, such as an already-installed base of laser printers, is an affordable and easy solution to implement that can

help meet Electronic Medical Records (EMR) protocol without having to invest in new equipment. It's also space-efficient in the cramped, space-deprived environment of a typical admissions area, eliminating the need to dedicate valuable desk space to a separate device, such as a thermal device.

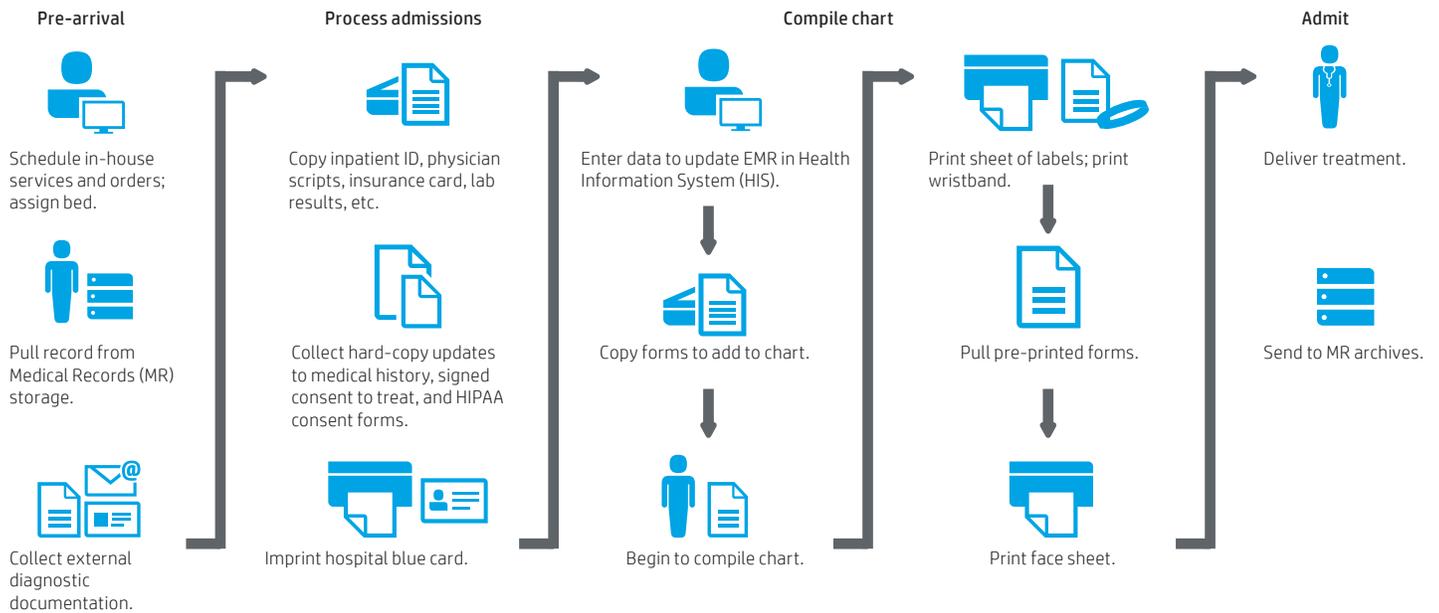
While both laser and thermal printers can be used to produce bar-coded patient identification wristbands, laser printers have a distinct advantage, especially in terms of costs. Laser printing can be more durable than thermal, producing wristbands that last for the entire patient stay. Printed wristbands also help contain costs by using hardware that is already in place at most healthcare facilities. And by integrating with existing patient identification technology, they can minimize workflow changes and IT reformatting. Costs are further contained by the ability to directly print color-coded warnings on the wristband, instead of having to generate separate color-coded wristbands for patients who need such warnings included with their identification data.

But the real advantage is that using an existing printer allows admissions departments to print a complete patient admissions packet—including not only wristbands but privacy notices, consent forms, bar-coded labels, and documents for lab work, x-rays, or other procedures—from one device, at one time. And if it's a multifunction device, they can also receive, fax, and scan records on the same device, saving valuable office space, supplies costs, staff training, and IT support that would otherwise be necessary for multiple devices.

Adding to the reduced maintenance and significant space-saving benefits, HP printers are known for their reliability. And since HP printers are typically already attached to the network in a healthcare facility, they can be managed remotely via HP Web Jetadmin. This opens up the operations team to a whole host of efficiencies in managing printer settings, monitoring and controlling color access, monitoring supplies use, and managing maintenance. Current hospital IT support staff are also typically familiar with managing and supporting HP printers. But they can further offload print management responsibilities with an engagement such as an HP Managed Print Services solution, which enables them to outsource the management of the device altogether, if they so choose, freeing them up to focus on more mission-critical functions such as the migration to EMR itself. This opens up a whole new level of benefits relative to a point-specific device like a thermal printer, which is designed for one purpose only.

Before HP: Patient admissions can be complex, manual, and multi-step processes.

Healthcare organizations need to reduce administrative complexity to help improve patient safety and reduce medical errors.



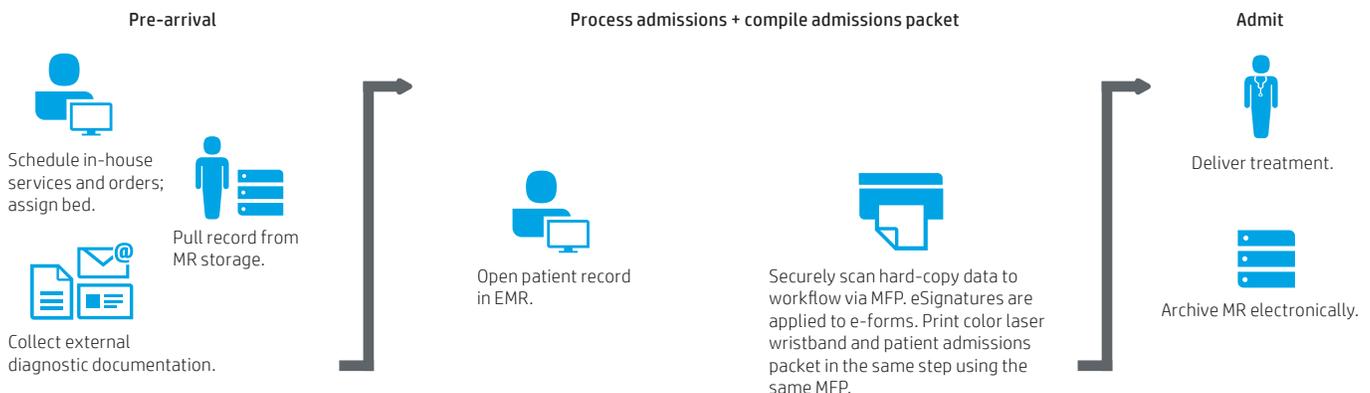
How it works

Using the HP Patient Identification Printing Solution as an example, here is how it works. Leveraging your investment in existing printers, consolidate devices by using any of the range of HP devices approved for printing LaserBand® patient identification wristbands and labels. This clears up valuable desk space and also helps speed up the admission process since the wristband is now generated straight from the hospital information system. Since it is self-laminating, the information on the band will be protected against fluids, scratching, or other physical damage throughout the hospital stay. And by providing legible patient data, you can now be more confident that staff will have the necessary information to provide the right care to the patient and avoid adverse events.

Now, using the same laser device, generate all of the other necessary admissions documents for the patient, integrating patient identification with the admissions package in one place. Then, using a portable barcode scanner, clinical staff can instantly access a wealth of patient information—including photographs, standard medical records, allergy warnings, and so on. This can greatly reduce the scope for error, helping to improve patient safety and clinical outcomes.

After HP: Printed patient identification wristbands are an integral part of a streamlined admissions process.

Gain efficiencies from processing and printing all admissions documents using the same multifunction device.



HP is recognized as a global leader in imaging and printing. With LaserBand® media, HP printers provide a cost-effective, reliable, and easy-to-use solution for increasing patient safety and medical accuracy through the use of digital patient identification.

Benefits of the HP solution

- Get full support from a single vendor.
- Stack over 250 wristband sheets at once, down to a 4-inch width.
- Print labels and bands on the same sheet.
- Consolidate devices.
- Improve continuity with proven reliability.
- Centralize supplies and maintenance.

Significant savings

- Save costs over manual processes and dedicated thermal printers.
- Use legacy equipment—no need to invest in new equipment or purchase devices that are only useful for one task.
- Easily maintain devices that are already attached and managed on the network by existing resources.
- Manage fewer devices.
- Improve workflow with minimal disruption to users.
- Users can maintain current workflows.
- Print color-coded warnings instead of paying for additional wristbands for each patient who needs warning labels.

Why HP?

For more than 50 years, HP has been partnering with leading healthcare organizations, supplying the technical expertise and business savvy required to position these companies at the forefront of healthcare innovation. Today, industry analysts rank HP as a leading provider of information technology and services to the health and life sciences industry. In fact, nearly half of the top 10 healthcare equipment and services companies are HP Managed Print Services clients.¹

HP's patient-centered healthcare solutions enable providers and empower patients with more powerful and intuitive solutions that deliver better care. We can help you improve care delivery, patient engagement, and population health management.

We will take the time to understand your specific needs and create a plan to help optimize your fleet, ensure data and document security, and manage your evolving workplace.

Get started

Contact your local HP representative to:

- Set up a workshop to assess your specific business needs.
- Establish a plan to implement the best solution for today and into the future.
- Identify an environmental approach that can help your organization save money.

Learn more

hp.com/go/healthcare

¹Based on data from the 2016 Forbes Global 2000.

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