



IT MATTERS

Trending in IT

For All Epic Users

Secure Chat – 12,000 Messages Exchanged

Secure Chat successfully launched within Epic last week. Since that time, nearly 12,000 text messages have been exchanged among providers, clinicians and staff. Feedback from those who are using it has been positive. Through Secure Chat, most Epic users can securely text each other for non-emergent communications through their desktop, WOW or Epic mobile apps like Haiku, Canto and Rover.

If you use Epic and haven't tried it yet, you can start a chat with individuals or the entire treatment team while you're in the **Summary-Overview Report**. Here's how to do this on Epic desktop/WOW and Haiku/Canto. At this time, this isn't available for Rover.

For more information click [here](#).

For All Nurses

Pharmacy Dispense Track Gives Nurses Better Visibility – In Real Time

The launch of Dispense Track earlier this week is giving nurses increased visibility for tracking medication information in real time from the **MAR**. Nurses can now see when medication arrives on the unit by selecting the **Rx** icon in the **MAR**. This improves satisfaction with medication delivery and minimizes dose requests. For more information, please review this [tip sheet](#).

Epic Updates & Changes

For Registration, Scheduling, Front Desk Staff, Hospital-Based Outpatient Departments and HMPO Clinics

Updates to COVID-19 Potential Risk - Travel Screening Window

More symptoms and BPA triggers were added to the **Travel Screening** window in Epic, based on guidance from the CDC. To help identify patients with potential COVID-19 risk, these symptoms were added: **Chills**, **Loss of smell** and **Loss of taste**.

Do you have any of the following symptoms?

<input type="checkbox"/> None of these	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to assess	<input type="checkbox"/> Abdominal pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Bruising or bleeding
<input type="checkbox"/> Chills	<input type="checkbox"/> Cough	<input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea	<input type="checkbox"/> Fever
<input type="checkbox"/> Joint pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of smell	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of taste	<input type="checkbox"/> Muscle pain
<input type="checkbox"/> Rash	<input type="checkbox"/> Red eye	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe headache	<input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath
<input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat	<input type="checkbox"/> Vomiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Weakness	

Travel and contact requirements were removed as triggers for the COVID-19 Potential Risk BPA. The BPA now appears if one or more of these symptoms are documented:

- Chills
- Cough
- Diarrhea
- Fever
- Loss of smell
- Loss of taste
- Muscle pain
- Severe headache
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Vomiting

For more information, please review these tip sheets:

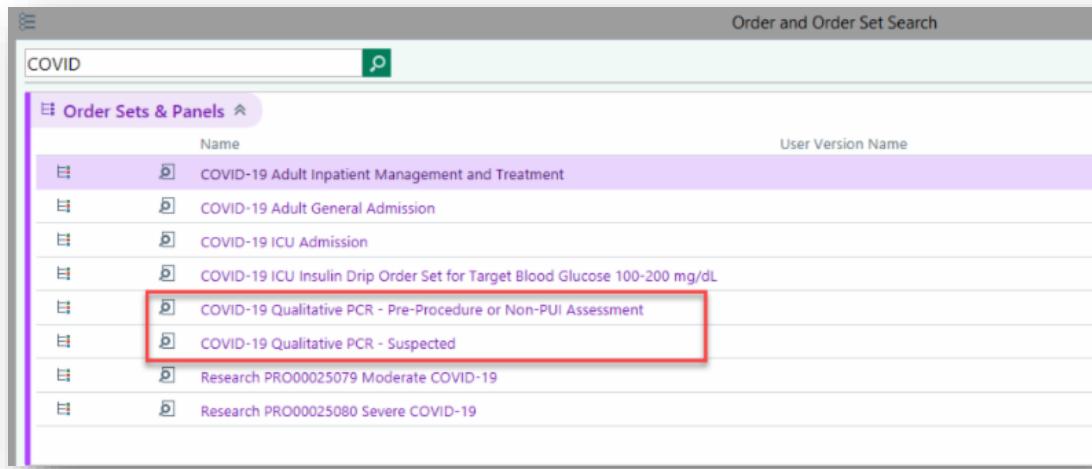
- [Travel Screening Documentation for Ambulatory Clinics](#)
- [Travel Screening Documentation for Registrars and Schedulers](#)

For All Providers

COVID-19 Lab Order for Pre-Procedure or Non-PUI Assessments

COVID-19 lab orders are now available for pre-procedure or non-PUI testing without requiring isolation or triggering COVID-19 alerts, unless a patient tests positive.

- For inpatient testing:
 - A **COVID-19 qualitative PCR – Pre-Procedure or Non-PUI Assessment** order set is available.
 - Order set names are now updated for clarity:



- For Preop and PAT testing:
 - Order sets are updated with the **COVID-19 Qualitative PCR [LAB3555]** order.
 - A new screening question, defaulted to **Yes**, validates that the test is part of a pre-procedure assessment.
- For non-pre-procedure assessment and ordering on suspected patients:
 - Selecting **No** will trigger COVID-19 alerts.

For Inpatient Nurses and Clinicians

Copy-Forward Functionality Will No Longer Be Available

Effective Monday, June 8

Starting **Monday, June 8**, inpatient nurses and clinicians will no longer be able to copy-forward or duplicate previously documented patient assessments from one column to another in patient flowsheets. This improvement was approved by the CNO Council to ensure patient safety through timely and accurate documentation.

For All Acute Care Nurses

Bedside Mobility Assessment Tool

Available Now

The **Bedside Mobility Assessment Tool (BMAT)** is now available to assist nurses with the evaluation of a patient's mobility status. **BMAT** allows nurses to instruct a patient on basic coordination tasks, based on the ability to walk independently or with an assistive device. Depending on whether the patient passes or fails, nursing interventions can help the patient. Note: This will not replace PT/OT consult.

For more information and instructions on how to use the **BMAT**, click [here](#).

For Cardiologists and Cardiology Clinicians

Procedure Pass for Cardiology Launches to Ensure PreProcedure Task Completion

Effective in Epic on Monday, May 18

Procedure Pass, an Epic tool to prevent same-day procedure cancellations and delays due to incomplete presurgical tasks, will be available for Interventional Cardiology starting **Monday, May 18**. With Procedure Pass, Epic automatically generates pre-procedure task lists personalized for each patient, then marks tasks complete when documentation is finished prior to the procedure.

Procedure Pass includes an interactive checklist of tasks and required documentation for every procedure, including H&P notes, consents and orders or labs specific to the procedure or circumstances, such as an EKG.

If more than one piece of documentation can satisfy a preprocedure task requirement, Epic will prompt you with a list of suggested steps to complete the task.

Additional benefits of Procedure Pass include:

- A central place to track Preop and PAT tasks.
- Standardized PAT protocols for cardiology.
- Improved patient preop experience and care.
- Decreased time reviewing charts.

For more information, click [here](#) to view a high-level overview [video](#). For instructions on using Procedure Pass, review the [Cardiology Procedure Pass Users Guide](#).

For Everyone

EVS Mobile Goes Live at HMCL

Effective, Monday, May 18

Environmental Services (EVS) employees at HMCL will roll out a mobile device to improve how we track and assign cleanings. EVS will no longer use the interactive voice response system. Instead, they will use an iPod that also integrates with Epic. Keep in mind that these devices are for work purposes only. They will not access the internet and cannot make or receive phone calls. This program has rolled out successfully at all other HM locations except for HMSL, which is coming soon.

Planned Downtimes

For All Epic Users

Scheduled Epic Downtime for Critical Updates

Sunday, May 17, 2 – 3:30 a.m.

On **Sunday, May 17** from 2 to approximately 3:30 a.m., Epic will experience a downtime for critical system updates.

During this downtime, Epic users should access the **Epic Read-Only** icon on their workstation desktop. Data in **Epic Read-Only** is current until the downtime begins. Documentation and order entry are not available in **Epic Read-Only**.

For details on what to do before, during and after the downtime, including special instructions for lab, radiology, cardiology and medical devices, see the [Planned Downtime Instructions](#).

Click [here](#) to review and download key resources, including:

- Business Continuity Access Downtime Manual
- Business Continuity Access Downtime Quick Reference Checklist
- Downtime Order Sets
- Downtime CSN Numbers
- Instructions for Accessing the Epic Read-Only Icon

To know when Epic access is restored, sign up for the [Methodist Alert Subscription Service \(MASS\)](#) or check the Epic status indicator on the homepage of the Houston Methodist intranet.

See the full schedule of [Epic planned downtimes](#).

	Friday, May 15, 5 p.m. – Saturday, May 16, 7 a.m.
SharePoint	During this window, SharePoint sites may be down. Prepare accordingly by printing or saving, to your local drive, any necessary materials ahead of this downtime.
LMS	Friday, May 15, 11 p.m. – Saturday, May 16, 6 a.m. Saturday, May 16, 11 p.m. – Sunday, May 17, 6 a.m. LMS will not be available due to maintenance.

MARS	Saturday, May 16, 6 – 9 p.m.
Epic	<p>Sunday, May 17, 2 – 3:30 a.m. *Sunday, Sept. 13, 2 – 4 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 15, 2 – 4 a.m. *Epic Update</p>

Reminders

You can also see previous issues of IT Matters and more at it.houstonmethodist.org.

For PCG/SPG Providers

COVID-19 Antibody Lab Orders Available in Epic for External Testing Agencies

For All Providers

New COVID-19 SmartPhrase Dragon Commands

For Everyone

Touch-Free Payment Processing

For Everyone

Better Rx Savings Options for Our Patients

For Managers and Leadership

Update to DocuSign

For All Nurses and Providers

Auto-Release of Non-Sensitive Lab Results Changed

For Inpatient Nurses, Administrative Coordinators, MDS Coordinators and Life Gift Donation Specialists

Viewing Incomplete Notes from Others Disabled in Epic

For All Providers

PACS Imaging Not Working with Latest iOS Version

For All ED Providers, Advanced Practice Providers and Scribes

Refresh Button Now Easier to Find

For Wellness, Global and Platinum Patient Services

CEO, COO, Other Patient Type Name Change

