

Smoothing the flow of radiology workflow & improving patient journeys with SynApps



Centralised scheduling & vetting, coordinating multiple teams & locations

NHS waiting lists aren't getting any shorter and accelerating diagnoses is a high priority - whether to avoid the worsening of joint wear and tear, or to prevent cancers being missed in the early stages when more can be done.

SynApps' integrated Radiology Information System (RIS) from Aptvision provides multi-tenant, cross-location, centralised scheduling and vetting of medical imaging appointments, analysis and follow-up via a simple web-based browser. It allows patients to be part of the booking process, and it enables members of different teams across diverse locations to collaborate on cases in a streamlined way, making optimum use of available resources.

As the strategic partner and prime contractor for Aptvision's RIS solution in Great Britain, SynApps is able to offer the most comprehensive range of integrated, cloud-based clinical/radiology solutions for NHS trusts. We cover the whole range of Vendor-Neutral Archives (VNAs), Picture Archiving and Communication Systems (PACS) and now Radiology Information Systems (RIS), all accessible via a user-friendly web interface and ready to integrate with patient records and other hospital systems.

Aptvision RIS from SynApps

Our RIS solution, already deployed at multiple sites in the United Kingdom, is a modern, 100% web-based digital radiology information system. It can integrate and share data with other clinical systems, including those used by external healthcare providers.

The modular system manages radiology appointments entirely digitally, removing reliance on paper correspondence and resulting in better resource management and fewer missed appointments. ('No shows' are thought to account for up to 10 per cent of appointments across public hospitals.) Patients can even book their own time and date for scans - and submit relevant medical information in advance - for greater efficiency and convenience.

Optimising resources

Designed to integrate seamlessly with other trust systems, including competitor RIS offerings, the comprehensive RIS solution offers controls to referring doctors, too. It can prevent overbookings, for example, and allow scan times or appointments to be shortened as appropriate, maximising service capacity. It also supports efficient, effective reporting and accelerates the delivery of scan results.

Because the Aptvision/SynApps proposition is cloud-based, no expensive hardware is required; the highest standards of security and software support are applied at source; and usability is high. Seamless integration with electronic patient record (EPR) systems is also supported, streamlining the number of clinical systems Trusts have to maintain, reducing IT overheads and the internal system maintenance burden.

Key features & benefits

System features

- Web based with an option to be hosted in secure private cloud, on premise or hybrid (with public-facing functionality hosted in a private cloud and the core on premise)
- High-availability architecture with zero-downtime releases
- Quarterly releases model to ensure continuous access to the latest features
- Bi-directional, adjustable, HL7 integration with local RIS suppliers; integrations to local PAS, OCS.

Scheduling

- Single patient record across all inter-connected systems
- Comprehensive management of diaries based on radiographers and radiologists' availability
- Ability to generate appointment letters from templates
- Option to auto-schedule appointments based on pre-defined criteria and business needs.

Communications/portals

- Integral communications module for automated SMS/email confirmations and reminders & two-way SMS functionality for cancellations and reschedule requests
- Secure patient portal for patients to acknowledge, cancel or reschedule appointments, complete safety questionnaires, etc
- Secure referrers/clinicians portal with the option to refer, book, view all past and present referrals, and access all patient documentation.

Multi-site vetting support for optimised resource use

- Unified vetting module, supporting resource sharing across multiple sites (one team could perform the imaging, another could do the vetting/reporting)
- Option to automatically send electronic orders for vetting based on pre-defined criteria
- Configurable, real-time, filterable vetting worklist
- Complete, reject, request more information or delegate vetting requests within workflows.

SynApps: independent experts you can trust

SynApps has decades of experience of solving content and data access problems for UK hospitals and community healthcare providers. Today, more than 20 trusts rely on SynApps to transform access to and management of patient records, and many of our solutions have been built with direct input from NHS trusts.

We are an independent consultancy and systems integrator. We assess every situation uniquely and bring the right combination of technologies and services to bear to transform patient information access in each case. We can help put together the business case, too – accelerating the transformation decision process. And, because all of the solutions we work with are cloud-friendly, we can often roll out new solutions within weeks rather than months.

“The running costs are very reasonable and the quality and modern feel of the system is exactly what I wanted. Most solutions are at best 50-80 per cent web based, but we wanted to be able to provide services for clinicians and patients wherever they are so this was a big tick for SynApps and Aptvision.”

Steve Twum, Head of Clinical IT Systems, Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals Trust

To discuss radiology process transformation in your trust, set up a 1:1 discussion via www.synapps-solutions.com