

No more. Welcome to **OSF myHealth**. Introduced in March 2011, **OSF myHealth** is a patient portal that is available 24/7, 365 days a year. More than 25,000 patients within the OSF HealthCare System have already registered to be a part of **OSF myHealth**, and the percentage of those who have activated their accounts continues to grow.

According to Dr. Gerald McShane, President and CEO of OSF Medical Group, **OSF myHealth** is providing patients a connection that is truly empowering. "It is an avenue for patients to take even greater ownership of their health and the health of those in their family," says Dr. McShane. "It is a partnership between patient and caregiver that forms a connection that strengthens the face-to-face interactions our patients have with us."

OSF myHealth evolved from the new Epic integrated computer system. (See related story in this report.) When Epic was implemented, it was to produce a comprehensive electronic medical record for patients that could be accessed systemwide. A key module of Epic was a program to have patients more involved in their care through greater access to their physicians and their own medical records. Activating this module was a natural next step in bringing valuable connections to our patients.

Connections for patients and their physicians have traditionally been face-to-face with an established routine: Call the office; make an appointment; show up on time; read old magazines; see the doctor. Connections for patients and their medical records involved, for the organizationally gifted, a file at home with copies of lab reports and other documents with sometimes undecipherable medical hieroglyphics. For those more challenged than gifted in organizational skills, the connection was primarily listening closely to what the physician said during the appointment or after a procedure.

So, what can a patient expect when he or she activates an **OSF myHealth** account? Briefly ...

View medical history online. Patients will get to see the same information available to their physicians, including medications, immunizations, allergies, test results and more.

Stay in touch with their physician. Communication through secure e-mail messaging with questions relating to their specific situation can be answered quickly and confidentially. In actual practice, time may be limited for the physician and patient or questions come up after the appointment is completed. **OSF myHealth** makes round-the-clock connections possible.

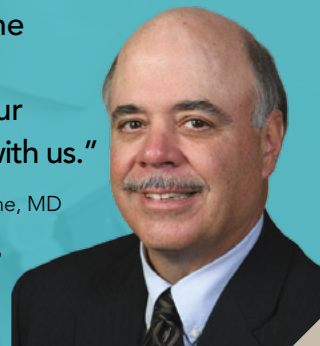
Manage appointments. Patients can request and schedule appointments online and view past and upcoming appointments.

Access family records. Patients can link individual family members' records of appointments, immunizations, growth charts and more for the entire family — a welcome innovation for all patients, but especially for parents.

Portability. For those who leave the area for vacations or more extended times, **OSF myHealth** offers access to medical information that could be needed while away from one's primary physician or an OSF facility.

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Gerald J. McShane, MD
President and CEO
OSF Medical Group



Patients are encouraged to register for **OSF myHealth** while they are healthy and have the time. Once a patient has signed up and activated his or her account, they will have ready access to an important tool for monitoring and managing their own medical needs and those of their family.

Some restrictions are in place for patients due to sensitivity of information. In those cases, a conversation with the physician is in order.

OSF myHealth – offering electronic connections that allow each patient to truly be at the center of his or her health care.