

# i | SIRONA Company Backgrounder

## Why Medical Device Integration?

Medical devices generate incredible amounts of critical patient data, yet most hospitals still use the same time-consuming method they have used for decades to get that data from the device to the chart: hand transcription and keying. This has placed an enormous burden on clinicians, who are tasked with transcribing the data on paper, then manually entering it into the clinical information system —often hours later.

Since 2008, iSirona has worked to simplify this process through medical device integration, or device connectivity. Device integration automates the flow of data from devices directly into the hospital's clinical information system (CIS). This automation improves clinician productivity as well as data accuracy and availability throughout the hospital.

True to its commitment to simplicity, iSirona developed the industry's first software-based connectivity solution. Completely vendor-neutral, this proven solution integrates patient data from *any* medical device, regardless of manufacturer, into any CIS. Today, iSirona's software is installed in hospitals nationwide.

## Advantages of Software

One drawback of many device integration solutions is the necessary investments in single-use hardware. Installing this hardware is not only costly, but also time-consuming. Software-based solutions are inherently different; iSirona software can be quickly installed on existing, multi-use technology platforms such as PCs and mobile workstations.

Best of all, iSirona software embeds directly into the existing CIS, eliminating the need for extensive, time-intensive clinician training. Many iSirona customers report installs taking only a matter of weeks, and clinicians are up-to-speed in minutes.

## Approach to Standalone Devices

Most standalone devices are not network-enabled; in other words, they were not built to connect to centralized systems. iSirona software brings these devices online in two ways, depending on whether or not the device functions in a high- or low-acuity setting.

In a low-acuity setting, standalone devices move from room to room with a rounding clinician. In these cases, the standalone device can be directly connected to the rounding laptop or workstation with the iSirona software installed. The clinician sends the data to the EMR right from the laptop or workstation.

In a high-acuity setting, the standalone device remains with the patient. In these instances, a small, iSirona-configured adapter is attached to the standalone device. The adapter continuously sends information directly to the CIS for clinician validation and inclusion in the EMR.

## Authentication and Accuracy

Through bar code scanning and other methods, iSirona software links devices to patients instead of beds or other hospital locations. This ensures that the right device is positively associated with the right patient, no matter where that patient is located within the hospital.

Furthermore, once data is captured, hospitals can manage and filter it according to their individual needs and CIS demands. iSirona software standardizes the appearance of values across multiple devices and ensures data delivery by queuing at the device and server level. These features have all been developed in accordance with Quality System Regulation (QSR) controls set forth by the FDA.