Preparing for your MealSuite Connect Interface Project

November 22, 2023

This document explains how to prepare for the project to implement a custom interface between your EMR and the MealSuite system using MealSuite Connect.

Project Phases

1. **Kickoff Call and Discovery** - gather information about your expectations and goals for the project.
2. **Statement of Work** (**SOW**) - MealSuite drafts a SOW with project schedule and integration requirements.
3. **Setting up the Connection** - set up a connection method with collaboration between the MealSuite IT team and your IT team.
4. **Testing Calls** – perform testing calls emulating typical actions in the EMR to validate the data being sent and to meet your expectations.
5. **Data Validation** (optional but highly-recommended) – point the Connect interface to a test account in the MealSuite system for you to review the live census data and ensure its accuracy.
6. **Training and Go Live** – train users who interact with people profiles in your MealSuite account; point the Connect interface to your live MealSuite account for EMR data to start flowing in.
7. **Monitoring and Support** – the Mealsuite Connect team will continue to monitor your integration closely for a few weeks and remain available to address any concern or questions.

Who Should be Involved?

The success of the project relies on having the right people involved from the start. Please ensure that the following roles are identified and aware of the project:

- **Project Lead** - main point of contact for the project.
- **EMR Subject Matter Expert(s)** – knowledgeable of the workflows used in the EMR and how resident/patient information is recorded, including ADTs, allergies and diet orders.
- **Interface Analyst** – knowledgeable of HL7 messages coming from the EMR with ability to trigger those messages as needed; can make changes to meet the interface specifications; can investigate issues alongside the MealSuite interface specialist.
- **IT Lead** - works with the MealSuite Connect team to set up the interface connection method; can speak to any specific requirements that stakeholders in your organization may have regarding the connection.

Planning

Interface

Check with your EMR team if an ADT and a diet order interface is currently available. If so, ask for specifications that can be shared with MealSuite ahead of the kickoff call. If not, share the MealSuite HL7 specifications with them.

Allergies and Diet Orders

Obtain a list of available allergies and diet orders from your EMR team; the MealSuite Connect team requires this information to establish mapping relationships between the EMR and the MealSuite system.

References

You can find details about currently-supported EMR integrations and HL7 specifications on the MealSuite public resource centre via the following link: MealSuite Integrations.