

CRSO: IN THE KNOW

Research Information Sharing

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The 21st Century Cures Act enables patients to easily and quickly access their own health records. At UNC, notes and results will be shared once finalized in Epic, but NOT research notes. Make sure you're in the know!

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Effective April 11, 2021, UNC Epic workflows have been updated to include sharing options in all notes and test results. The default setting for sharing both tests and notes is to share immediately once finalized. Providers may modify this setting in some cases, such as when releasing the information poses risk to the individual patient. Additionally, it has been determined that research notes will not be automatically shared.

There is Epic programming in place to share or not share notes based on your author/provider type, encounter type, and department:

Provider types:

- Research coordinator: Note sharing is automatically blocked
- Nurse, Physician, or other licensed provider:
 - Working in a Research Encounter: Note sharing is automatically blocked
 - Working in a non-Research Encounter: Note sharing is selected as default; if the notes are research-related, un-click the "Share w/ Patient" button

Encounter types:

- Research Encounter or Telephone Note: Note sharing is automatically blocked
- Encounters other than Research Encounters or Telephone Notes:
 - Research coordinators signing alone: Note sharing is automatically blocked
 - Nurse, Physician, or other Licensed provider signing *or* co-signing: Note sharing is selected as default; if the notes are research-related, un-click the "Share w/ Patient" button

Departments:

- CTRC: Note sharing is automatically blocked

Test results (labs, radiology, etc.), even if obtained as part of a research protocol, are defaulted to share immediately. This should only be modified if required to prevent harm to the patient.

More Information Available

Guidance Specific to Clinical Research: [Cures Act Implications for Clinical Research](#)

General UNCH information: [EPIC Tip Sheet](#), [Information Blocking Video](#)



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