



October 29, 2020

Sent on behalf of William Isenberg, M.D., Ph.D., Chief Quality and Safety Officer, Sutter Health

Sutter Health Goes Live on Open Notes and Results Release Today

Sutter Health will go live on OpenNotes and Results Release this evening, Oct. 29. This movement toward greater transparency with our patients acknowledges the important role they play on their care teams, and promotes patient-centered care.

Thank you to all of our healthcare professionals and administrative leaders for the personal steps you've taken to prepare for this change. Sutter Health joins many organizations across the country that have opted to implement OpenNotes and Results Release now, including UCSF Medical Center, Stanford Health Care and Stanford Children's Health here in Northern California.

You may have heard that today the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) extended the compliance date for Information Blocking to April 2021 to allow provider organizations more time to prepare since many continue to experience significant challenges with the COVID-19 pandemic. Across Sutter Health, we continue to see low volumes of COVID patients and we have accomplished much to implement our pandemic response, so we have decided to move forward with the release of Open Notes and Results Release as planned. A group of clinical leaders across Sutter Health, who have been deeply involved in the planning for this initiative, met this morning and support moving forward as planned. I, as the Chief Quality and Safety Officer and executive sponsor for the project, and James Conforti, Chief Operating Officer, both concur with this recommendation to proceed.

Recall that patients have long had the right to access their health information through requests to Health Information Management (HIM). The significance of today's change means that patients will be able to access clinical notes and test results more conveniently through My Health Online (MHO), the Sutter patient portal.

Please be sure to visit the [OpenNotes and Results Release resource site](#) for additional information and tools. We have scheduled additional Q&A sessions through mid-November to answer questions so please visit the site for meeting details.

We always encourage feedback so please email us at clinicians@sutterhealth.org to share your stories and personal learnings with OpenNotes and Results Release.

Thank you.