

Secure, fast and efficient – Employee ID cards with integrated RFID transponder ensure access to medication and control of medical equipment

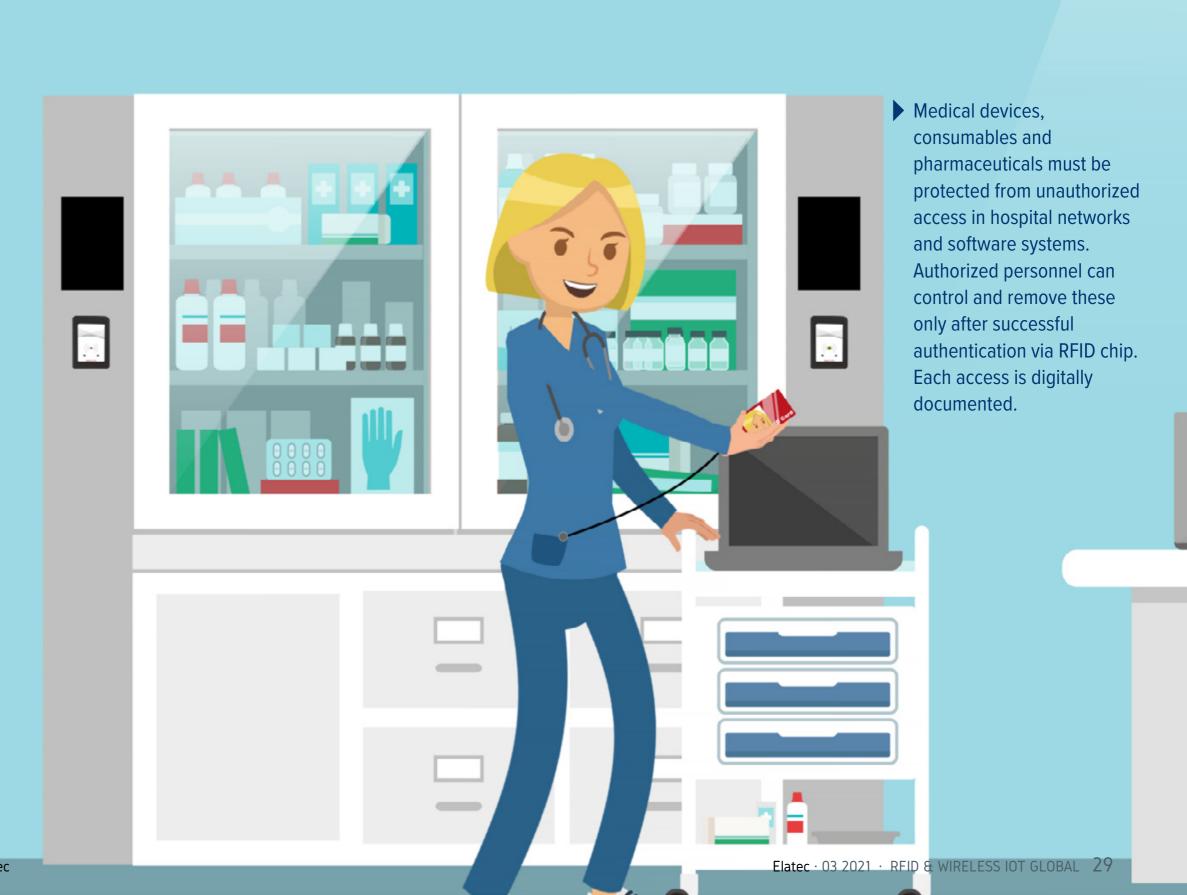
Security Considerations in Healthcare: Data, Physical Access and More

Security and access control are essential in a healthcare environment. Healthcare providers need to secure access to:

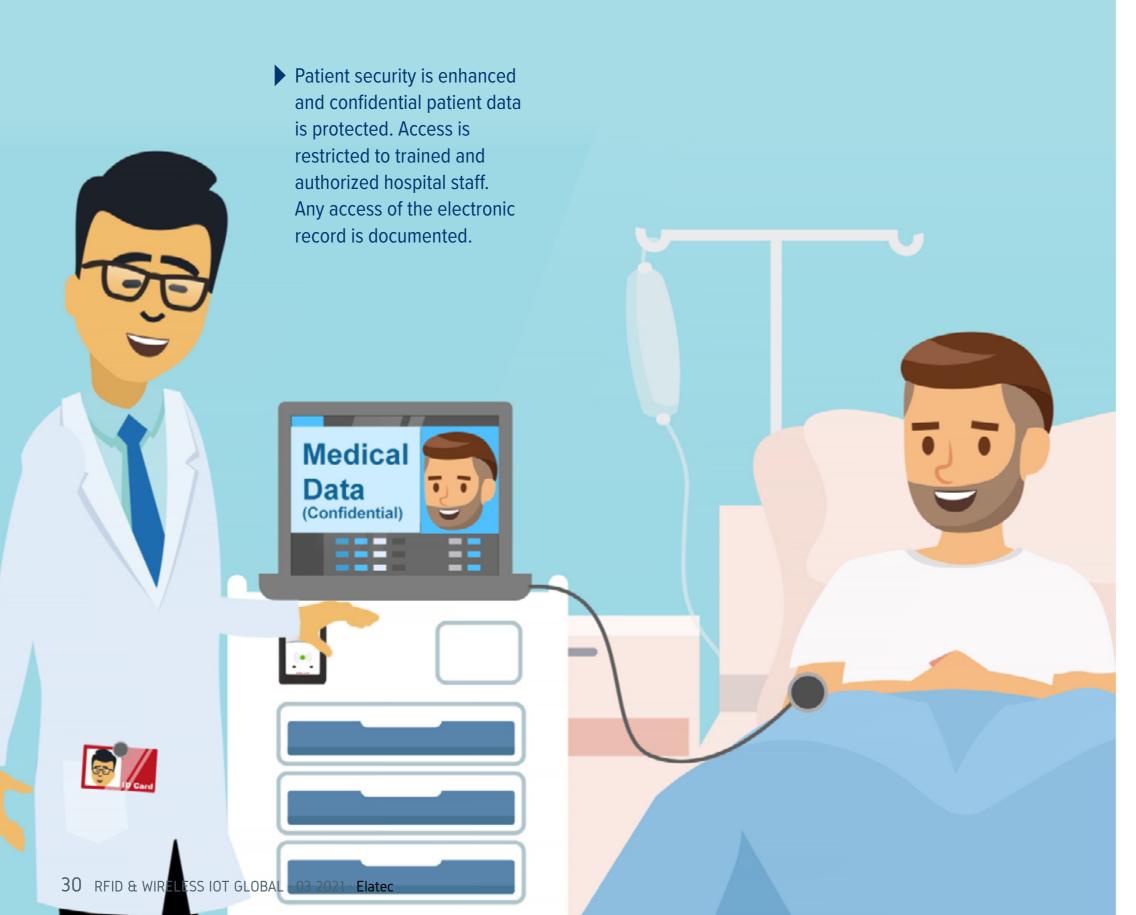
- Patient data and Electronic Health Records (EHRs)
- Hospital networks, software systems and files
- Medical device controls
- Consumable supplies
- Medications and controlled substances
- Printers and printed output of sensitive data
- Visitor management systems

In short, providers need a method to give everyone access to the systems, supplies and information they need while keeping everyone else out. The solution must:

- Ensure compliance with patient privacy regulations (e.g., HIPAA, GDPR).
- Prevent theft, misuse or overuse of consumables and controlled substances.
- Protect patient safety by limiting access to medical device controls and healthcare systems to trained and authorized clinicians.
- Enable allocation of supply and medication usage for billing purposes.
- Support the needs of patients, IT managers and staff.



Increasing security and discretion – patient data and electronic health records can only be accessed and processed after successful authentication via RFID.



Implementing a User Authentication and Access Control Solution in Healthcare

An effective healthcare security solution must include both **user identification** (the ability to uniquely identify the individual accessing a system, record or device) and **access control** (the ability to grant or limit access based on the user identity).

The ideal user identification and access control system for healthcare:

- Provides easy and instant access to systems, devices and records for busy clinicians.
- Is touchless/contactless to reduce touch points for pathogen transmission.
- Is highly reliable, secure and hard to counterfeit, hack or circumvent.
- Is easy for hospital IT staff to set up, administer and maintain.

Radio-frequency identification (RFID), along with emerging Bluetooth® Low Energy (BLE) and Near Field Communication (NFC) technologies, is ideal for healthcare applications. RFID cards or BLE/NFC apps are more secure and easier to manage than password or PIN systems. They are also simpler and more reliable (and hygienic) than biometric solutions.

RFID leverages the ID card clinicians and hospital staff carry for building entry to provide access to everything "beyond the door." BLE/NFC solutions leverage smartphones to do the same thing. RFID and BLE/NFC can be used for easy, contactless access to many applications, including:

- Single sign-on (SSO) to hospital systems and networks for clinicians and staff
- Print security of sensitive data
- Physical access control for secure locations
- Secure access to supply cabinets, medical devices and smart carts or kiosks.

Secure access to supply cabinets -Hospital staff use unique ID cards to retrieve secured medication from self-service kiosks.

RFID Solutions for Healthcare from Elatec

In selecting an RFID reader for healthcare, look for one that is secure, flexible and future-proof. The ideal RFID reader:

- Is able to read all of the RFID technologies in place across a large hospital system, along with BLE/NFC.
- Can be easily integrated into hospital systems/devices and customized with advanced functionality.
- Supports modern encryption and security standards.
- Is easy to maintain and upgrade.

The Elatec TWN4 MultiTech Series meets all these complex criteria and more in a single user authentication and access control solution. Elatec supports the legal, security and technological needs of hospitals in an easy and convenient way for all stakeholders - IT, hospital personnel and patients.

To learn more about selecting an authentication solution for your application, download the whitepaper:

User Authentication and Access Control in Healthcare IT.

