

Cerner Flash

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Ambulatory: Outpatient Message Encounter for In-between Visit Care

Outpatient Message Encounter for In-Between Visits Overview

REMINDER: Any action performed in PowerChart that does not pertain to a specific office visit needs to be linked to an Outpatient Message encounter for your clinic location.

One **Outpatient Message encounter per clinic** should be created for the life cycle of that patient's care. This allows users to link any in-between visit documentation to the appropriate encounter within PowerChart.

The Outpatient Message encounter can also be used to place Radiology, Lab, and Referral orders for the patient in between visits. This will ensure that Prior AUTH tasks fire appropriately for Diagnostic Imaging exams.

- **Important Note:** *If Diagnostic Imaging orders (CT, Nuc Med, MRI, etc.) are placed on a Clinic FIN and **do not** match the date of service, the Prior AUTH task will not fire to the Task List for Clinical Staff to work. This could result in a delay in patient care.*
- **Important Note:** *Charge orders cannot be placed on an Outpatient Message Encounter.*

This applies to all Ambulatory staff and Providers.