



Vision: “...to assure the interoperability of centralized and shared electronic health records over a national health information network.”

Using XAM as the standard information object or container in medical applications and repositories, the potential exists to solve the chief technical challenges of the Electronic Health Records (EHR) vision:

- Medical records must be portable, ensuring readability and interpretability while assuring security, confidentiality, and authenticity.
- Medical records must be preserved, protected, and readable over long periods of time relative to today's digital storage capabilities.
- Centralized and shared personal medical records will create a massive information management and security challenge requiring the capabilities of an object standard such as XAM as a cost-effective solution.

XAM Enables EHR Success

XAM is a standard, open-source, application to storage interface for file sharing similar to CIFS or NFS with the distinct difference that XAM also standardizes the ability to use expanded metadata and create portable information objects. XAM uniquely has the expanded metadata fields to support the preservation and migration requirements for long-term retention.

The workflow for implementation of XAM-based preservation services can be simplified and described like this:

- Many medical applications and services will produce records in XAM format with the required pertinent metadata
- Target repositories ingest the delivered content and convert non-XAM files into XAM objects with proper controls and provenance.
- Incoming objects may be hashed and encrypted. Along with their provenance, they are indexed for discovery and supporting data and storage services are initiated based on classification rules and policies.

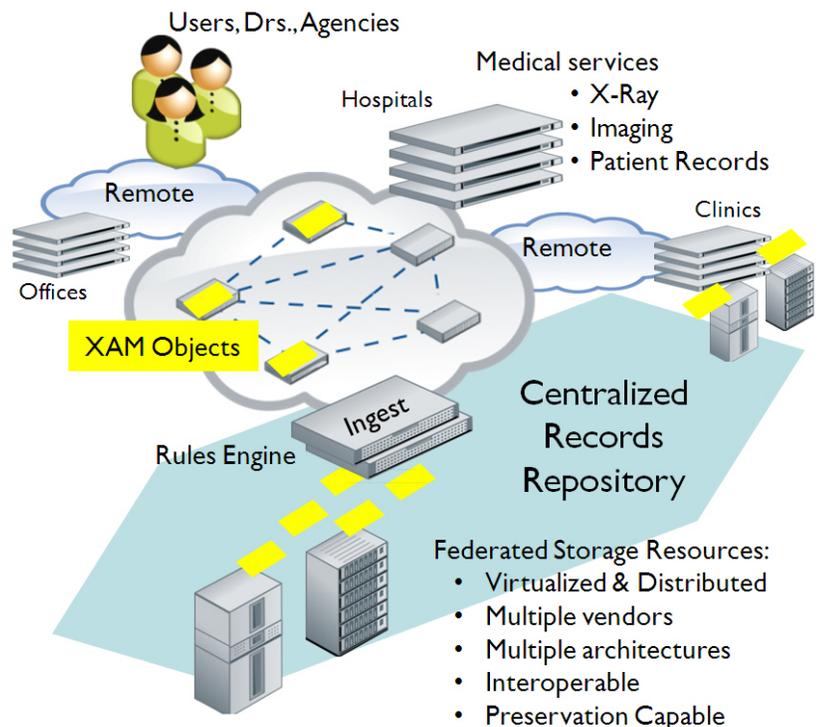
With XAM objects, medical records become portable and secure thereby capable of supporting the vision of the EHR initiatives over the long-term.

XAM Value Propositions

XAM defines a standard, open-source portable object and metadata container enabling shareable medical and health care records without proprietary lock-in.

- Extensible and portable XAM digital objects provide for security, integrity, authenticity, audit logs, chain of custody and litigation hold controls, and can hold medical or litigation review metadata
- Rich XAM metadata can be searched and analyzed
- Readers can be embedded in each object allowing application independence, reducing the cost and complexity of logical migrations.
- XAM supports all security, authenticity, integrity, & chain of custody models
- XAM supports all preservation services for long-term retention
- XAM metadata is the foundation for extended eDiscovery, analytics, and medical litigation support
- XAM supports maintaining an individual's personal records globally unique over time with integrity and authenticity.

Potential Shared EHR Service



1 Source: Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel, 2009