

THE REAL COST OF PATIENT MISIDENTIFICATION

Lost Revenue Is Just the Beginning.
Could Biometrics Be the Answer?



Patient misidentification costs the healthcare system **billions of dollars** each year.

But the real cost goes way beyond that.

Patient misidentification is expensive.

\$6 billion annually for the U.S. healthcare system
\$1.5 million per hospital per year
\$1,000 to resolve a duplicate medical record
\$2,000 extra per patient per inpatient stay
\$800 per emergency visit

Patient misidentification goes beyond cost. It is dangerous.

86% of healthcare workers have witnessed a medical error as the direct result of misidentification

Patient misidentification causes **30%** of all medication errors and **60%** of all laboratory errors

9% of patient identification errors lead to temporary or permanent harm

Medical identity theft, which affected nearly **43,000** patients in 2021, is harder to detect when patient records are jumbled

Biometrics are the answer.

- Biometric technology identifies patients using something we always have on us: our **fingerprints** or **faces**
- Biometric markers are **unique to each individual**
- Biometrics provide the **highest level of identity assurance**
- They **can't be lost or forgotten**
- 77% of healthcare workers think that biometric patient identification could **reduce medical errors**



Why biometrics for patient identification?

- 1 Accelerate patient registration and check-in
- 2 Accurately identify patients across locations
- 3 Reduce medical errors
- 4 Improve accuracy of medical records
- 5 Prevent medical fraud
- 6 Verify care eligibility
- 7 Boost clinical workflow efficiency
- 8 Improve the patient experience

Sources:

- LexisNexis Risk Solutions
- Fierce Healthcare
- Imprivata
- ECRI