#### **WELL SCREEN**

#### 14 STEPS TO BUILDING AN

# INTELLIGENT ENTRANCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

IN A CHANGED WORLD



COVID-19 WAS HEALTHCARE'S 9/11 MOMENT.



#### AN **OVERVIEW**



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# SECTION

# THE PRESSING NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ENTRANCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

### O1 COVID-19 IS HEALTHCARE'S 9/11 MOMENT

When the recent pandemic devastated communities across the globe, the need for heightened entrance management became clear. We can look to another industry faced with the same level of threat: airport security following the 9/11 attack.

Much like TSA screenings before boarding a plane, healthcare entry standards have permanently changed following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Identical to airports, it is imperative to provide the appropriate protection to everyone entering any healthcare facility.

We can look at it this way; while the post-9/11 airport security checks can be a nuisance, none of us would tolerate security checks being removed from airports.

Why wouldn't we implement the most rigorous and thorough processes as possible at our healthcare entrances as well?

# PROTECTION PROCESSES AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE ARE HERE TO STAY

#### 02 EMERGING CONSENSUS

We're often asked, "Can vaccines get us back to how it used to be?" There are a lot of different answers to this question, simply because it is still unknown. Side effects are still being tested. Impact on subgroups are yet unknown. Duration of protection is unknown. Ability to control mutations is unknown. New variants continue to emerge.

What we do know is there is an emerging consensus that the significantly enhanced protection processes designed to protect people entering our facilities are here to stay.

What is your organization's current strategy?

If the answer is anything other than a *comprehensive*, *sustainable entrance management strategy*, it's not enough.

That being said, wherever you are currently, take a look at the following 14 strategies and see where you can begin implementing or continue heading towards the new standard in entrance control.

# THE PRESSURE FROM REGULATORS IS RISING

## O3 ARE YOU READY FOR REGULATORS?

It is no secret that the regulators will continue to have a very focused interest in the protections and processes in place.

Deploying significant automation is the only sustainable approach to meeting what will continue to be a wide variety of requirements.

Clearly all of the key regulatory players have and will continue to evolve their reviews and requirements

Be sure your facility is ready for

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid
   Services (CMS)
- Occupational Health & Safety
   Administration (OSHA)
- Department of Health (DOH)
- Accreditation Surveyors
  - The Joint Commission (TJC)
  - Det Norske Veritas (DNV)

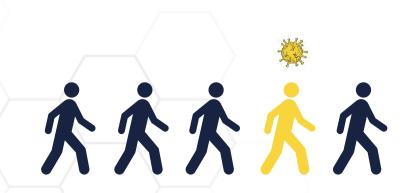


#### HISTORY WILL REPEAT ITSELF **Bubonic Plague** 1347 Small Pox 1520 17th Century Great Plagues 1600 18th Century Great Plagues 1700 Cholera 6 1817 Third Plague 1855 Yellow Fever 1800s Russian Flu 1889 Spanish Flu 1918 Asian Flu 1957 Hong Kong Flu 1968 HIV/AIDS 1981 SARS 2002 2009 Swine Flu **MERS** 2012 Fhola 2014 Covid-19 2019 Covid-19 2020 Covid-19 2021 Covid-19 2022

# WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD? O4 LOOKING AT THE BEYOND

The truth is, we're no longer asking the question if. The question becomes, "When the next virus or variant comes, are we going to be ready?"

### WHY HAVE WE CONTINUED TO ALLOW SICK PEOPLE TO ENTER OUR FACILITIES?







# OUR NATION'S FUTURE HEALTH DEPENDS ON PROTECTIVE MEASURES

The vaccines are making a big difference, but they aren't fully adopted.

Nationally, there is a wide disparity on protective approaches, which seems likely to work against any sustained reduction. Protective measures then must be an important part of a healthcare access design. You will need sustainable protective measures firmly in place to contribute to the management of this virus and future ones.

We know protective measures work!

#### THE CDC'S PLEA

**Dr. Rochelle Walensky**, **MD, CDC Director** and former Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Massachusetts General Hospital, **addresses how the pandemic will end**:

"We have a lot of the science right now; we have vaccines. What we can't really predict is human behavior. And human behavior in this pandemic hasn't served us very well . . .

That means we need a lot of protection in the community to not have disease . . .

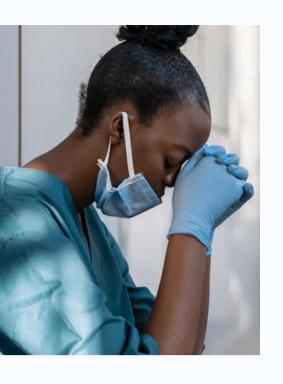
And the problem is . . . some communities have high vaccination rates and are very well protected, but there are pockets of places that have very little protection."

# "The toll that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on America is truly heartbreaking

— for the loss of our loved ones and our beloved ways of life."



(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021)





Healthcare workers have moved from functioning on adrenaline to operating in exhaustion.

# 05

#### **FATIGUE**

Streamlining entrance processes will free up staff to be utilized in high-demand areas.

This is not a solution for ongoing staffing issues, but it will help. In a well-designed strategy, we typically see about a **50%** reduction in staff needed at entrances, which reduces overall staffing strain.



#### 06 RETURN ON INVESTMENT

# ROI IS VAST IF A STRATEGY IS WELL EXECUTED

RETURN ON INVESTMENT CONSIDERATIONS		
STAFFING	Can reduce staffing up to 50%.	
EQUIPMENT	Requires initial capital and support fees.	
COMMUNITY PERCEPTION	Significantly impacts revenue when your community feels more comfortable returning for treatment, especially elective and outpatient procedures. Carefully consider the significance of any pushback and how you'll address it as an organization.	
EMPLOYEE & PROVIDER PERCEPTION	Has a direct positive impact on morale when efforts to provide a safer environment are visible.	
PATIENT EXPERIENCE	Maximizing visitation opportunities improves patient morale and assists in recovery.	
LIABILITY	Provides significant protection demonstrated through sustainable processes. Lawsuits happen, but this is going to lift the bar to a much higher standard.	
REGULATORY	Answers any possible regulatory request and creates a great first impression when regulators visit.	



# BUILDING YOUR ENTRANCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

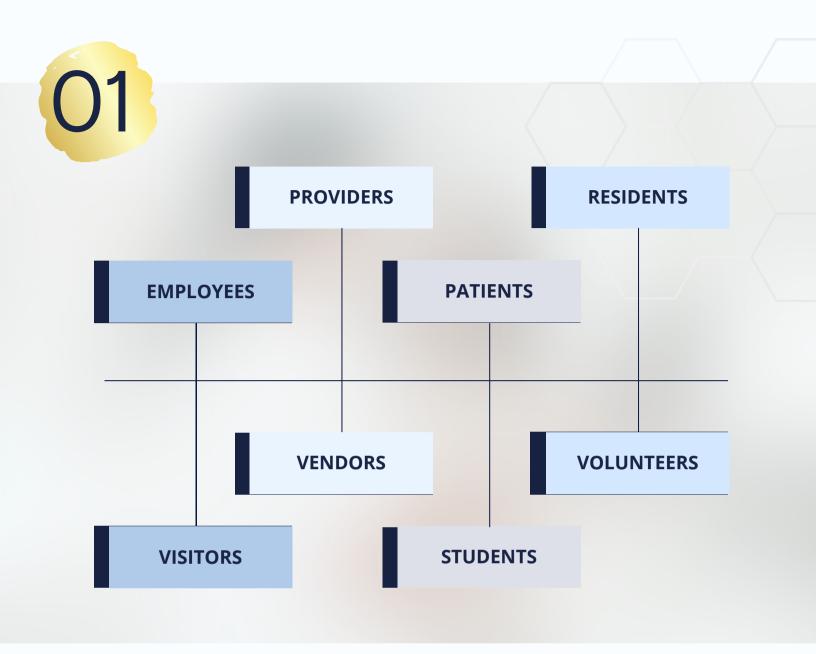
# THE STRATEGY

### 14 Steps to Safeguard Your Facility with a

#### Comprehensive Secure Entrance

Management Plan





# SCOPE

The first consideration in building your entrance management strategy is scope. It is imperative to the success of the design that **you consider every group who may enter your facility.** 



# ENTRANCES

Entrances require a number of considerations as you build your strategy.

#### **Examples include:**

- 1. **Keeping entrances to a minimum**. Many facilities have permanently closed some entrances.
- 2. **Considering the locations of garages** or car parks, as they are a significant determining factor of secure entrance management.
- 3. If possible, **designing an employee-only entrance** that can be set-up with no attendant staff needed.

#### STEP THREE

### WORKFLOW CONSIDERATIONS



Workflow design considerations begin first with analyzing volume by type of entrance. Followed by the additional considerations below.

#### EMPLOYEE/PROVIDER WORKFLOW

Account for shift changes and busy hours.

#### INVOLVE FRONT-LINE SCREENERS

Involve front-line screeners in planning for first-hand experience

#### **EQUIPMENT LOCATION**

Evaluate equipment location for at least 60 days to determine effectiveness before permanent installation.

#### OUTPATIENT ADMISSION FLOW

Consider outpatient admission visitor flow.

#### LAYOUT IMPROVEMENTS

Be prepared to improve on initial design based on relevant feedback.

#### UTILIZE EXISTING STAFF

Train existing admitting and reception staff to achieve best savings.



# INTEGRATION

Integrations with your current systems will greatly improve the capability and flexibility of your entrance management strategy.

#### **Examples include:**

- Importing inpatient population from your Electronic Health Record into the visitor management system.
- 2. Accessing **human resources software** for employee lists to set up department allocations of entry scanning lists.
- 3. Importing employee ID badge numbers for entry scanning.
- 4. Uploading **payroll daily attendance** to compare with employees who have been screened.



# EQUIPMENT

As you consider touchless processes for preventing the spread of infections, integrating all functionality into a single system, rather than using multiple systems, is a best practice.

Can your system be **adapted easily for future compliance**as requirements for healthcare
entry change?

Temperature screening is a relatively small part of the process; it's important to avoid diverting your resources into researching countless options. It's the software that will really make the difference, again insisting on a single integrated system.

TEMPERATURE SCREENING IS A RELATIVELY SMALL PART OF THE PROCESS. IT'S THE **SOFTWARE AND PROCESS DESIGN**THAT WILL REALLY MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.





# WELLNESS SCREENING

Temperature scans are only the beginning of wellness screening.

For efficiency, it is imperative that the temperature scanner measures only one person's temperature at a time and can take a photo of visitors without a government-issued ID when needed.

Health attestation records, changes in protocols, and notifications to secondary screening resources should occur automatically and in real time.

#### **STEP SEVEN**

# VISITOR MANAGEMENT

07

As you plan your visitor management system, **insist on best-in-class software** that performs a wide variety of functions in various situations and allow you to easily and effectively manage visitor volume within each department.



# The visitor management software should effectively perform the following functions:

Automate check-in for vendors & visitors

Variable visiting hours by room

Eliminate duplicate processes like vendor credentialing

Support emergency evacuation

Provide clear visual ID with time-expiring badges

Manage visitor volume by department

Simplify & customize vaccination status verification

Use banned entry list to keep designated people OUT of your facility

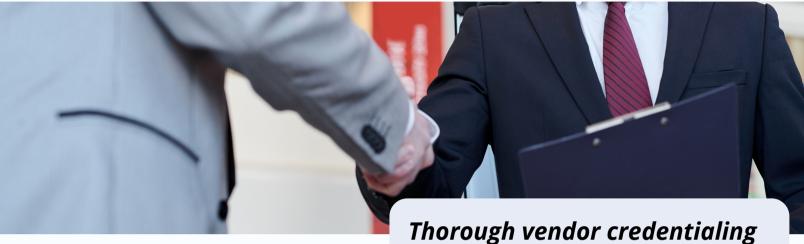
Allow publication of announcements to stations

Check-out via text message, QR Code or manually

Provide immediate visibility of visitor status facilitywide

Proven EHR integration capability





Vetting vendors coming into your facility is often a requirement for compliance & accreditation. Using **integrated vendor credentialing** creates a smoother, easier experience. It produces a frictionless experience by:

Allowing vendors to efficiently screen using a QR code

Eliminating need for separate vendor kiosks & duplicate processes

Decreasing the time spent screening

Including a surgical scheduling option to further save time & resources

Thorough vendor credentialing should include the following verifications:

- COVID-Vaccine Verification/Neg Test
- General Liability Insurance
- •Employer Drug Screen
- Criminal Background Check
- •MMR Vaccine if born after 1956
- Hepatitis B Booster or Declination form
- •Annual Influenza Vaccine or Declination Form
- Annual Tuberculosis Screening
- Varicella Vaccine
- Annual HIPAA Training
- Annual Bloodborne Pathogen Training
- Annual OR Protocol Training
- Product Competency Training
- •Vendor/Facility BAA or HIR Policy Agreement



VACCINATION VERIFICATION

The ability to "easily" sustain vaccination records on everyone entering buildings may be an operational requirement

#### Employees/ Providers

Robust automated vaccination verification efforts must record status by attestation and update in real time. If an employee is not vaccinated, it must give the option for both medical and religious exemptions.

#### **Visitors**

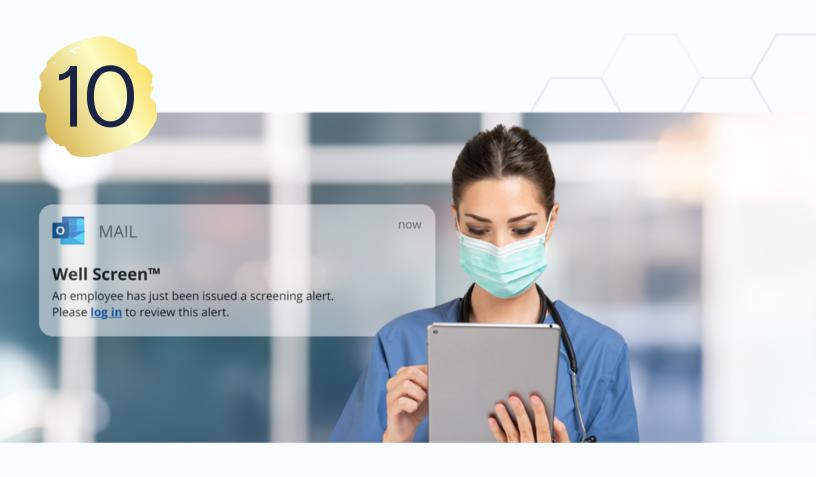
After an entrant attests to being vaccinated, the system should exclude the question from the attestation during future entries. Once their status is recorded as 'vaccinated', it's stored for subsequent visits.

#### **Vendors**

coronavirus COVID-19 Vaccine

For vendors, the system should deny entry if not vaccinated, per policy.

Once positive confirmation of vaccination is recorded, the question will not appear again for that vendor representative.



# NOTIFICATIONS

First and foremost, **notifications must be in real time**. Additionally, it is advised to consider the following scenarios in terms of notification communication:

#### EMPLOYEE FLAG-OUTS

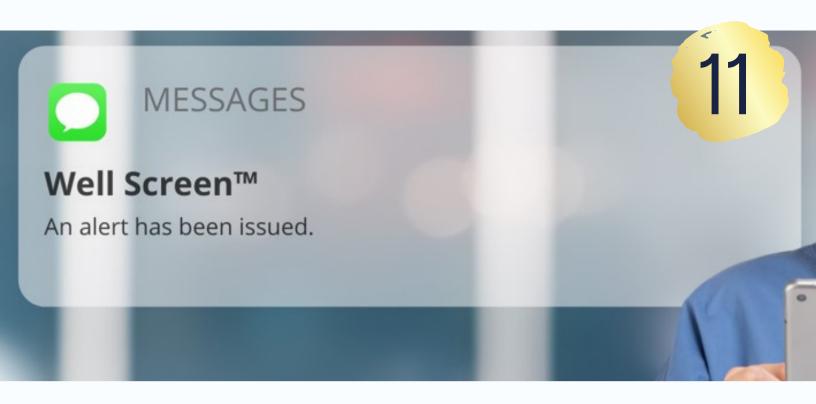
They must advise secondary screeners via text or email whenever an employee flags out.

#### PROCEDURE NOTIFICATIONS

When flagged-out, text instructions must be sent to employees and providers on how to proceed.

#### VISITOR TEXT NOTIFICATIONS

Similarly, visitors must also be sent text instructions when they are flagged out.

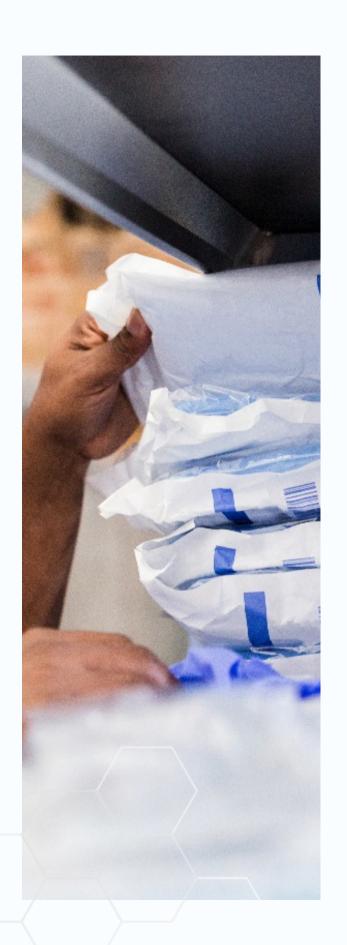


### EVACUATION MANAGEMENT

Safety & security of everyone inside the facility is paramount. This includes unforeseen incidents over which we have little control. In the event of an emergency – weather, fire, active shooter, etc. – staff can quickly produce a real-time list of everyone in the facility, including visitors, vendors and outpatients.



Mass text capabilities (to checked-in visitors) make evacuation and transmission of crucial information alerts fast and effective.



#### STEP TWELVE PPE

PPE tracking should involve essential tasks, such as issuing masks upon entry, allocating to employees by type and frequency, and recording PPE issues from any storage location.



## REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS



#### BENEFITS OF AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM

As noted under a strategy's ROI potential, an integrated system automatically meets many regulatory requirements. Regulators are likely to require you to produce an entry list, proof of screening, designated destination verification, and documentation of any follow-ups for those flagged out at an entrance. As a side effect, you will have a much improved emergency evacuation resource.

#### **USEFUL REPORTS**

#### **VOLUMES BY ENTRANCE**

See volumes by entrance and persona (employee, visitor, patient, vendor, student, etc.).

#### **VOLUMES BY HOUR**

See volumes by hour. Peaks in volume could identify "rush hours."

#### **TEMPERATURE**

See a distribution of temperatures of those entering your building. Dashboards must use pushtechnology. Reporting frequency must be variable by day, week, or month to meet your internal requirements. Also, it is necessary that dashboards allow unlimited users.





# REVIEW 8 FAQ

#### **OVERVIEW**

# 14 STEPS TO A SECURE ENTRANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

#### 1 SCOPE

Solve for **every group** who may enter your facility.

#### 2 ENTRANCES

Consider **minimum** entrances, **parking** locations, **employee-only** entrances.

#### 3 WORKFLOW

Integrate into **existing processes and systems**.

#### 4 INTEGRATION

Integrate **other data-collecting** interfaces.

#### 5 **EQUIPMENT**

Adopt a **single system** that tackles more than temperature screening.

#### **6** WELLNESS SCREENING

Select **screening instruments** to scan people individually, take realtime health attestations, automatically update regulations & push live notifications to other departments.

#### **VISITOR MANAGEMENT**

Invest in software that provides a **wide variety of functionalities** & has expiring visitor badge capability.

#### **2** VENDOR CREDENTIALING

Integrate the vendor vetting process into your screening tool for **one-stop** efficiency.

#### 9 VACCINATION VERIFICATION

Verify vaccination status of all entrant types per facility policy.

#### **10** NOTIFICATIONS

Insist on notifications with **real-time access** to employee flag-outs, procedure notifications, and visitor text instructions.

#### **EVACUATION MANAGEMENT**

Know who is checked into the building in real-time & have **mass texting** capabilities for alerts.

#### 12 PPE

**Track** mask issuance from any location, and allocate by type and frequency.

#### 13 REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

Have the ability to **produce entry info** by name and verification of destination for regulators.

#### **14** DASHBOARD & REPORTING

Take advantage of **push technology** in multiple frequencies (daily, weekly, monthly) as warranted.

## FAQs

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - ANSWERED

1 How long does it take to build a strategy?

Depending on your sense of urgency and resources available, it typically takes about 30 days. In that timeframe, you can move through the 14-step evaluation, build the strategy, receive approval, and get your deployment plans in place.

02 Who should be in charge of the entrance management strategy?

The answer to this will range from your Security Department to Nursing or Patient Experience. Ultimately, it all depends on the internal setup of your facility.

**3** Why isn't temperature scanning enough of a solution?

It's a component of your entrance management strategy, but it cannot be your exclusive strategy. Wellness attestation, visitor management, and the other 13 elements discussed must also come into play for a successful strategy.



#### START TAKING 14 STEPS NOW!

ENTRANCE MANAGEMENT DESIGN EXPERTS

If you would like help developing a system or strategy, please contact Well Screen today.

COMPLIMENTARY CONSULTATIONS:

(800) 705-3401

WELLSCREENUS.COM



Pioneering Safe Entry