

There are many benefits to engaging with your patients online. For example, fielding questions or confirming appointments through a patient portal means fewer phone calls for your practice; allowing patients to pay outstanding balances online leads to more timely collection of payment; enabling patients to sign forms online, before they come into your office, means a more efficient patient visit overall. Read about all the benefits of the patient portal in the the [Patient Communications Topic Page](#), on the Resource Hub.

In this task, we'll discuss what needs to be done so that your patients can interact with you online.

Website

Does your practice have a website?

Yes No

Website address (URL)

e.g. www.yourpractice.com

Patient Portal

athenahealth will provide your practice with a Patient Portal, where patients can log into a secure online account and view test results, request prescription refills, pay bills, email securely with your practice, and more.

You can make it easy for patients to find the Patient Portal in a couple different ways:

Option 1 - A link from your website

You can add a button or a link to the Patient Portal onto your website's homepage.

Your practice's portal link is **22163.portal.athenahealth.com** .

Option 2 - Domain forwarding

If your practice does not have a fully-developed website, and only owns a domain name, you can set up domain forwarding. This means that when patients type in your web address (e.g. www.yourpracticename.com), they will automatically be brought to the athenahealth patient portal sign-in page. The service through which you purchased your domain should have more information on setting up domain forwarding.