

Amalga FAQs

Amalga Access:

How do I access Amalga from home or outside of Novant Health facilities?

You would require Phone Factor or FOB to access Amalga from outside of Novant. Once you log in using Phone Factor or FOB, you can access Amalga from the Intranet via the link under "Physician Services".

Printing:

When I print my patient's Form, there are no printer options. How do I get this fixed?

Call the Support Center at 1-800-718-9000.

When I print my patient's Form, the wrong printer is selected. How do I find the printer I need?

The correct printer may be located in the drop down list of printers. If it is, select it to print. If it is not listed, call the Support Center at 1-800-718-9000.

How do I print my patient list in Amalga?

Click on the System button from the Home Page and select Print.

What information is pre-populated by Amalga into the Progress Note?

Current Date and Time in which the Form was printed, Patient Label, and pre-defined Lab Results most recently collected and resulted after Midnight. Length of Stay and Weight if it has been documented in Invision/Net Access after Midnight are populated on certain forms but not all.

The Home Window Grid and Patient Lists:

How do I remove, add, or move around columns from my patient list User View?

Click on the View Manager button. Select the user view you would like to modify and click the Edit button. On the right side box, the items listed from top to bottom reflect the column lay out from left to right. Select the column you wish to move and click the up or down arrow to move it to the desired location or click the Remove Field button to remove the column.

How do I add a patient to my patient list in Amalga?

You can only add patients to your list in Net Access at this time. You can find a patient that is not on your list by using the Find button or using a Nursing Unit Cohort search. See the User Guide for instructions on using Cohorts.

How do I see a Unit Census in Amalga?

The Cohort button allows you to view lists by Physician, Physician Group, or by Nursing Unit. See the User Guide for instructions on using Cohorts.

What does the Date/Time displayed in the Last Lab Dt Tm, Last Micro Dt Tm, etc. columns tell me?

The date/time displayed in the columns represent the date/time that a new result was received or updated in Amalga (not the date/time the lab or procedure was performed). If a previously resulted lab/micro value has been amended, the date/time in the appropriate column will reflect the date/time the amendment has been received.

Why doesn't the patient age, for some of my patients listed, calculate based on the DOB?

The patient age for any patient that is bedded is current however once the patient is discharged the age freezes on that specific visit encounter so that you can see the age of the patient during the time of visit.

How does an Amalga user display statistics for information in the patient grid?

If you use your mouse and 'right click' on the column HEADER, choose the selection "Stats". For example, if you click on the column header "Pt Status", it will give you stats on the number of Inpatients vs. Outpatients based on the list that is displayed in the grid.

Labs & Microbiology:

What timeframe is the default view for Labs?

Last 7 days of results will display. You have the option of viewing more or less by changing the "View Results From:" field located at the top right corner.

How do I graph more than just 7 days of lab results?

Choose the desired time frame option from the “View Results From:” field located at the top right corner. You can choose to graph results from Today, 24hrs ago, 72hrs ago, All Visits, Selected Visit, or a Custom Date Range.

How does an Amalga user display only Chemistry labs resulted within the past 24 hours for a patient?

Choose the “Since 24 hours ago” option from the “View Results From:” field located at the top right corner. Click on the Filter button directly below the “View Results From” field. Here you can uncheck All and select only the Chemistry category. You can further filter to display only certain results within the Chemistry category by clicking the arrow in front of Chemistry and it will expand the chemistry category to show you all tests within the category. This filter only applies to the current session. Once you leave that patient’s record, the screen will return to the ALL category display the next time you access any Labs.

How do I display a trend of WBC results for a patient for all visits?

Click on the WBC box (not the result but the WBC category listed in the far left column), this places a check mark in the box to the left of WBC. Then click the Trend button. A trend of all WBC results will display in the bottom “DETAILS” window.

Reports:

How does a user increase or decrease the font size of a report display?

Click on the +magnifying glass icon to increase the font size or click on the –magnifying glass icon to decrease the font size.

What does the T-System provide to Amalga?

The physician and nurses notes that are created in T-System are available in Amalga.

Does a link to McKesson reveal only the image(s) associated with the selected report?

Once you have accessed McKesson viewer you will have the ability to view all reports and images that are currently in McKesson.

Patient Data:

How far back does Amalga contain patient data?

Amalga has patient data beginning January 1, 2010.

What Novant facilities are included in Amalga?

The initial phase of Amalga includes all acute care facilities that use Invision/Net Access today (FMC, MPH, TMC, PHC, PHH, PHM, POH, BCH).

Does Amalga contain physician practice office data?

Not at this time. There are future plans for having that data available in Amalga.

Does Amalga have access to MedQuest images?

Not at this time. However, McKesson Viewer Images are available in Amalga.

When Invision is experiencing an outage how is patient data handled by Amalga?

If the system in which the data is coming from is still operational the data will continue to be available and up to date in Amalga (example: lab results, transcriptions, ED Reports would still be available in Amalga during the Invision outage). Also during the outage, Amalga will still display data that was sent from Invision/Net Access PRIOR to the outage. Once Invision/Net Access is again operational, any updated data will also be available in Amalga.

What do the numbers in parenthesis on the Tabs represent... ie. Labs (156)?

The number represents how many items are available in the tab category. For example, if there are two Progress Notes, then the tab will display as: Progress Notes (2).

What is the minimum age for which BMI is calculated and displayed in Amalga?

Any patient that is 2yo or older will automatically have the BMI calculated once the height and weight is entered into Invision/Net Access.

What causes a new row to be added to a patient's census history?

Any change to the patient location or status creates a new row. For example, there will be individual rows in census history for each of the following: 1) Patient is seen in the Emergency Dept, 2) is then admitted as an Observation patient to a Unit, 3) changes from an Observation status to an Inpatient status, and then 4) transfers to another unit.

Note: A change in Care Provider relationship does not affect census history.

What does it mean when I see “Merged” in my patient banner?

A patient merge is needed when there are duplicate patient records. For example, a patient admitted as a trauma patient with a trauma number is identified as a previous patient within the Novant Healthcare system. All the information that was entered into the trauma patient record must be combined or merged with the already existing patient record.

Will I be able to view allergies for a patient regardless of which Novant facility the patient was visiting?

Yes. You can see all patients’ Allergies, Lab/Micro results, Radiology reports, Alerts, Transcriptions, Pathology reports, ED reports, Care Providers, and Census History from all visits.

Amalga and Invision/Net Access:

Is Amalga replacing Invision/Net Access?

Amalga is not replacing any system including Invision/Net Access. Amalga is another option for care givers to quickly and easily view current and historical patient data in one location and has the additional benefits of providing a pre-populated progress note form.

What are the differences between Amalga and Net Access?

Invision/Net Access is an input system in which documentation and patient data is entered in to, whereas, Amalga is a viewing system in which provides the ability to see data from different systems and different facilities in one place. Amalga provides a pre-populated progress note form and also provides the ability to graph and trend lab results. Once rolled out to all Novant Health facilities, Amalga will provide easy access to comprehensive, longitudinal patient data at any location within Novant Health.