

MICROSOFT ENTRA

QUICK WINS for healthcare



What is Microsoft Entra?

Microsoft Entra (formerly Azure Active Directory) is Microsoft's cloud-based Identity and Access Management (IAM) service — and for hospitals, clinics, and care providers, it is the backbone of secure, compliant digital healthcare.



For healthcare organizations, it enables:

- Secure workforce access → one login for doctors, nurses, staff, and suppliers across Microsoft 365, EMR/EHR systems, and medical applications.
- Stronger authentication → MFA, passwordless, smartcards, and biometrics that work even in high-pressure clinical environments.
- Smarter access control → Conditional Access policies tuned for on-site, remote, and shared-device access.
- Governance and compliance → visibility into privileged accounts, supplier access, and audit logs aligned to GDPR, NIS2, and national health standards.

Why it matters for EU healthcare:

- Patient data confidentiality is mandated under GDPR.
- NIS2 imposes stricter requirements on digital health operators.
- National standards like ISO 27001/27701 demand verifiable access controls.
- Healthcare faces high turnover and heavy reliance on contractors and suppliers, creating identity blind spots.
- Ransomware & credential theft are among the top attack vectors in the sector.

In short – Microsoft Entra is the gatekeeper for digital care.

Get it right, and you protect patients, staff, and services.

Get it wrong, and the risks are downtime, breaches, and loss of public trust.

The good news? You can discover the weak spots yourself. Keep on reading...

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We identified a few different levels in implementation difficulty, level 1 are quick wins you can tackle yourself, from level 2 and beyond we suggest contacting a professional...

Level 1: Quick wins you can check today

MFA Baseline

- Where to look: Entra → Security → Authentication methods → Policies
- What to check: Are all users (staff, clinicians, suppliers, and contractors) covered by MFA?
- Action: Still see “per user MFA”? → Replace with centralized policies.

Conditional Access Basics

- Where to look: Entra → Security → Conditional Access → Policies
- What to check: Do you enforce:
 - Block legacy authentication?
 - Require MFA for risky sign-ins?
 - Baseline admin-role protections?
- Action: Adapt policies for shared workstations and on-call scenarios.

Supplier & contractor Access Review

- Where to look: Entra → Users → External users
- What to check: Dormant supplier or contractor accounts with excessive privileges?
- Action: Disable or review with sponsoring department.

Privileged Role Assignments

- Where to look: Entra → Roles & administrators
- What to check: Are admins permanently assigned, or using PIM (Privileged Identity Management)?
- Action: Apply PIM for IT and biomedical staff managing critical systems.

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Level 2 & beyond: Where you'll need expert help

If you spotted gaps above, you're not alone. EU healthcare IT also needs to:

- Implement phishing-resistant authentication (smartcards, passkeys, eIDs) for EMR/EHR systems.
- Apply risk-based Conditional Access that accounts for clinical urgency.
- Automate onboarding/offboarding for rotating staff, residents, and contractors.
- Secure medical device & third-party supplier integrations connected to Entra.
- Monitor & report access to meet GDPR, NIS2, and other standards.
- Ensure 24/7 continuity with safe break-glass account practices.



These aren't "checklist fixes", they require careful design, licensing strategy, and healthcare-specific governance

ACEN helps **healthcare providers** move from "we enabled MFA" to a fully governed, risk-based Microsoft Entra posture.

We secure access without slowing down your business. Make an appointment today for a one-on-one conversation and some free advice you can use immediately.

Sit down with our experts for a focused walkthrough of Entra.

In a 30-minute, one-on-one session, we will show you a current real-life setup, show key Entra capabilities and discuss quick wins for security and compliance.

[Book a demo now](#)

→ www.acen.eu/en/microsoft-entra-demo

