

Oct. 2019

## Direct Texting

### Service & Cost

PowerSoftMD's Schedule has an easy-to-use interface to the Twilio SMS texting service. As of Oct. 2019, there is a \$2/month fee plus  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a cent per text message up to 140 characters. This means you could send

**1000 text messages per month for \$9.50\***. This is a measured service so you only pay for what you use.



### Detailed Cost Estimate

You can easily estimate your monthly fee as follows:

- 1) Open the Schedule, select the top "Print" option then select "Count of Scheduled Patients"
- 2) Set the *date range for 1 month*
- 3) *Run the report for each Schedule you use (1, 2, 3, etc.)*  
The bottom of the report will show the *Total Appointments* for the month
- 4) Add up the number of appointments for *all the schedules* you use for one month
- 5) Multiply the *total number* of appointments by *.0075* then add the *\$2*.  
For example: 897 text messages would cost  $(.0075 \times 897) + 2 = \$8.73$

**Note:** Text messages are charged  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a cent fee per each 140 characters.  
Therefore, Long Text message will cost more.

### Setup

- 1) *Schedule about 20 to 30 minutes* with **Data Tec** to help you set up your Twilio interface
- 2) *Fill in the Cell Phone* on the Patient's General screen for patients you want to text
- 3) If a patient **doesn't** want to receive text messages place the **tilde "˜"** character in the  
Phone number single digit prefix field of their Cell phone

Cell	<input type="text" value="˜"/>	<input type="text" value="713"/>	<input type="text" value="999"/>	<input type="text" value="2222"/>
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### Run the Texting Feature

- 1) From the Schedule select the top "Tools" Option, then select "Text Appt Notices"
- 2) Set the Date you want to send text messages for, typically tomorrow's date
- 3) Select Schedule "00" to automatically use all schedules
- 4) Select all the *schedule columns* you want to consider (typically all of them)
- 5) Click the red "Get List" button, un-check any patient's you don't want to text
- 6) Click the green "Text" button

\* Some carriers like Version, US Cellar, AT&T, and T-Mobile might add additional charges.