Medical information management system (MIMS) is a database management system that provides the capabilities for doctors, nurses, laboratory testers and management personnel to access patient records and provide services. MIMS interacts with other ancillary computers in the network system across the nation. Links are provided to existing computer systems, such as those used by the pharmacy, laboratory, and radiology departments. The medical staff communicates electronically with these systems from MIMS and views appropriate actions taken on their behalf. For example, prescriptions generated in MIMS are instantly time-stamped and routed to the pharmacy computer system for dispensing. When the order is processed, the pharmacy computer system routes the information back to MIMS and the patient's electronic chart is updated. In this manner, MIMS provides seamless communication between health care providers and ancillary service areas across the network system.