



Solution Brief

# The Silk Platform and Healthcare Databases on the Cloud



## Why Silk for Healthcare

- **10x Faster Performance** and Sub-Millisecond Latency – Run your largest and most complex workloads at speeds that are on par or faster than on-prem.
- **Flexible Scalability**  
– Quickly scale up to meet high performance demands, then quickly scale back down when the task is over to keep costs in check.
- **Easier Disaster Recovery**  
– Quickly copy data without expanding your data footprint and easily lift and shift it to your DR site. And, in case you need to failover, quickly enable your DR into production.

Cloud computing offers the healthcare industry – including hospitals, providers, pharmacies, and clinics – many benefits: It helps decrease IT infrastructure costs, provides more sophisticated security, enables easier Disaster Recovery, it allows providers to build a better patient experience, and helps seamlessly implement automated HIPAA controls when running on HIPAA-compliant clouds. Not only that, but it makes it possible to take advantage of great new telehealth capabilities that allow patients to get treatment from home.

But getting to the cloud has its own challenges – especially if you're trying to move larger, more complex workloads such as Electronic Health Records (EHR). The hyperscalers put throttles on the speeds at which workloads can reach. For major workloads like EHR or databases including Oracle and SQL Server, these throttles keep customers from achieving the high level of performance their EHR workloads need.

## Silk for EHR and Other Healthcare Workloads

But this doesn't mean that cloud-based EHR has to be a pipe dream. By implementing Silk on top of your cloud infrastructure, you get up to 10x faster performance than you can achieve through native cloud alone – even for the most complex and largest workloads.

Silk, which was recently validated by Epic, offers enterprise data services – such as real-time data reduction, thin-provisioning, zero-footprint clones, deduplication, and data replication. These data services are not available natively on the cloud but are critical to keeping cloud resources from ballooning out of control. And with automatic resource optimization, Silk users don't need to tune their cloud resources to make sure they are getting the most out of their cloud.

## 10x Faster Performance and Sub-Millisecond Latency

In healthcare, any delay in getting information can be catastrophic. On top of that, in order to take advantage of exciting new technologies such as telemedicine, providers are generating more data than ever that needs to be quickly made sense of. With Silk, you never need to worry about whether your most complex workloads can handle your performance needs. Silk offers up to 10x faster performance compared to native cloud alone, as well as sub-millisecond latency. So you can continue to provide top-notch care to patients.

## Flexible Scalability

As you expand your services and accessibility, you will need to better meet fluctuating demands on your database and EHR system. Massive reporting tasks, such as crunching the numbers for population health, require more performance than usual. However, paying for additional resources year-round can seriously affect your cloud budget. Silk architects for the average and makes it possible to scale your cloud resources on-demand to meet peak workloads and then quickly scale back down to avoid unnecessary costs.

## Easier Disaster Recovery

It's important to have a back-up plan in case of disaster. Silk enables quick and easy Disaster Recovery (DR) by allowing you to make instantaneous zero-footprint clones that won't balloon your used cloud resources. And with Silk's easy data migration capabilities, you can lift and shift data from production to DR (or from DR to production in case of failover).



### Sentara Healthcare's Silk Story

Sentara Healthcare is a not-for-profit healthcare organization serving Virginia and northeastern North Carolina. Its team decided that it was time to move its Epic EHR workloads to the Microsoft Azure cloud. However, it wasn't able to get the performance that its workloads demanded natively. On top of that, it was projected that its currently cloud spend would grow 10% YOY, bloating its OPEX expenditure.

With Silk, Sentara was able to achieve 3x faster performance. And through 2:1 data compression, the team was able to reduce its cloud resources, cutting its costs up to 20%. Silk's enterprise data services, including its zero-footprint clones, made it possible for Sentara to take as many copies of data as needed, without going over budget. And with Silk's ability to simply lift and shift data into DR included standard, Sentara was able to increase its savings even further.

**Matt Douglass, Chief Architect at Sentara:** *"The performance with Silk on Azure could not be met by any other cloud solution for our most intense workloads, including our EHR. Silk and Azure are a powerful combination for complex workloads on the cloud."*

## Ready to start getting the performance your healthcare workloads need on the cloud?

Visit <https://silk.us/solutions/healthcare/> to see how Silk can give you the speed you need.

### About Silk

Silk is the leading platform to quickly move mission-critical data to the cloud and to keep it operating at performance standards on par with even the fastest on-prem environments. Silk works with global enterprise companies and cloud providers to ensure a seamless, efficient, and smooth migration process, followed by unparalleled performance speeds for all data and applications in the cloud.

The platform makes cloud environments run 10x faster and the entire application stack is more resilient to any infrastructure hiccups or malfunctions. Silk has offices in Israel and is headquartered in Needham, MA. For more information, visit <https://silk.us/>.