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# Using Mobile Tools to Improve Pharmacy Productivity

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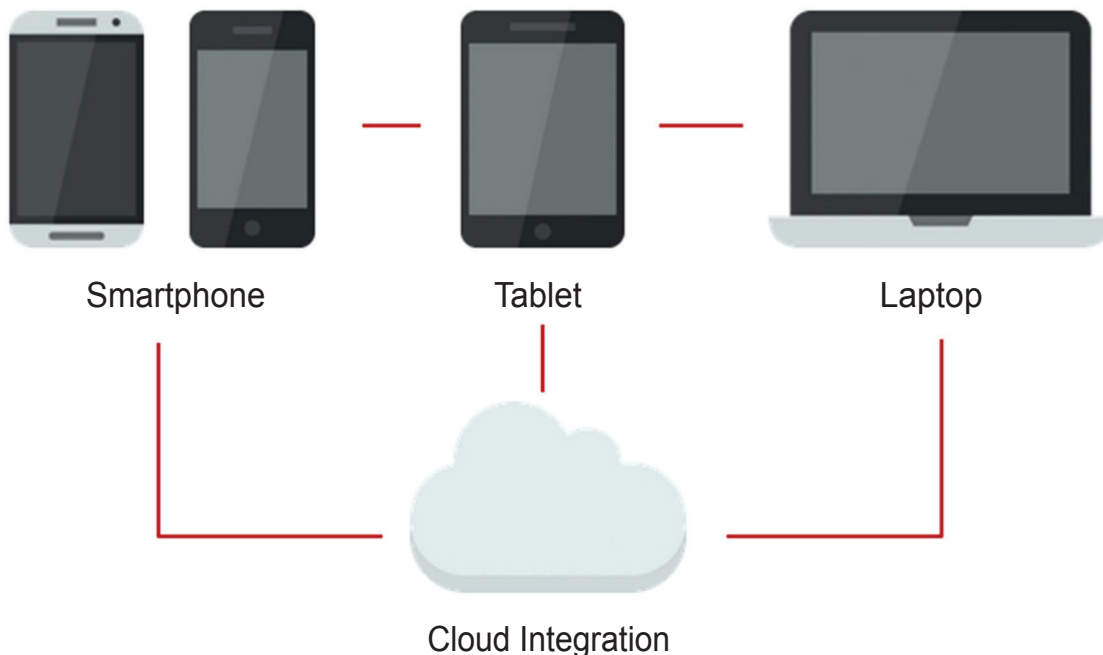
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### 1 INTRODUCTION TO MOBILE DEVICES AND MOBILE APPLICATIONS

Mobile smart devices, such as smartphones and tablet computers, offer an unprecedented way to engage in daily activities that have traditionally been tethered to hardwired computers and workstations. A world of mobility offers a more pragmatic way of engaging in a user's workflow and increases access to timely information on the go, which is all possible due to the widespread adoption of wireless Internet services accessible from mobile devices and integration with online storage (e.g., cloud-based services, see **Figure 1-1**). This chapter introduces the growing rise of mobile devices and services in society in the past decade and discusses key terminology and hardware for the nascent mobile adopter and its benefits in pharmacy practice.

#### *Background on the Rise of Mobile Technology*

Within the past decade, the rise of the use of smartphone and tablet computers has forever changed the way people work and interact. As of 2015, 68% of U.S. adults own a smartphone, which is nearly double the ownership in 2011 (35%).<sup>1</sup> Likewise, the growth of tablet computer ownership has also increased from 3% in 2010 to nearly 45%. Meanwhile, the ownership of a desktop or laptop computer has remained between



**Figure 1-1. Mobile Device Integration**