

Xphile Quick Guide

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Welcome to Xphile.

Xphile is a radiology library application for storing clinical cases. Save images, case information and organise them with tags.

Table of Contents

- **Initial Setup**

- Database and Media Storage

- **General Usage**

- Creating Cases

- Editing Case Details

- Opening the Media Window

- History

- **Importing and Exporting**

- Importing Images and Movies

- Migrating Existing Libraries

- Importing Folder Hierarchies

- Exporting Media

- Backup and Restore

- **Searching and Filtering**

- Search Field

- Tags and Tag Filtering

- Advanced Find

- **Media Window**

- Browsing Media

- Editing Media

- Annotating Images

- Teaching Mode

- **Links and Cross-References**

- Automatic Links

- Linking and Merging Cases

- Xpapers Integration

- **Utilities**

- Sync Media

Initial Setup

| Database and Media Storage

On macOS, Xphile stores its database and media files in the Xph i l e folder in your home folder.

The database is synchronised via iCloud. This can be disabled in settings to keep your data on one device.

You can synchronise media files either manually and intermittently via the app, or automatically using third party software such as [Dropbox](#)[™] or [SyncThing](#).

General Usage

| Creating Cases

Use the **Add** button to create a new empty case. You can also drag image or movie files onto the case list. Dropping onto an existing case adds media to that case.

| Editing Case Details

Select a single case to edit it in the detail pane. The main fields available for a case are:

- Identifier
- Date of Birth
- Date of Diagnosis
- Summary
- Detail
- Tags

The detail text is also used to detect web links, other patient identifiers, and Xpapers links.

| Opening the Media Window

Double-click a case to open its media window. You can also select a case and open the media browser from the interface.

| History

Xphile keeps a history of recently opened cases in the **File | History** menu so you can jump back to a previous case quickly.

Importing and Exporting

| Importing Images and Movies

Xphile supports common image types including **JPEG**, **PNG**, **GIF**, and **TIFF**, plus movie files.

You can import media in several ways:

- Drag files onto a case in the library.
- Open the media window and use **Import Media**.
- Drag files directly into the media browser.

Holding the **option** key while importing into a case causes the original files to be deleted after import.

| Migrating Existing Libraries

Xphile can import older Xphile version 1 libraries. If an older library is detected, Xphile offers an import workflow so you can choose which legacy libraries to bring in.

| Importing Folder Hierarchies

Xphile includes a folder import command for bringing in an existing hierarchy of case folders. It walks subfolders, creates cases, imports matching media files, and turns enclosing folder names into tags.

This is intended for structured legacy collections rather than day-to-day importing.

| Exporting Media

Select one or more cases and export their media to a chosen folder. Xphile creates a folder structure using patient identifier and diagnosis date where possible.

| Backup and Restore

Use the backup command to export the case database as JSON, and use restore to import that JSON again later.

Important: the JSON backup stores case metadata, tags, and references to media items, but it does **not** embed the actual image or movie files themselves. To preserve a complete library, back up the database and the Media folder together.

Searching and Filtering

| Search Field

The toolbar search field supports these scopes:

- **All**
- **Summary**
- **Patient Identifier**

When you limit the search scope, the search field changes appearance to show that you are not searching across all fields.

Use **Find** to move keyboard focus to the search field. Use **Reset** to clear both the search text and active tag filters.

| Tags and Tag Filtering

Tags appear in the tag list beside the case list. You can:

- Add tags in the token field of the detail pane
- Accept tag suggestions as you type
- Double-click a tag to toggle it as an active filter
- Drag cases onto a tag to apply that tag
- Filter tags to match the current case selection
- Rename or delete tags from its contextual menu
- Delete unused tags in bulk

Active tags filter the case list. The visible tag list also updates to show which remaining tags still have matching cases, making progressive narrowing easy.

| Advanced Find

Advanced Find lets you build multiple rules and combine them with **all** or **any** matching logic.

Available fields include:

- Summary
- Detail
- Patient ID
- Date Added
- Date Modified
- Date of Birth
- Date of Diagnosis
- Sex
- Has Media
- Has Tags
- Tag

Depending on the field, you can search with operators such as **contains**, **is**, **is before**, **is after**, **is empty**, **is true**, or **contains tag**.

Double-click a result to reveal that case in the main library window.

Media Window

| Browsing Media

The media window shows a browser on the left and the selected image or movie on the right.

You can:

- Move through images with the arrow keys.
- Use ⌘← and ⌘→ to move to the previous or next case.
- Press **R** to jump to a random case that has media.
- Press **return** to show or hide the description overlay.
- Press **space** to toggle between fitted and full-size image display.
- Hide the browser or enter full screen for presentation.

| Editing Media

Within the media browser you can:

- Reorder media by dragging them.
- Duplicate media.
- Delete media entries.
- Delete the underlying file from disk.
- Reveal selected media in Finder.

For still images, Xphile also supports cropping the current selection rectangle. Cropping registers undo so changes can be reversed.

| Annotating Images

You can open an image in the built-in annotation window and add marks using Xphile's annotation tools. Saving writes the edited image back to the library file and registers undo support.

Xphile can also open the current image in **Preview** after creating a temporary backup so the edit can be undone later.

| Teaching Mode

Teaching Mode is designed for presenting cases. When enabled, Xphile:

- Collapses the detail pane in the library.
- Hides the **Date Added** column.
- Suspends automatic saves while teaching mode is active.
- Opens the media window into full screen automatically.

Turning Teaching Mode off returns the library to normal curating behavior.

Links and Cross-References

| Automatic Links

The **Links** pane is built automatically from the selected case.

It can show:

- A link to all cases with the same patient identifier.
- Recognised patient identifiers mentioned in the summary or detail.
- Standard web URLs.
- Xpapers links found in the detail text.

Clicking a patient-identifier link searches the library for matching cases. Clicking a web or Xpapers link opens it with the system.

| Linking and Merging Cases

Drag one case onto another to open a contextual menu with these options:

- Link Cases
- Merge Tags
- Merge Images
- Merge All

These commands let you create reciprocal links or copy tags, media, and descriptions from one case to another.

| Xpapers Integration

Xphile recognises Xpapers DOI drags. If you drag DOI content from Xpapers onto a case in Xphile, the DOI text is appended to that case's detail field.

Xphile also displays Xpapers URLs found in case text as clickable links in the Links pane.

Utilities

| Sync Media

Xphile includes a **Sync Media** window based on peer-to-peer transfer. This is intended for transferring missing media between libraries on nearby devices.