

# Canada's e-health Journey

Presented by  
Dennis Giokas  
Chief Technology Officer



# Canadian Context

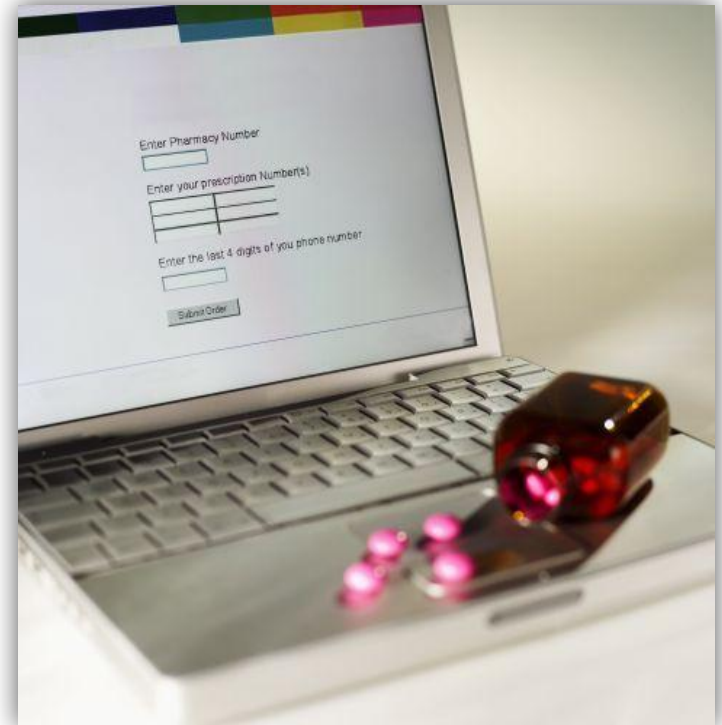


## Governance of Canada's health care: a shared accountability

- Federal government sets and administers national principles
- 13 provincial/territorial governments plan, finance, manage, evaluate health services in their own jurisdictions
- 100+ health regions coordinate care delivery over a set geographical area
- 700+ hospitals and 2,500+ long-term-care homes
- Approximately 400,000 general practitioners, specialists, nurses, pharmacists and health care professionals deliver care to Canadian patients

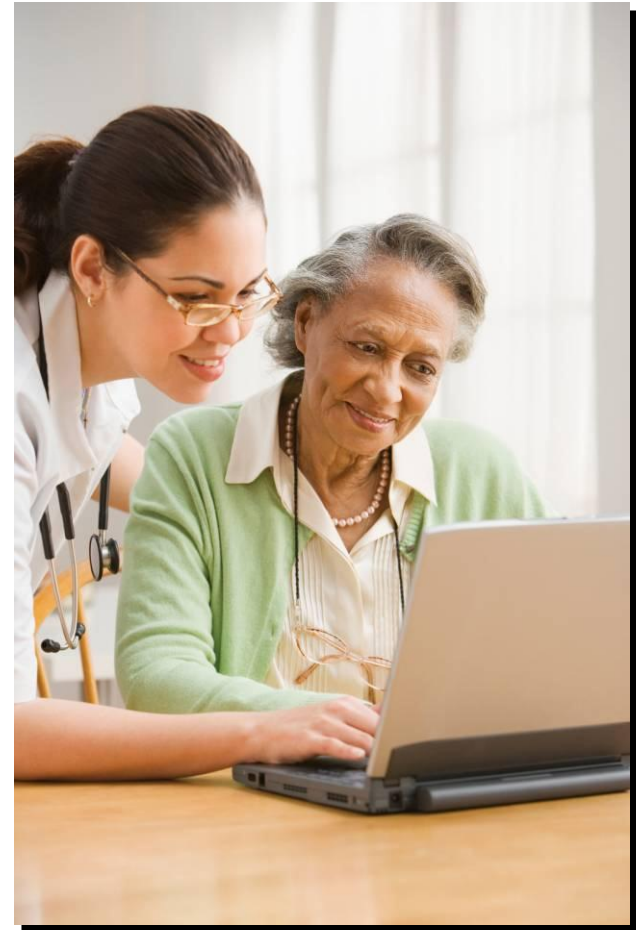
# Health care in Canada

- Forecast cost of \$200.6 billion in 2011 and \$207.4 billion in 2012
  - Annual increases of 3.9% and 3.4%, respectively
- 60% of cost for hospitals, drugs and physicians
- 70:30 public vs. private funding



# Health care pressures

- Aging population
- Rising incidence of chronic disease
- Wait times
- Health care spending
- Political debate over private role in health care delivery
- Health system sustainability
- Modernization
- Meeting expectations



# The need for EHR

For every **1,000**...

...in Canada

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • hospital admissions                            | • <b>75</b> people will suffer an adverse drug event  |
| • patients with an ambulatory encounter          | • <b>20</b> people will suffer a serious drug event   |
| • patients discharged from hospital              | • <b>90</b> people will suffer a serious adverse drug event   |
| • laboratory tests performed                     | • <b>up to 150</b> will be unnecessary (range 50-150)   |
| • emergency department visits                    | • <b>320</b> patients have an information gap identified, resulting in an average increased stay of 1.2 hours |
| • Canadians recommended for influenza protection | • <b>370-430</b> are not vaccinated   |

# Our Approach





# Canada Health Infoway

- Created in 2001
- \$2.1 billion in federal funding
- Independent, not-for-profit corporation
- Accountable to 14 federal/provincial/territorial governments

## **Mission:**

Fostering and accelerating the development and adoption of electronic health information systems with compatible standards and communications technologies on a pan-Canadian basis with tangible benefits to Canadians. *Infoway* will build on existing initiatives and pursue collaborative relationships in pursuit of its mission.



## *Infoway's vision*

**Healthier Canadians through innovative e-health solutions**



## *Infoway* business strategies

- Collaborate with health ministries and other partners
- Co-invest with public sector partners (75:25 formula)
- Leveraged investment
- Engage clinicians
- Form strategic alliances with the private sector
- Manage risk and ensure quality solutions
- Measure benefits and adjust
- Strategic investor
- Privacy safeguards



# Engagement approach

## Partnership built on collaboration

- **Shared governance** – represented by the federal, provincial and territorial governments
- **Pan-Canadian approach** – a common national direction, leveraging investments and replicating solutions but with local flexibility
- **Collaboration** – working together with jurisdictions to plan and implement a pan-Canadian health infostructure
- **Sharing of cost and risk** – co-investing with jurisdictions in the successful modernization of health information technology across Canada
- **Benefits driven** – clearly demonstrating what was achieved for the investment

A collaboration model built on strong relationships, continual communication and a premise of win-win, lose-lose

# Approach – Investment model



A strategic investor model that ensures an accountable e-health spend

# Approach – Investment model

\$2.09B in approved projects to date; 384 active or completed projects

**Common  
Blueprint &  
Standards**

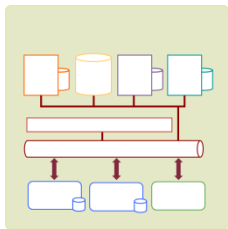
**Twelve  
investment  
programs**

**Program  
criteria**

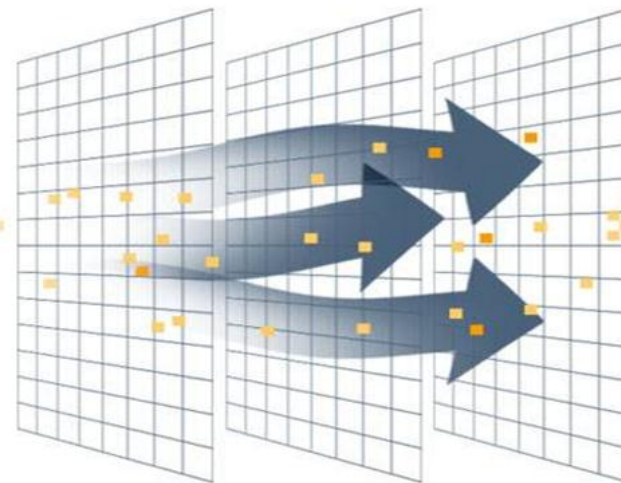
**Program  
eligible  
costs**

**Project  
sizing and  
estimation**

**Approved  
projects for  
investment**



1. Registries
2. Diagnostic Imaging Systems
3. Drug Information Systems
4. Laboratory Information Systems
5. Interoperable EHR
6. Telehealth
7. Public Health Surveillance
8. Patient Access to Quality Care
9. Innovation and Adoption
10. Infostructure
11. EMR and Integration
12. Consumer Health Solutions



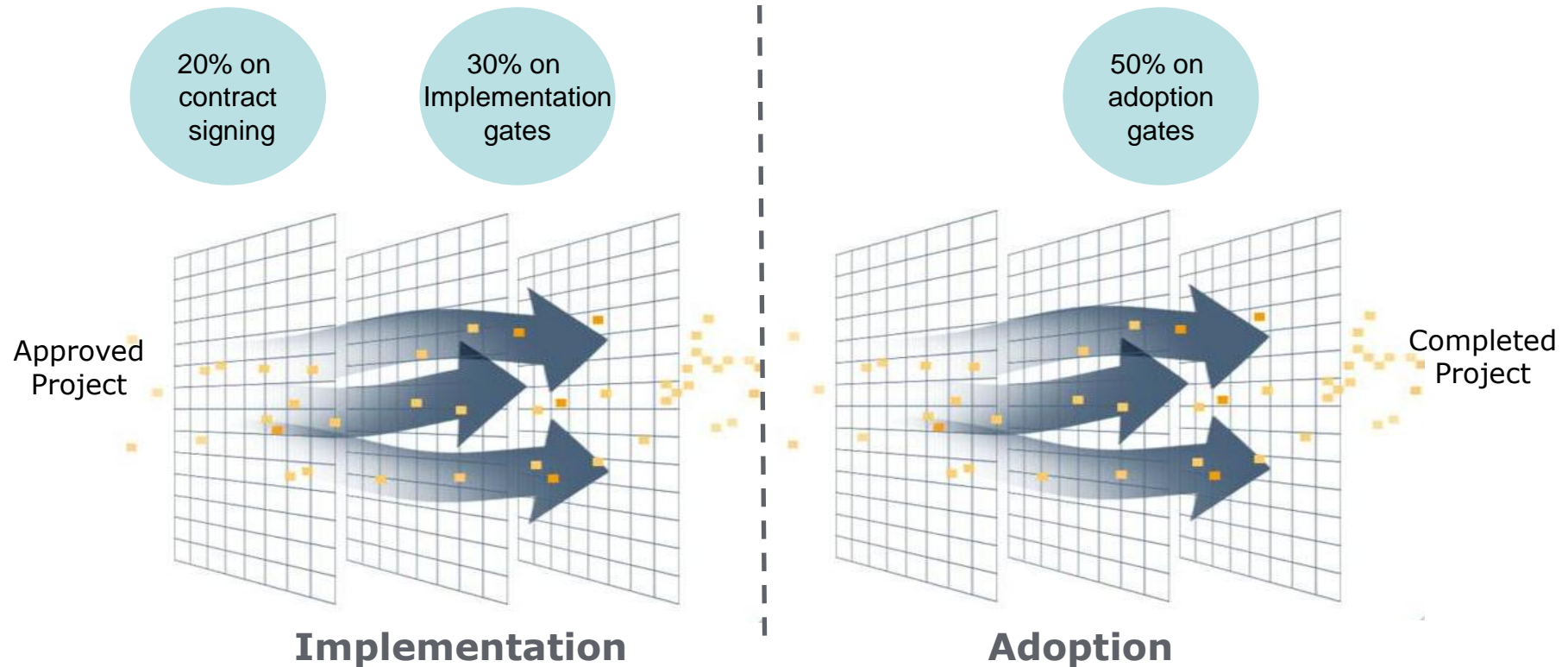
**Solution  
deployment  
projects in each  
jurisdiction**



## Approach – Investment model

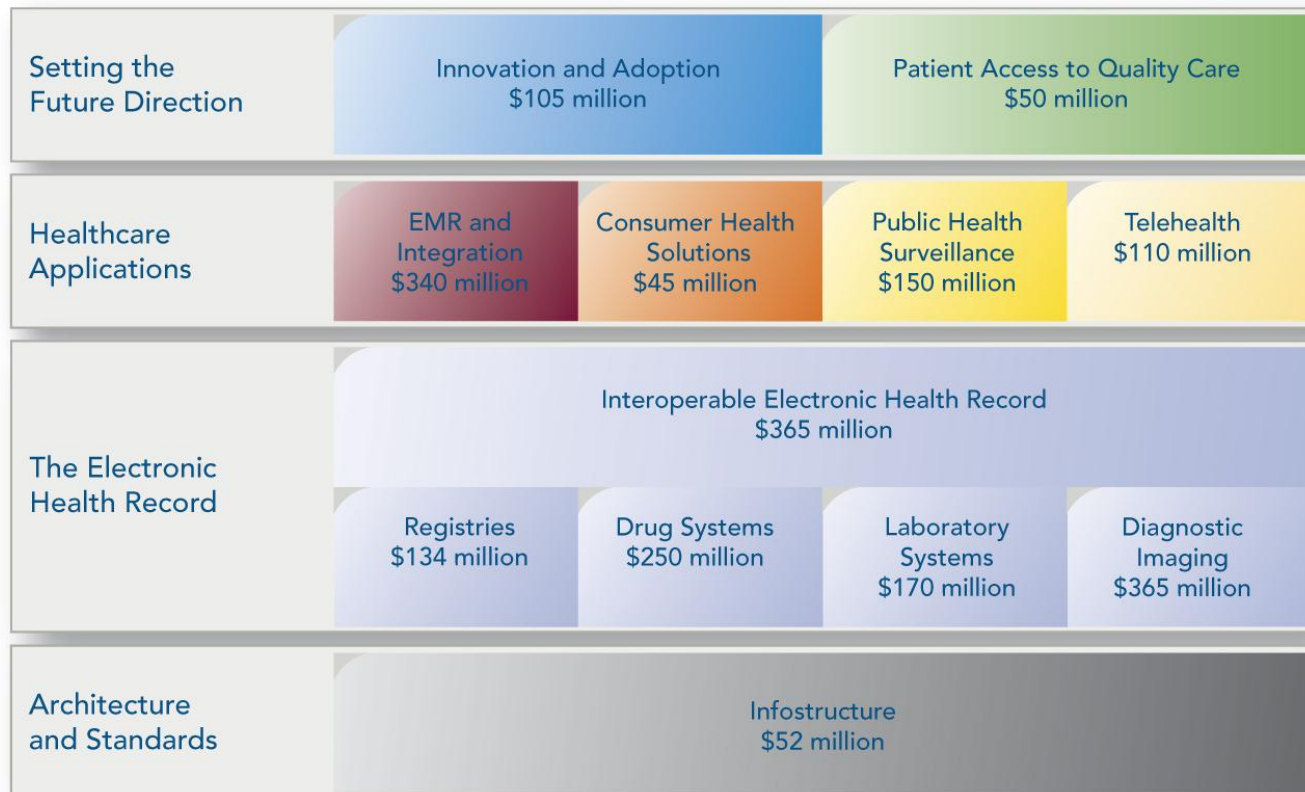
*Infoway* co-invests with jurisdictions at 75:25 of eligible project capital costs. Jurisdictions pay for the operating costs

Gated Funding and 50% of the investment for system adoption raised the accountability bar



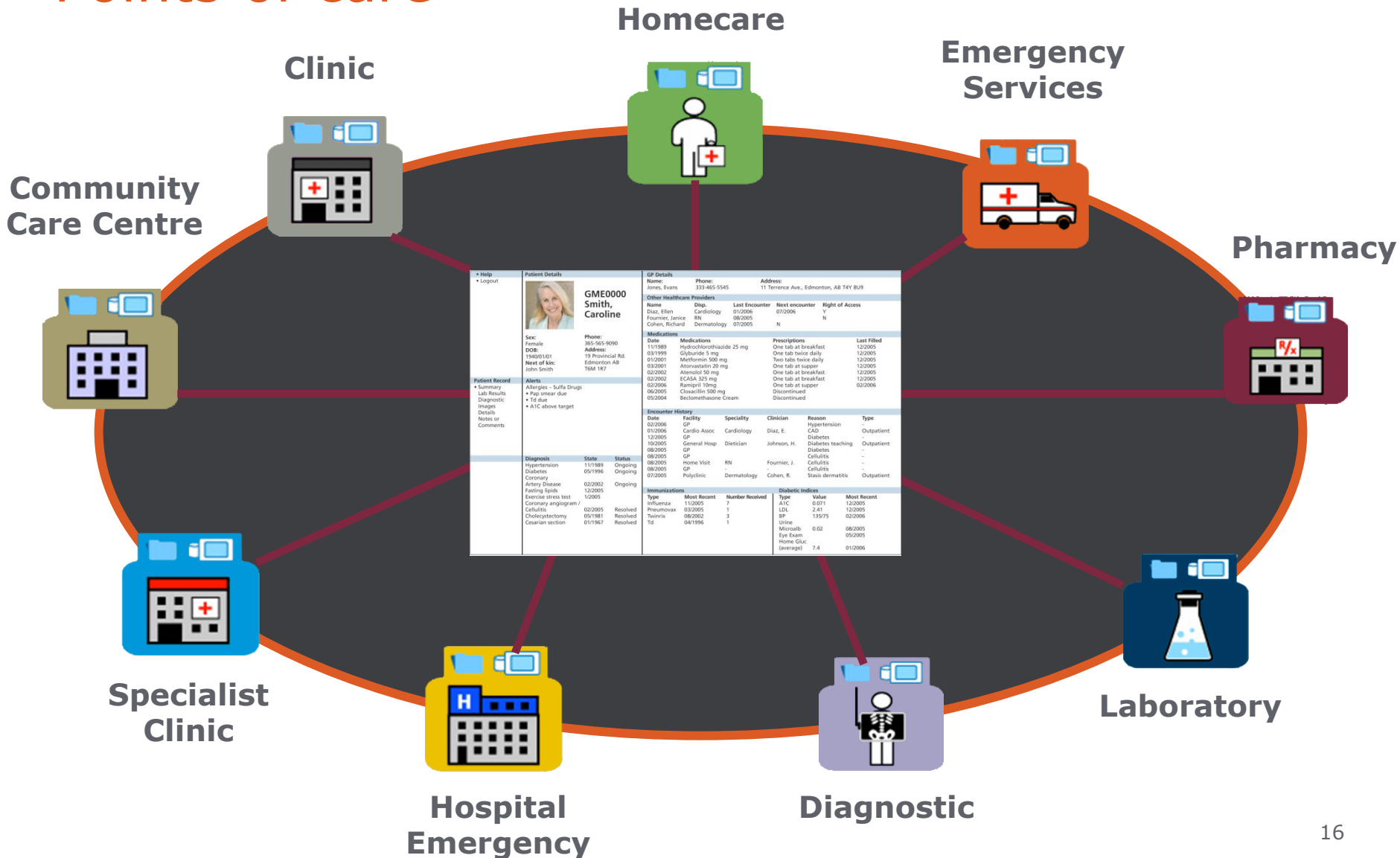
# Investment approach

12 targeted investment programs totalling more than \$2.1 billion





# Points of care



# One patient, one record

Results and images

Patient information

Medical alerts

**• Help**  
**• Logout**

**• Patient Record**  
• Summary  
• Lab Results  
• Diagnostic Images  
• Details  
• Notes or Comments

**Personal Details**

**GME0000 Smith, Caroline**

Sex: Female  
DOB: 1940/01/01  
Next of kin: John Smith

Phone: 365-565-9090  
Address: 19 Provincial Rd. Edmonton AB T6M 1R7

**Alerts**

- Allergies – Sulfa Drugs
- Pap smear due
- Td due
- A1C above target

**Diagnosis**

Diagnosis	Date	Status
Hypertension	11/1989	Ongoing
Diabetes	05/1996	Ongoing
Coronary Artery Disease	02/2002	Ongoing
Fasting lipids	12/2005	
Exercise stress test	1/2005	
Coronary angiogram / Cellulitis	02/2005	Resolved
Cholecystectomy	05/1981	Resolved
Cesarian section	01/1967	Resolved

**GP Details**

Name: N. Evans, Evans Phone: 333-465-5545 Address: 11 Terrence Ave. Edmonton, AB T4Y 8U9

Other Healthcare Providers					
Name	Disp.	Last Encounter	Next encounter	Right of Access	
Diaz, Ellen	Cardiology	01/2006	07/2006	Y	
Fournier, Janice	RN	08/2005		N	
Cohen, Richard	Dermatology	08/2005		N	

Medications			
Date	Medication	Prescriptions	Last Filled
11/1989	Hydrochlorothiazide 25 mg	One tab at breakfast	12/2005
03/1999	Aspirin 5 mg	One tab twice daily	12/2005
01/2001	Metformin 500 mg	Two tabs twice daily	12/2005
03/2001	Atorvastatin 20 mg	One tab at supper	12/2005
12/2002	Atenolol 50 mg	One tab at breakfast	12/2005
02/2002	ECASA 325 mg	One tab at breakfast	12/2005
02/2006	Ramipril 10mg	One tab at supper	02/2006
06/2005	Cloxacillin 500 mg	Discontinued	
05/2004	Beclomethasone Cream	Discontinued	

Encounter History						
Date	Facility	Speciality	Clinician	Reason	Type	
02/2006	GP			Hypertension	-	
01/2006	Cardio Assoc	Cardiology	Diaz, E.	CAD	-	Outpatient
12/2005	GP			Diabetes	-	
10/2005	General Hosp	Dietician	Johnson, H.	Diabetes teaching	-	Outpatient
08/2005	GP			Diabetes	-	
08/2005	GP			Cellulitis	-	
08/2005	Home Visit	RN	Fournier, J.	Cellulitis	-	
08/2005	GP			Cellulitis	-	
07/2005	Polyclinic	Dermatology	Cohen, R.	Stasis dermatitis	-	Outpatient

Immunizations				Diabetic Indices		
Type	Most Recent	Number Received		Type	Value	Most Recent
Influenza	11/2005	7		A1C	0.071	12/2005
Pneumovax	03/2005	1		LDL	2.41	12/2005
Twinrix	08/2002	3		BP	135/75	02/2006
Td	04/1996	1		Urine		
				Microalb	0.02	08/2005
				Eye Exam		05/2005
				Home Gluc (average)	7.4	01/2006

Problem list

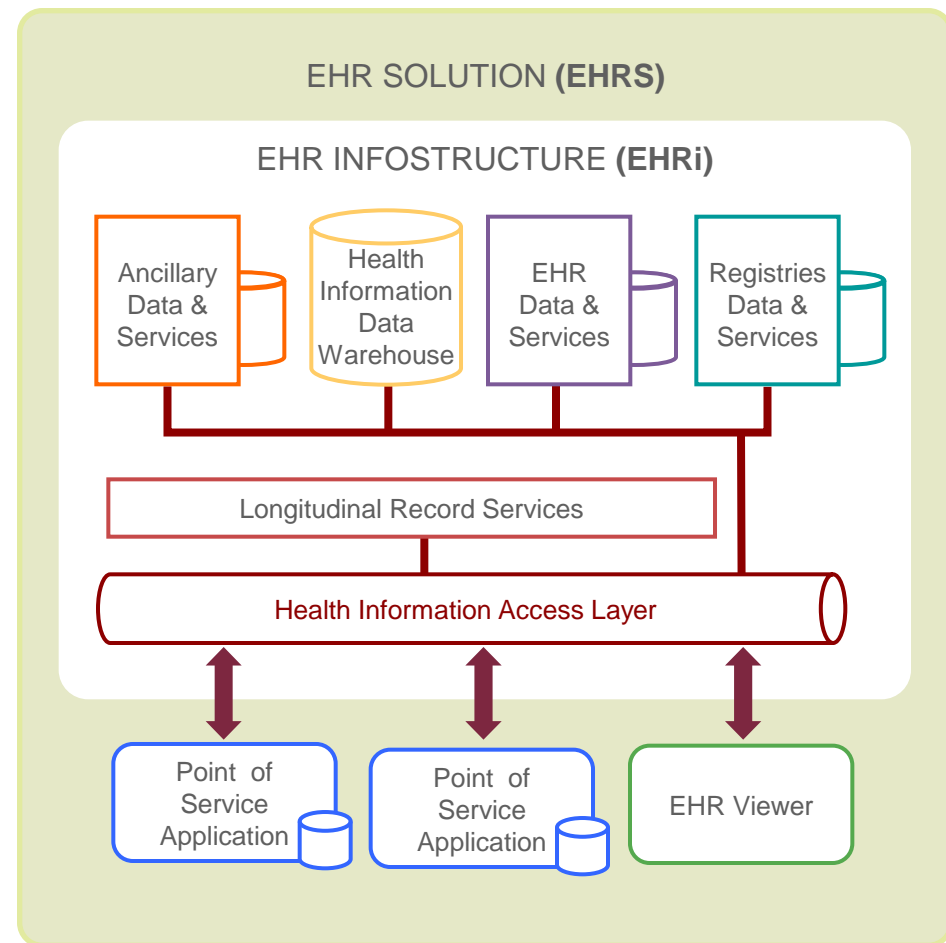
Immunization

Medication history

Interactions

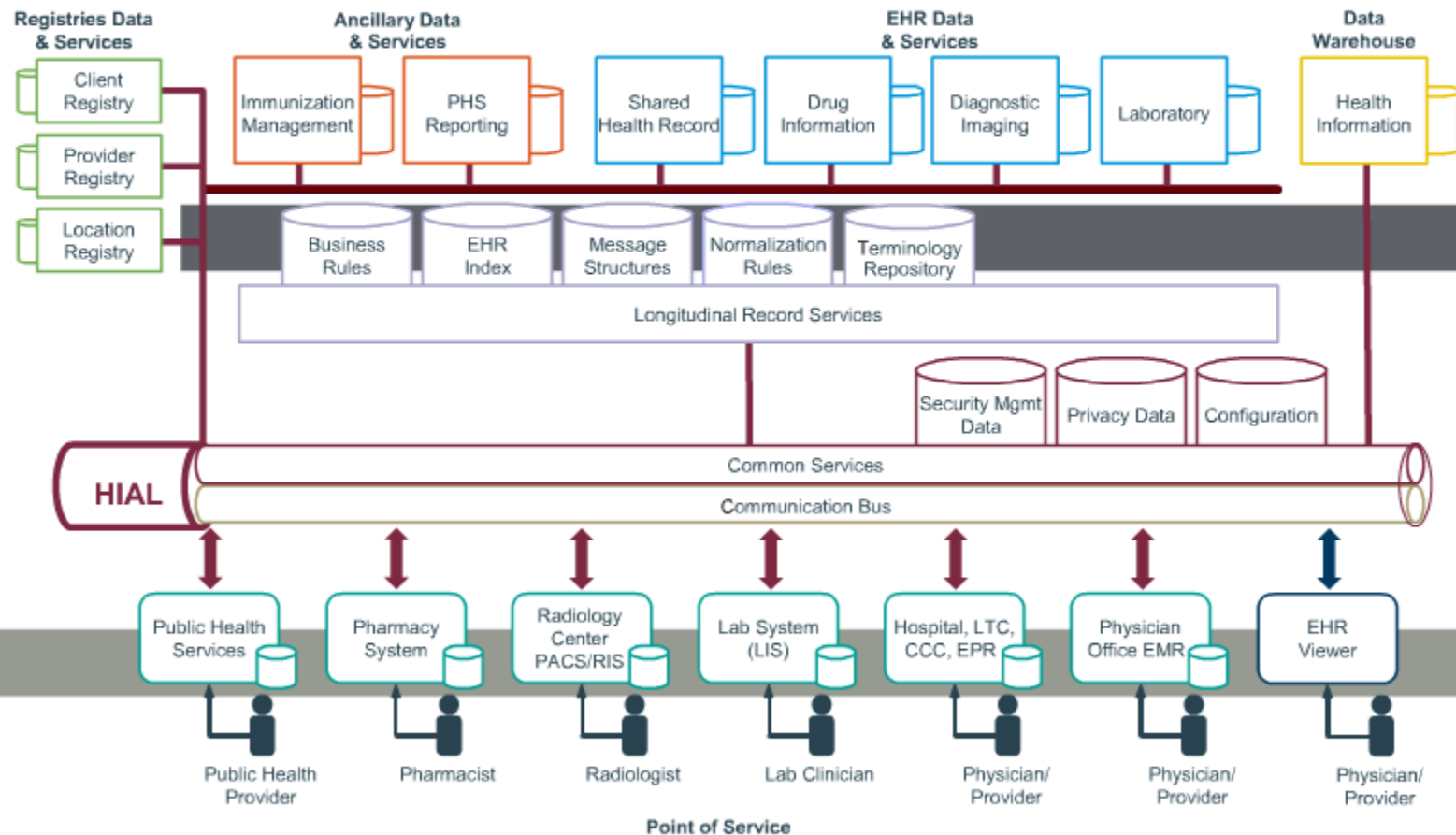
# Approach – Architecture

- Common business and technical architecture accepted by jurisdictions and vendors
- Links local clinical systems with jurisdiction and regional registries and repositories using a data sharing approach
- Serves as a reference model for *Infoway* investments
- Extensible to support new functions, scalable
- Jurisdictions will be federated to create a national view
- Freely available on the *Infoway* website



# EHR Architecture

## Jurisdictional Infostructure



SHOW:

# Approach – Standards

## Ensuring interoperability and privacy

- **Infoway Standards Collaborative**; a single national group for standards development, support and maintenance
- Standards necessary to allow data and document sharing – for example, HL7 CCOW, HL7 v2.4, HL7 v3, HL7 CDA
- International promotion of the standards developed in Canada
- *Infoway* investments require standards compliance
- e-health Certification Services introduced in 2009

### Messaging

HL7 and DICOM are the primary standards for the electronic exchange of clinical and administrative data

### Terminologies

LOINC and SNOMED CT are the primary terminologies for coding of clinical information

### Interoperability Profiles

Define functional behaviours of components of the EHR system

## Approach – Privacy

### *Infoway's approach to privacy*

- Require every project that involves personal health information to conduct a privacy impact assessment (PIA)
- PIA to be approved by jurisdiction privacy commissioners
- Provided a privacy and security architecture
- Contribute to legislative reviews
- Encourage action in relation to governance of health records
- Continue to monitor public attitudes
- Be transparent with privacy commissioners and the public



# Benefits







# Benefits and value of electronic health information technologies

- Reduced wait-times for diagnostic imaging services
- Improved availability of community based health services
- Reduced patient travel time and cost to access services
- Increased patient participation in home care

## ACCESS

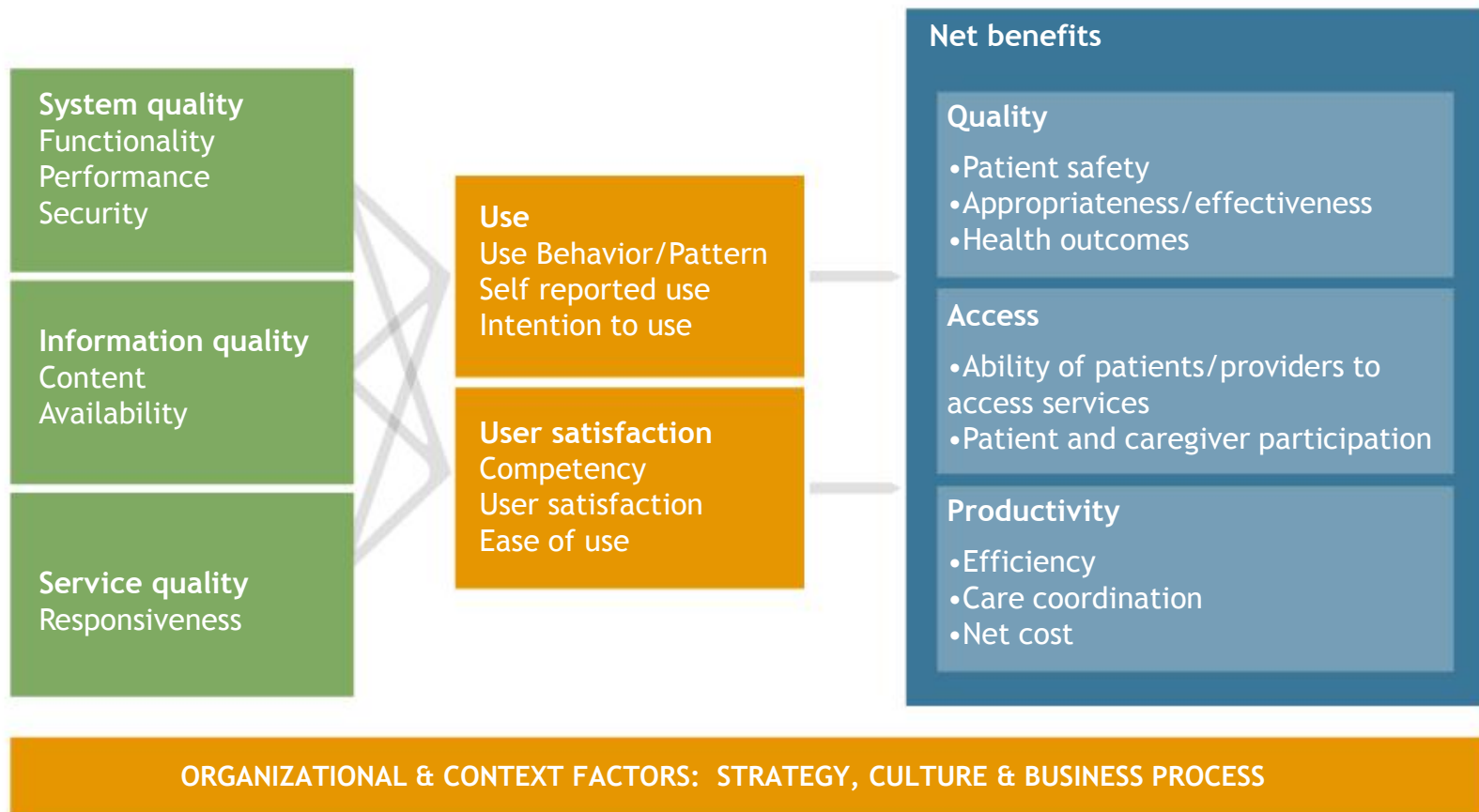
- Improved interpretation of diagnostic and laboratory results
- Decreased adverse drug events
- Decreased prescription errors
- Increased speed and accuracy in detecting infectious disease outbreaks

## QUALITY

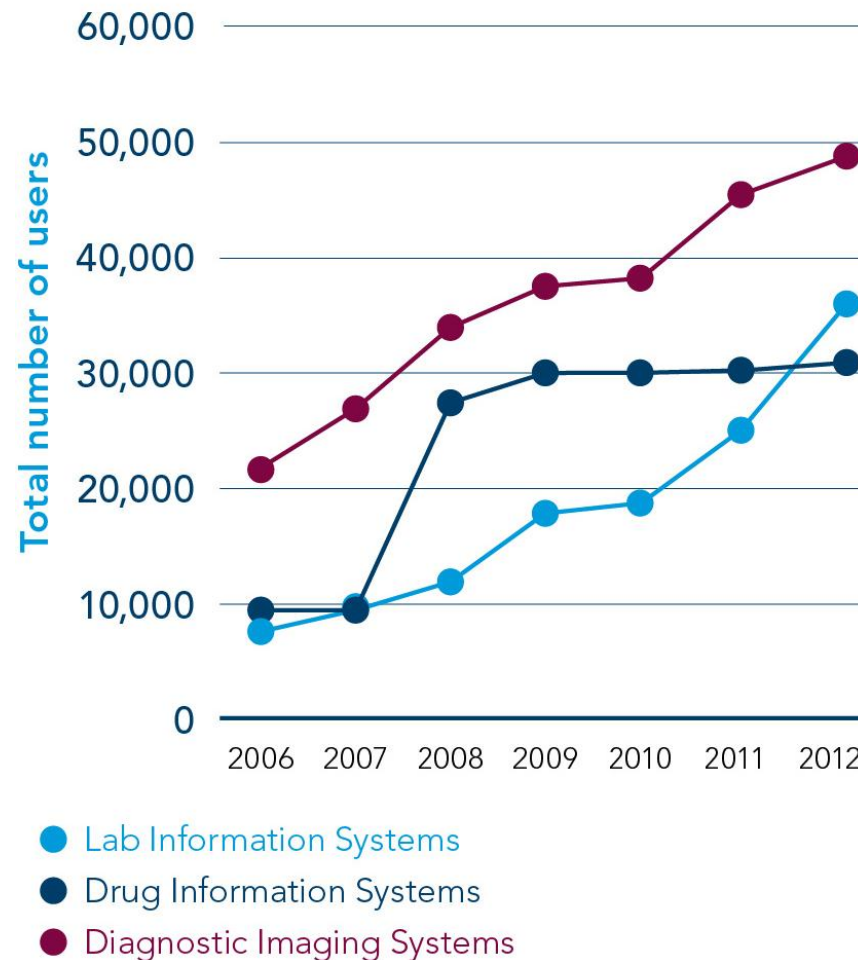
- Increased access to integrated patient information
- Reduced duplicate tests and prescriptions
- Reduced physician prescription call-back
- Reduced patient and provider travel costs

## PRODUCTIVITY

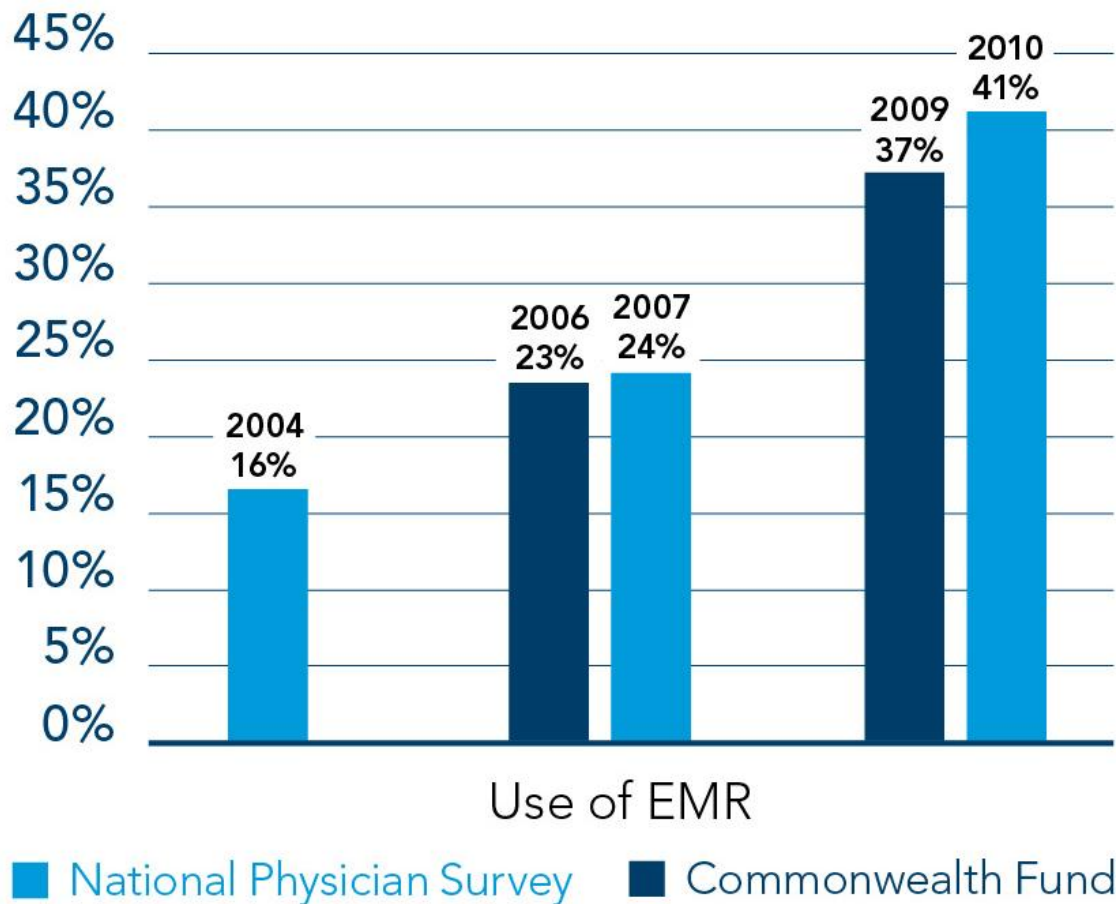
# Infoway benefits evaluation framework



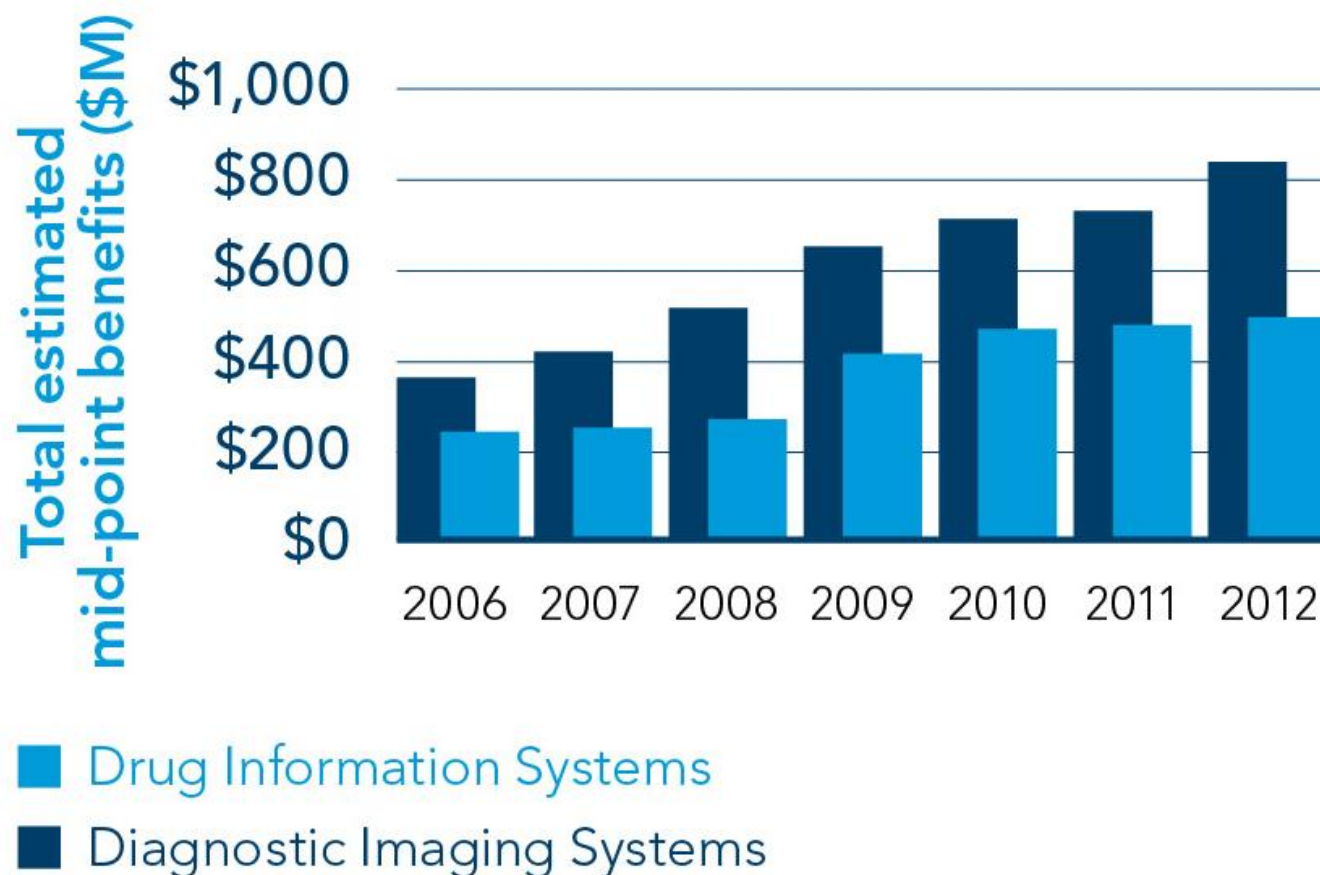
# Electronic health record use is growing



## Primary care use of EMRs



# Diagnostic imaging and drug information systems benefits



# Health IT could save time for Canadians

In 2011, if Canadians had been able to consult with their health care providers, access test results and request prescription renewals electronically, they could have:

- Saved nearly **70 million hours**, translating into
  - 18.8 million fewer hours off work (\$408 million boost to potential output)
  - 51 million hours that could have gone toward non-paid activities like education, volunteer work and leisure
- Avoided nearly **47 million in-person visits** to health care providers





# Economic impact of Infoway's new funding

\$500 million received from federal government in 2010

Over the next four years, investment of \$500 million from *Infoway* and \$248 million from jurisdictions will result in:

- \$1.11 billion increase in real Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- 10,700 person-years of employment
- Approximately \$319 million being recouped by federal and provincial governments through increased tax revenues

For every \$1 invested by *Infoway* and the jurisdictions:

- About \$1.48 is added to Canada's overall GDP
- There is an estimated 28.2 cent improvement in federal fiscal position and 12.2 cent improvement in aggregate provincial fiscal position

# E-health 2018 Strategic Plan



# Purpose

- Canada has been on its national e-health journey for 10 years and is now six years into Vision 2015.
- The *Infoway* board felt it was an opportune time to reflect on the progress made, determine where the current direction would take the country and whether a course adjustment is required.



# Over 500 stakeholders were consulted

Stakeholders representing consumers (37%), clinicians (25%), government & administrators (30%), vendors (3%) and others (5%) from across Canada were consulted between October 2011 and February 2012.



## Interviews

14 one-on-one/small group meetings with jurisdiction Deputy Ministers of Health and key representatives.

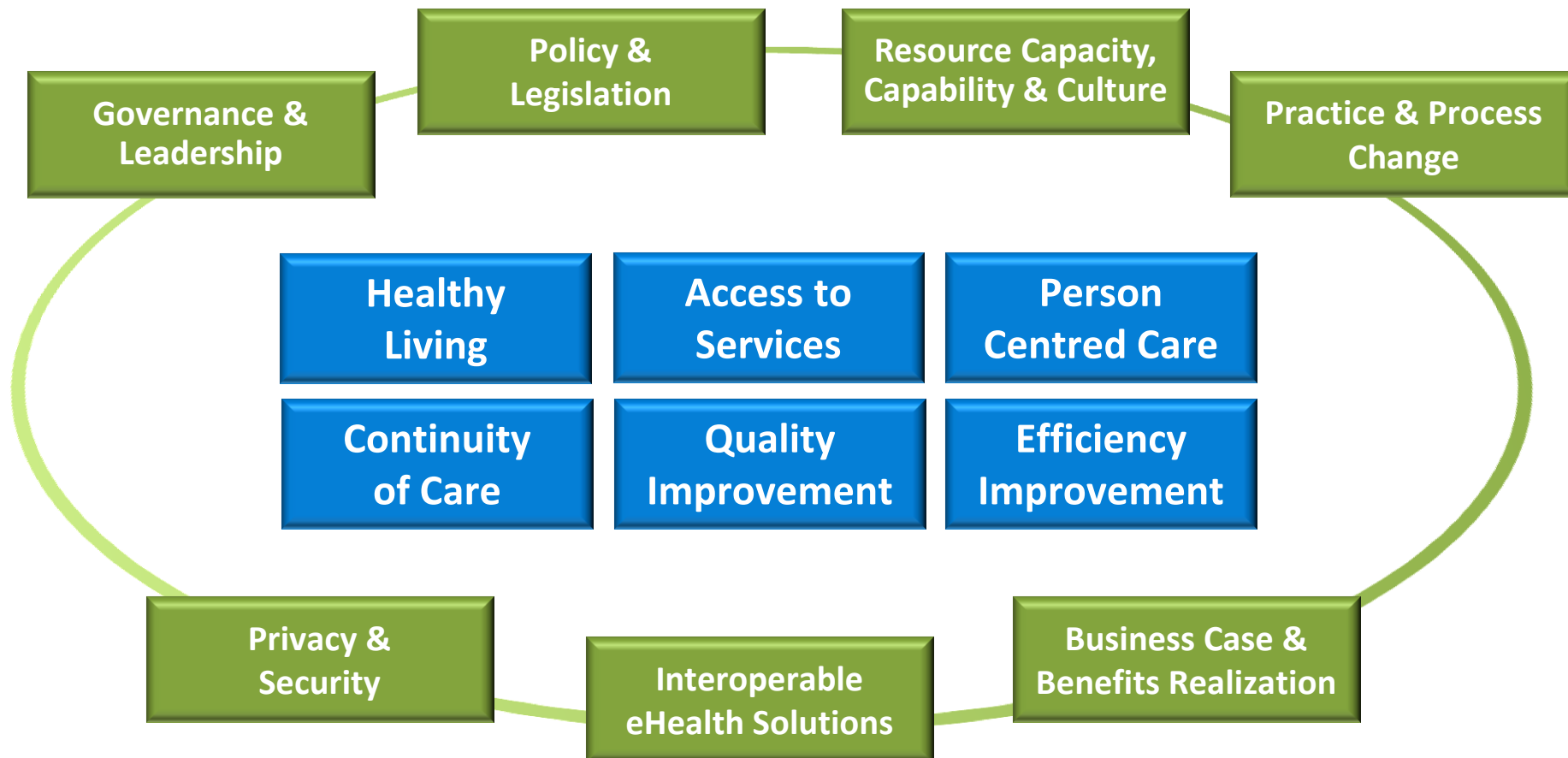
## Focus Groups

39 stakeholder focus groups with individual Canadians and clinician groups

## Stakeholder Forums

10 regional stakeholder forums were held in Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax, including sessions with the Federal Government, National Associations, the Privacy Forum and Government/RHA CIOs.

# Stakeholder priorities & key enablers



# The path forward ...

**Digitize**

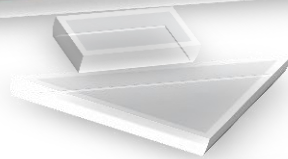
Extend further to Consumers,  
Clinicians , Government and  
Administrators

**Connect**

**Share**

To allow them to communicate &  
collaborate with information and  
evidence that supports informed  
decision making

**Know**



**Innovate**

**Transform**

..... as well as to: support consumers  
improve their own health; enable  
clinicians to provide better care;  
and enhance government and  
administrators ability to transform  
the health system





# Bring care closer to home



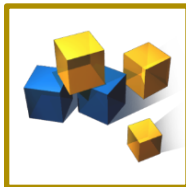
## *What is it?*

Using mobile patient monitoring solutions, coupled with other consumer health solutions, seniors and other chronic disease patients will be able to monitor their own health conditions from their home or within their community.



## *What does success look like?*

As a consumer, I can monitor my health condition, either at home or within a few minutes of where I live.



## *What types of key enablers need to be in place?*

**Patient monitoring**, **personal health records** and **other consumer health solutions**.



## Provide easier access



### *What is it?*

Assist Canadians to have a more convenient health care experience, with reduced wait times, through the use of e-health solutions to better interact with health care team and navigate the health care system.



### *What does success look like?*

- As a consumer, I can book appointments, communicate with my provider and have my medications renewed, all online.
- As a consumer, having somebody to help me navigate the health care system means I no longer feel lost.



### *What types of key enablers need to be in place?*

e-Visits, e-Scheduling, e-RxRenewal, e-Navigation.



# Support new models of care



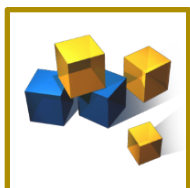
## *What is it?*

Continue to expand the deployment and use of EHR, EMR and other point-of-care solutions into all care settings to enable person-centred care and continuity of care, including, but not limited to, chronic disease management.



## *What does success look like?*

- As a consumer, I can see that all my care providers are working together to seamlessly manage my care.
- As a provider, I now have the timely information I need to provide quality care as well as to communicate and collaborate with the rest of the health care team.
- As government and as an administrator, we can support changes in scope of practice to enable new ways of providing care



## *What types of key enablers need to be in place?*

Electronic medical record, electronic health record, referral management, discharge summaries, care transitions, chronic disease management, telepathology.



# Improve patient safety



## *What is it?*

Accelerate the deployment of medication management to reduce preventable medical errors. This may require the enhancement and/or replacement of many aging hospital information systems in the acute care setting.



## *What does success look like?*

- As a consumer, I am comfortable that the medications I am taking are safe.
- As a provider, I am more confident now that my prescribing practices are evidence-based and safe.
- As an administrator, I can see a reduction in preventable adverse drug events and improvements in process efficiency.



## *What types of key enablers need to be in place?*

e-Prescribing in primary care, CPOE and closed-loop medication management in acute care, medication reconciliation across transitions of care.



# Enable a high-performing health system



## *What is it?*

Accelerate the deployment of analytics solutions to support the creation of information and evidence for clinical and administrative decision making in the quest to create a high-performing health system across Canada.



## *What does success look like?*

- As a provider, I have the evidence to support me using best practices.
- As an administrator, I have the information necessary to monitor key indicators, such as unnecessary hospitalizations, and put in place actions to prevent them from happening.
- As a government, we can determine what services give us value for money and allocate future funding accordingly.



## *What types of key enablers need to be in place?*

Clinical analytics and evidence development and use for clinicians; analytics supporting LEAN, population health, research, planning, operations and evaluation for governors and administrators.

# Opportunities for action



## Bring Care Closer to Home

- Patient Monitoring
- Personal Health Record



## Provide Easier Access

- e-RxRenewal
- e-Visits
- e-Scheduling
- e-Navigation



## Support New Models of Care

- Ambulatory EMR
- Community-based EMR
- Electronic Health Record
- Discharge Summaries
- Referral Management
- Chronic Disease Management
- Care Transitions
- Telepathology



## Improve Patient Safety

- Hospital Medication Management
- Medication Reconciliation
- e-Prescribing



## Enable a High-Performing Health System

- Clinical Analytics
- Health System Analytics
- Public Health Surveillance
- LEAN

## Foundational Clinical Systems

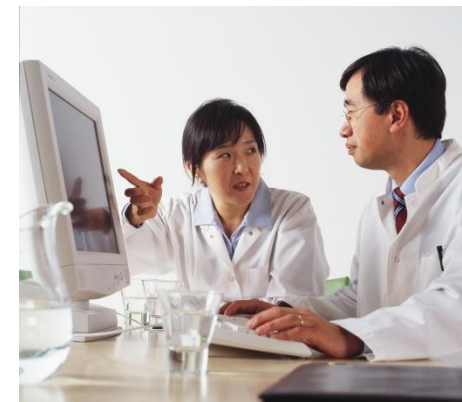
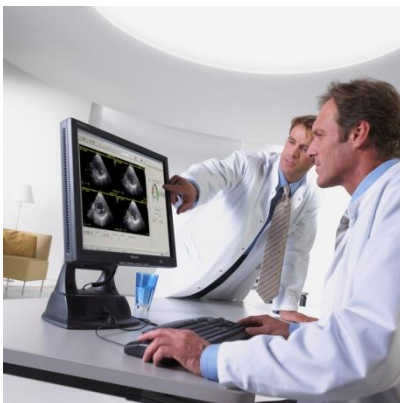
- Hospital Information System
- Home Care / Long Term Care Systems

# In conclusion



## *Infoway adds value at every step*

- Joint governance
- Joint planning
- Predictable funding
- Common solutions architecture
- Common ICT standards
- Accountable spend
- Common procurement
- Common solutions
- National pricing
- Shared services
- Knowledge sharing
- Global leaders exporting expertise





# Challenges to overcome

- Project slippage
- Slower than expected clinician uptake
- Adequate funding not available
- Failure to deliver viable, interoperable EHR solutions
- Privacy and security breaches
- Insufficient skilled human resources
- Failure to demonstrate expected benefits



## The promise

- Increased patient participation in care
- Well-managed chronic illness
- Improved access to care in remote and rural communities
- Fewer adverse drug events
- Better prescribing practices
- Reduction in duplicate or unnecessary tests
- Reduced wait times
- Saving lives



# Thank You!



**Website:**

[www.infoway-inforoute.ca](http://www.infoway-inforoute.ca)

**E-mail:**

[dgiokas@infoway-inforoute.ca](mailto:dgiokas@infoway-inforoute.ca)

**Blog:**

<http://infowayconnects.infoway-inforoute.ca>



[www.knowingisbetter.ca](http://www.knowingisbetter.ca)