



*VA VISTA Data Access  
Interoperability Design Review  
May 3-4, 2017*

# ***Continuity of VA Care during EHR Modernization***

## ***VISTA Data Project***

### ***Two-year Proof of Concept***

*A joint interagency project with the  
U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Health Agency*



- VA-DoD Interagency Project
- EHR modernization Proof of Concept
- Leverages DoD-developed technology
- Formalizes Veterans Care Model
- Execution 2016-2017
- <http://vistadataproject.info>



# History of VHA-DHA Electronic Health Records

## DHCP is the common base system

VHA: 151 hospitals; 820 clinics; 300 vet centers; + other (total 1700 care sites)  
DHA: 57 hospitals; 350 clinics + other

VHA: 131 VISTA systems operational (since 1981)  
DHA: 101 CHCS systems operational (since 1985)  
Total: 232 DHCP-based systems across VHA-DHA

DHCP-based systems

VHA-specific interface and workflow

Common technology projects

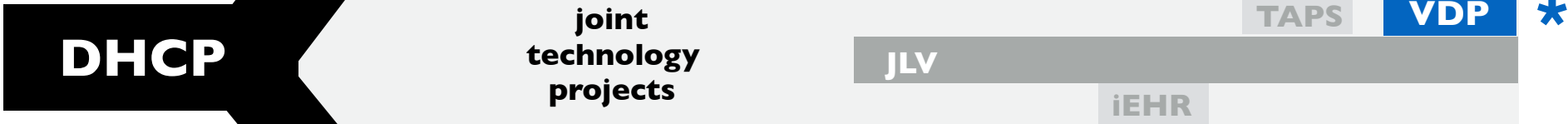
DHA-specific interface and workflow



### Veterans Health Administration (VHA)



### Common Base System



### Defense Health Administration (DHA)



While DHCP was similar in VHA and DHA originally, it has diverged over time. Today the variety and volume of CHCS data is approximately one-third the scope of VISTA data. One reason for the difference is that DHA migrated a large portion of CHCS operational data and functions to CDR / AHLTA.

	1980	1990	2000	2010	present
VHA-specific		VISTA	CPRS		
Common	DHCP		JLV	iEHR	TAPS VDP
DHA-specific		CHCS		AHLTA / CDR	Genesis

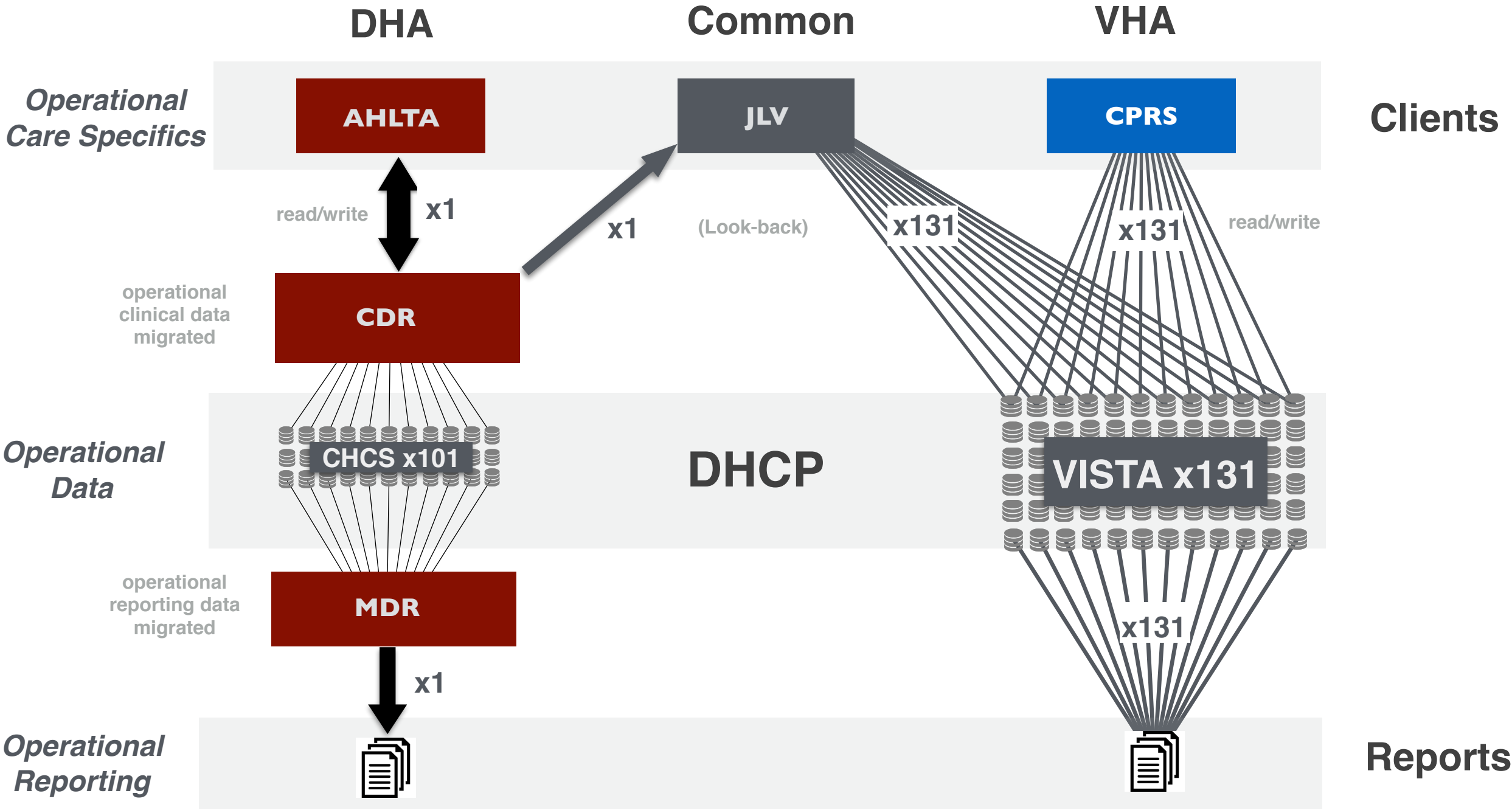
Note: Time scale simplified for clarity

- 1981 - DHCP - Decentralized Hospital Care Program - VA Fileman database and applications [VHA]
- 1985 - CHCS - (DHCP renamed) Composite Health Care System; modified for DHA use [Leidos (SAIC)]
- 1994 - VISTA - (DHCP renamed) Veterans Information Systems Technology Architecture [VHA]
- 1997 - CPRS - Computerized Patient Record System - graphical interface and workflow [VHA]
- 2004 - AHLTA/ CDR/ MDR - Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application [Northrup Grumman]

- 2003 - JLV - (originally Janus; renamed to JLV in 2011) [DHA-VHA]
- 2011 - iEHR - Integrated Electronic Health Record [ SMS ]
- 2013 - TAPS - Transition Application Plan Support [DHA-VHA]
- \* 2016 - VDP - VISTA Data Project [DHA-VHA]



# DHCP (CHCS/VISTA) servers today



DHA migrated much of its operational data from CHCS to MDR / CDR .

Today the variety and volume of CHCS data is approximately one-third the scope of VISTA data. One reason is that DHA migrated a large portion of CHCS operational data and functionality to CDR / MDR.

VHA has not decided on its long-term strategy for operational data.

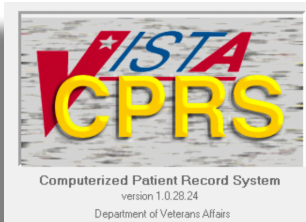


# CPRS: Blueprint for Veteran Longitudinal Care

CPRS *is* VISTA to Physicians, and Embodies Veteran Care specifics

## Veteran-specific

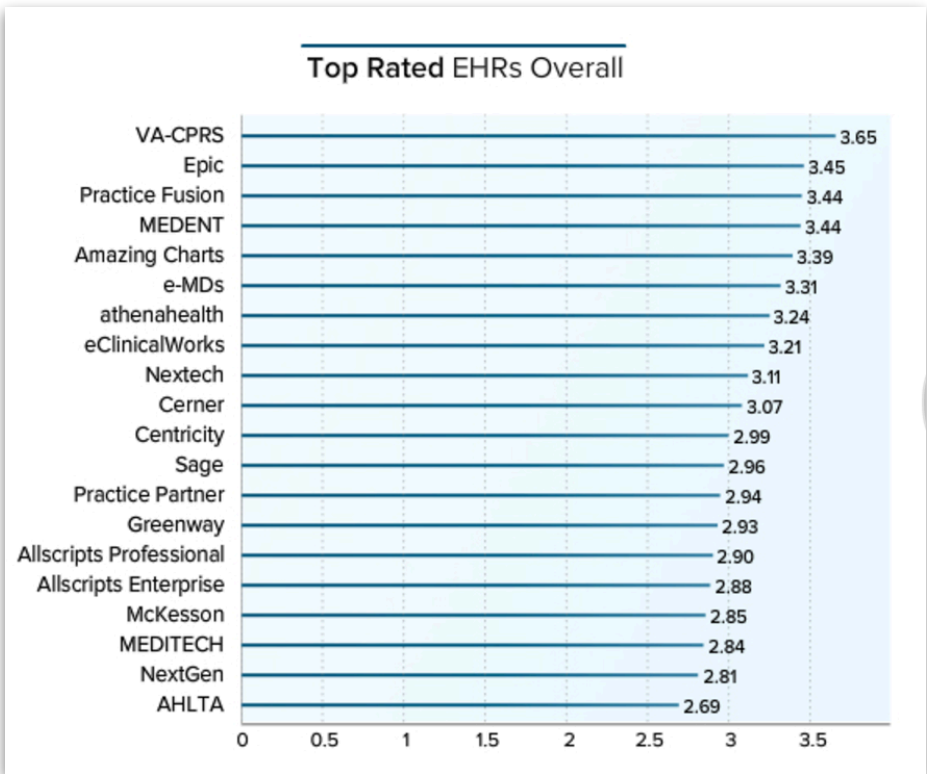
Built specifically around veteran care policies and practice



## Physicians favorite

### Medscape EHR Report 2016: Physicians Rate Top EHRs

Carol Peckham, Author; Leslie Kane, Sr. Director, Medscape Business of Medicine; Susanna Rosensteel, Editor | August 25, 2016



<http://www.medscape.com/features/slideshow/public/ehr2016>

### Department of Veterans Affairs

### Memorandum

Date: OCT 17 2012  
From: Deputy Under Secretary for Health for Operations and Management (10N)  
Subj: National Patient Record Flag for High Risk for Suicide  
To: Network Director (10N1-23)  
Chief Medical Officer (10N1-23)  
Network Mental Health Liaisons

1. The purpose of this memo is to provide guidance for the implementation of a new Category I Patient Record Flag (PRF) for High Risk for Suicide.

### Agent Orange

Agent Orange (AO) is an herbicide that was used in Vietnam between 1962 and 1971 to remove unwanted plant life that provided cover for enemy forces. The VA has recognized the following conditions as associated with but not necessarily caused by exposure to Agent Orange:

- AL Amyloidosis
- Diabetes (type 2)

**Opportunity:**  
**Supporting CPRS (for a period) ensures**  
**Continuity of Care as VA's EHR is modernized.**



# ***Proof of Concept***

***A modernized VA EHR server can support CPRS***





# VISTA Data Project

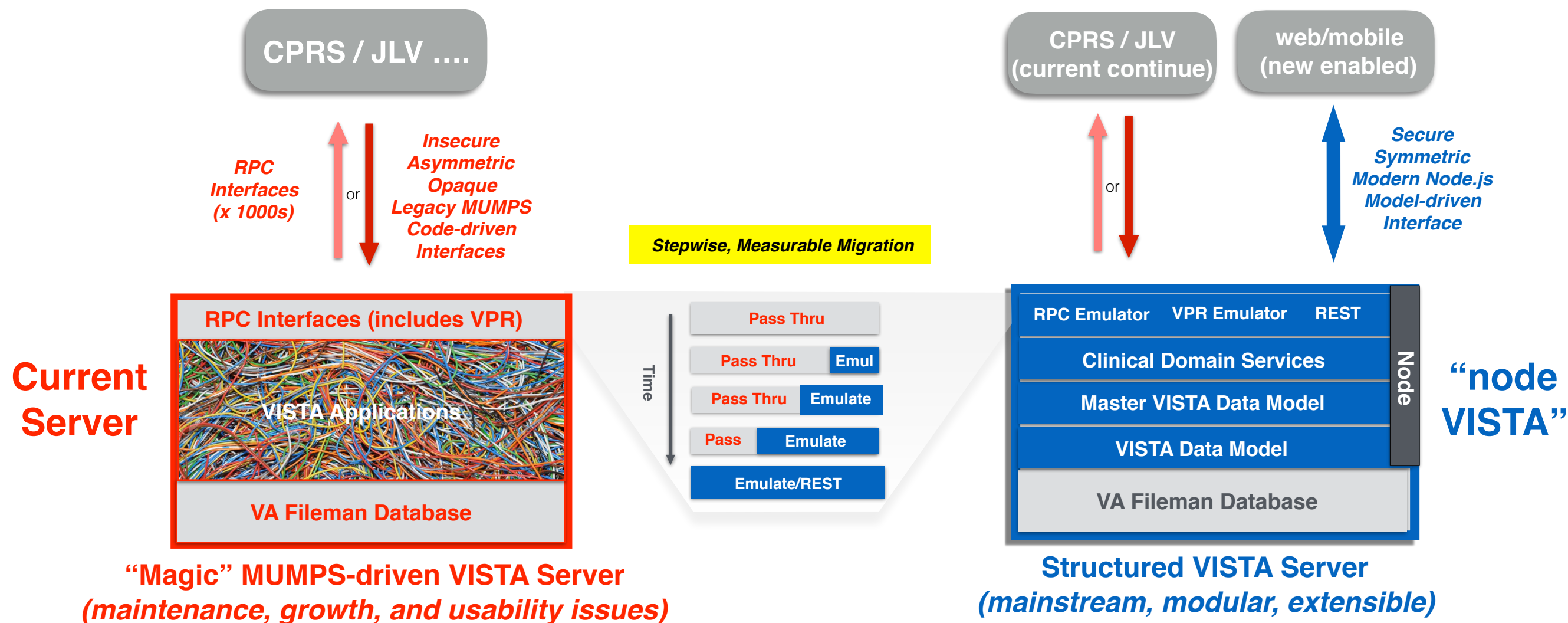
*Prove Stepwise Server Migration  
while maintaining Continuity of Care*

## Key Features

- VHA-DHA Interagency project
- Modernization Proof of Concept
- Leverages DHA-developed technology
- Formalizes Veterans Care Model
- Migrate Server; Support CPRS/JLV
- Execution 2016-2017

**131 Current VISTAs**

**VISTA Data Project**



**M** Legacy VISTA (MUMPS)

**■** Master VISTA Data Model (MVDM) Node.js - Driven VISTA

## Strategic Benefits

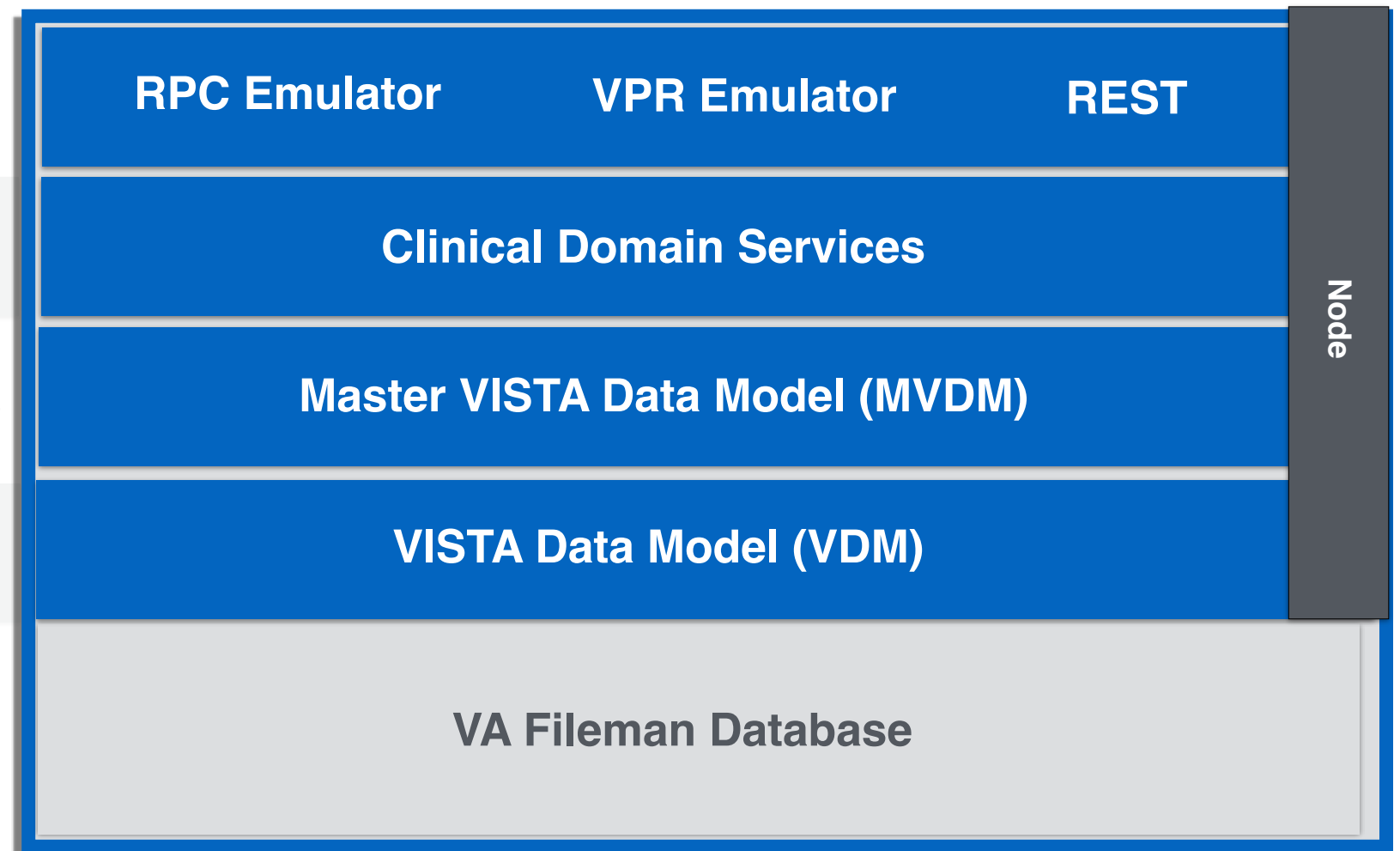
- New, maintainable veteran care **server** based on mainstream technology
- New web and mobile clients enabled with mainstream technology
- Current clients (CPRS/JLV) supported and enforce VA Care coverage
- May now safely incrementally retire legacy MUMPS VISTA [spaghetti]
- (Some) Clinical Domain Services may be implemented over COTS



# nodeVISTA Stack

*Clean, Modular, Separation of Functionality*

- Emulation and New Interfaces
- All reduce to same service interactions
- (Problem, Pharmacy ...) Services over MVDM
- Patient level selection and security
- Normalizes VDM
- Distinguishes Veteran and Patient/Clinical specifics
- A Clean “CRUD+R”/Events paradigm
- Transparent JSON of the native model
- **Read for 100% data in FileMan**
- Write Tested for MVDM covered classes
- All interaction through formal FileMan API
- Only FileMan changes fix Data Dictionary (DD)



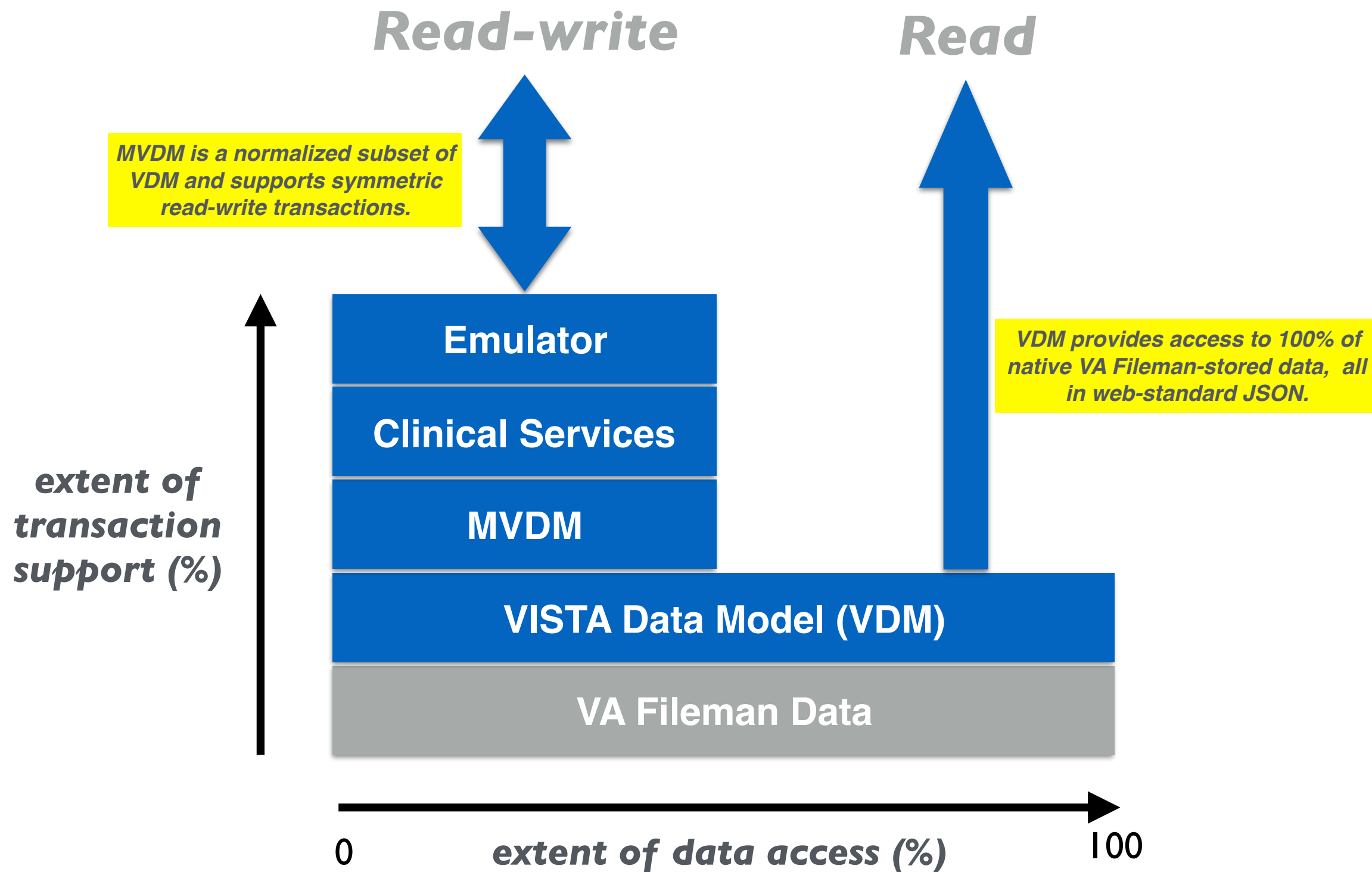
**Structured VISTA Server**  
(mainstream, modular, extensible)

 Javascript/Node.js



# nodeVISTA Data Access

*Starting point is read access to 100% of FileMan-stored data (including labs) and then extends to transactional data*

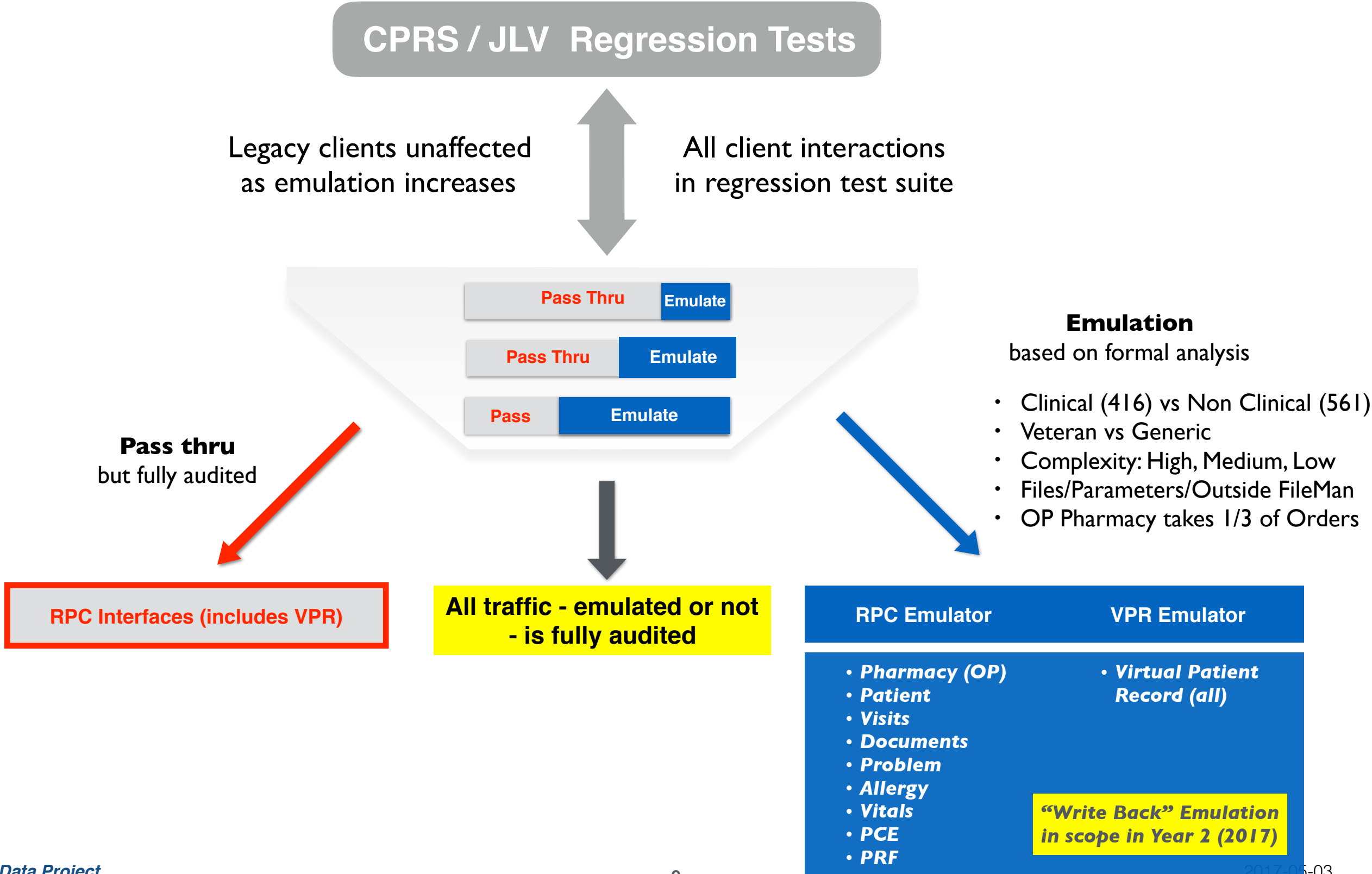






# Backward-compatible Emulation in Steps

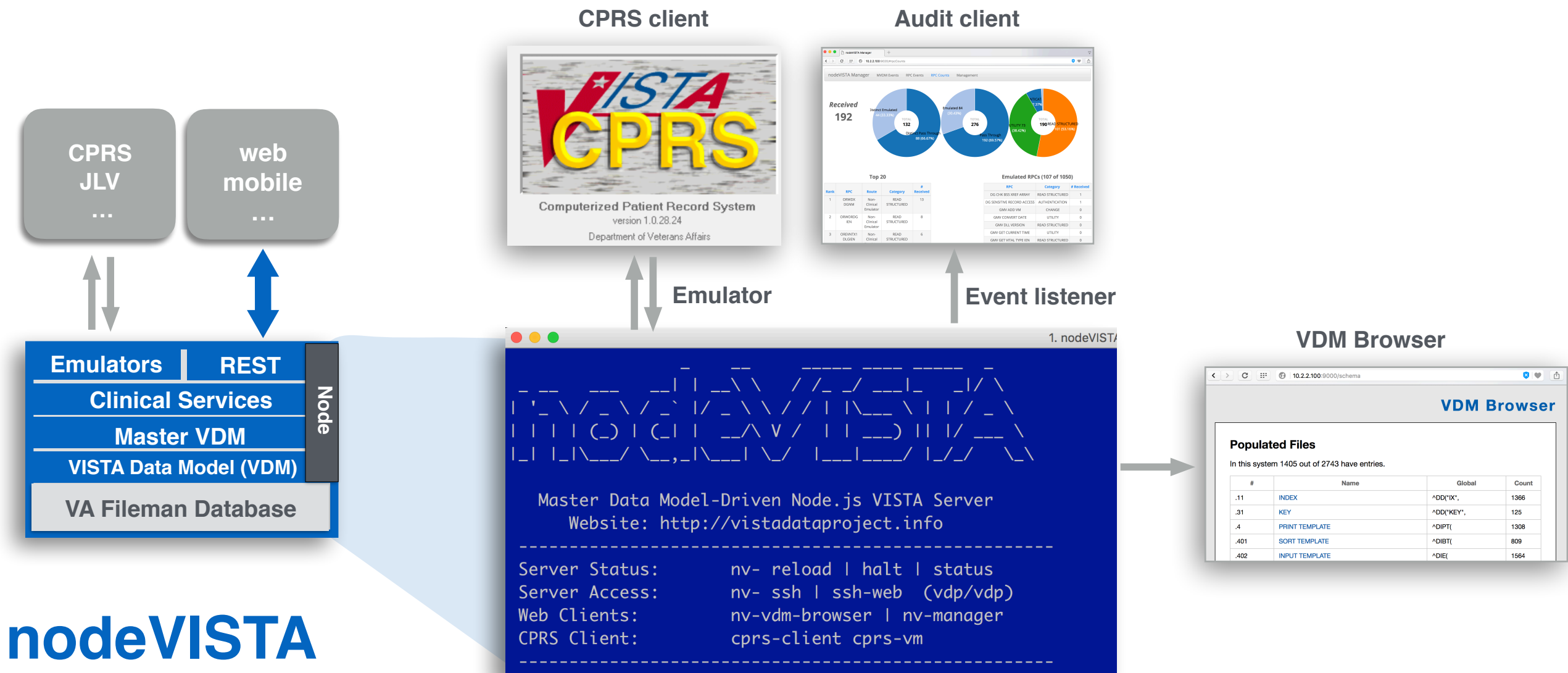
All client interactions are captured in regression test suite [“no magic”]





# nodeVISTA Implementation

New Server. Clients both old and new.





# VDM Browser

*Demonstrates that VDM Exposes ALL FileMan-stored data (including labs)*

## VDM Browser

### Populated Files

In this system 1414 out of 2743 have entries.

#	Name	Global	Count
.11	INDEX	^DD("IX",	1366
.31	KEY	^DD("KEY",	125
.4	PRINT TEMPLATE	^DIPT{	1308
.401	SORT TEMPLATE	^DIBT{	809
.402	INPUT TEMPLATE	^DIE{	1564
.403	FORM	^DIST(.403,	153
.404	BLOCK	^DIST(.404,	543
.44	FOREIGN FORMAT	^DIST(.44,	11
.5	FUNCTION	^DD("FUNC",	173
7	MUMPS OPERATING SYSTEM	ADD("OS"	7



# RPC Traffic Audited

*Chatty CPRS and how RPCs are handled*

Total: 133 Total No Polling: 117 Pass Through: 52 RPC Emulated: 80 Server: 1 RPC Emulate: 

Date	RPC Name	Route	Transaction Id
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:47 am	ORWGRPC TYPES	Pass Through	914613bd-6821-44e3-bd06-66b90f...
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:47 am	<b>ORWGRPC GETPREF</b>	<b>Non-Clinical Emulator</b>	<b>d0bd5a0c-cb72-4c15-ba34-b4c4a7...</b>
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:47 am	ORWU HASKEY	Pass Through	7d22e544-bcbb-401f-a80c-887b92d...
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:47 am	ORWU HASKEY	Pass Through	ca32f9a1-0916-484a-900c-83c79ce...
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:47 am	<b>ORWGRPC GETPREF</b>	<b>Non-Clinical Emulator</b>	<b>31466e43-105a-4fb5-b20f-fb77c02...</b>
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:47 am	<b>ORWU DT</b>	<b>JS Utility Emulator</b>	<b>7d9ccbaa-ab5c-4626-b23e-9f44ec...</b>
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:47 am	<b>ORWSR SHOW SURG TAB</b>	<b>Non-Clinical Emulator</b>	<b>191aadff-d058-49f3-af0a-56ec6fa...</b>
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:46 am	<b>ORWCH LOADALL</b>	<b>Non-Clinical Emulator</b>	<b>fff2b2b4-4800-47ef-9fb8-f781ad61...</b>
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:46 am	<b>ORWORDG IEN</b>	<b>Non-Clinical Emulator</b>	<b>9df6eac7-e908-4302-bc35-7b523b...</b>
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:46 am	<b>ORWORDG IEN</b>	<b>Non-Clinical Emulator</b>	<b>43af5118-c545-4706-84e6-fcc9b41...</b>
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:46 am	<b>ORWORDG IEN</b>	<b>Non-Clinical Emulator</b>	<b>a51e9e8d-3ca6-4fca-af8b-afb0453...</b>
Apr 11th 2017 @ 12:24:46 am	<b>ORWORDG IEN</b>	<b>Non-Clinical Emulator</b>	<b>bd860e4d-3a56-4241-ab37-caa24c...</b>



# RPC Details Tracked

All RPCs traced by user, facility, emulation type, and transaction ID

RPC: ORWDAL32 SAVE ALLERGY

Date: Apr 7th 2017 @ 10:59:00 am

RPC: ORWDAL32 SAVE ALLERGY

Route: Clinical Emulator

Transaction ID: 441476be-82e5-49b2-a979-40ad6e1974b5

IP Address: ::ffff:10.2.2.1

User: ALEXANDER,ROBERT (200-62)

Facility: SOFTWARE SERVICE (4-1 / 050)

Request

```
{
  "args": ["0", "25", {
    "GM RAGNT": "CHOCOLATE^3;GMRD(120.82,",
    "GM RATYPE": "DF^Drug,Food",
    "GM RANATR": "A^Allergy",
    "GM RAORIG": "62",
    "GM RAORDT": "3170407.2058",
    "GM RASYMP": ["66^DROWSINESS^^^"],
    "GM RACHT": ["3170407.2059"],
    "GM RAOBHX": "h^HISTORICAL",
    "GM RACMTS": ["make him sleepy"]
  }]
}
```

Cryptic RPC data payload  
(Sends raw MUMPS code to the Client!)

Response

0





# RPC Detail - Problems

*This is a dangerous RPC*

## RPC: ORQQPL ADD SAVE

**Date:** Apr 11th 2017 @ 3:51:29 pm **RPC:** ORQQPL ADD SAVE **Route:** Clinical Emulator

**Transaction ID:** b037aa4c-0334-4255-98dd-faa68b164d30

**IP Address:** ::ffff:10.2.2.1

**User:** ALEXANDER,ROBERT (200-62) **Facility:** VISTA HEALTH CARE (4-2957 / 6100)

### Request

```
{
  "args": ["25^CARTER,DAVID^0113^", "62", "2957", {
    "1": "GMPFLD(.01)=\"521774^R69.\",",
    "2": "GMPFLD(.03)=\"3170412^Apr 12 2017\",",
    "3": "GMPFLD(.05)=\"^Hypertension\",",
    "4": "GMPFLD(.08)=\"3170412^Apr 12 2017\",",
    "5": "GMPFLD(.12)=\"A^ACTIVE\",",
    "6": "GMPFLD(.13)=\"^\",",
    "7": "GMPFLD(1.01)=\"7647488^Hypertension\",",
    "8": "GMPFLD(1.02)=\"P\",",
    "9": "GMPFLD(1.03)=\"62^ALEXANDER,ROBERT\",",
    "10": "GMPFLD(1.04)=\"62^ALEXANDER,ROBERT\",",
    "11": "GMPFLD(1.05)=\"62^Alexander,Robert\",",
    "12": "GMPFLD(1.06)=\"^\",",
    "13": "GMPFLD(1.07)=\"^\",",
    "14": "GMPFLD(1.08)=\"10^Clinicd\",",
    "15": "GMPFLD(1.09)=\"3170412^Apr 12 2017\",",
    "16": "GMPFLD(1.1)=\"^Unknown\",",
    "17": "GMPFLD(1.11)=\"0^NO\",",
    "18": "GMPFLD(1.12)=\"0^No\",",
    "19": "GMPFLD(1.13)=\"0^NO\",",
    "20": "GMPFLD(1.14)=\"A^ACUTE\",
```

### MUMPS RPC data is:

- **Insecure** - Sending raw MUMPS code across the wire permits **code execution (i.e. code injection)**.
- **Inconsistent, Opaque** - A different, ad-hoc, undefined format and form for each RPC (x1000's).
- **Unmanageable** (and risky!) for new clients to consume

### Response





# MVDM from Emulated RPC

**RPC emulation leads to MVDM activity: Patient-aware and Easy to Understand**

same transaction ID as RPC, but..

Date: Apr 7th 2017 @ 10:59:00 am Domain: Allergy Type: CREATE

Transaction ID: 441476be-82e5-49b2-a979-40ad6e1974b5

MVDM knows "Patient"

User: ALEXANDER,ROBERT (200-62) Facility: SOFTWARE SERVICE (4-1 / 050) Patient: CARTER,DAVID (2-25)

*Required if one desires patient-centric access control*

```
{
  "created": {
    "id": "120_8-2",
    "type": "Allergy",
    "patient": {
      "id": "2-25",
      "label": "CARTER,DAVID"
    },
    "reactant": {
      "id": "120_82-3",
      "label": "CHOCOLATE",
      "sameAs": "vuid:4636681"
    },
    "reactantDetails": {
      "drugIngredients": [{
        "id": "50_416-2014",
        "label": "CHOCOLATE FLAVORING",
        "sameAs": "vuid:4019401"
      }]
    },
    "allergyType": "DRUG, FOOD",
    "mechanism": "ALLERGY",
    "dateTimeEntered": {
      "value": "2017-04-07T20:58:00Z",
      "type": "xsd:dateTime"
    },
    "enteredBy": {
      "id": "200-62",
      "label": "ALEXANDER,ROBERT"
    }
  },
}
```

MVDM data is:

- Clear, well-defined
- Easy to understand
- Web-standard JSON

*It is essential to understand the data before one is able to provide or control access to it. MVDM provides such structure and definition.*



# Summary

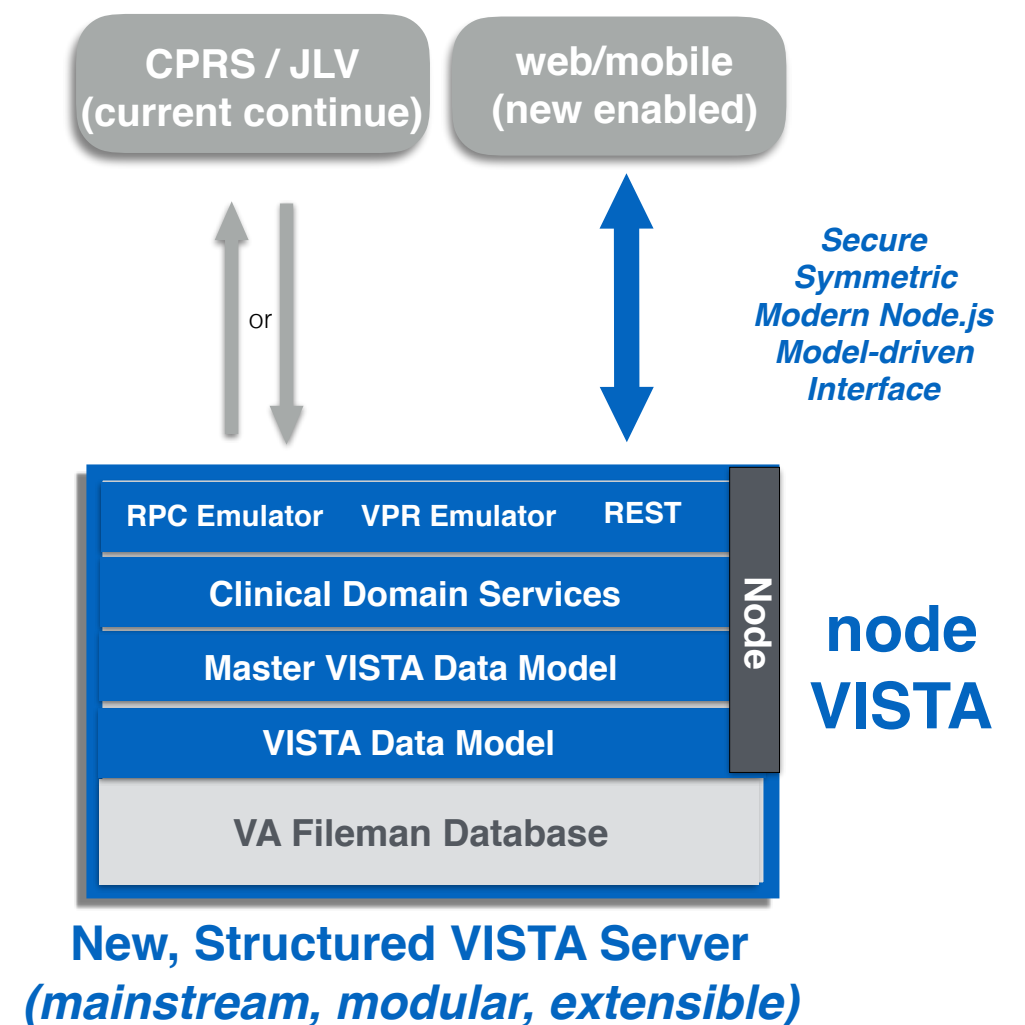
## VISTA Data Project

**We have proven that one can guarantee continuity of care while migrating to a modernized EHR.**

A modernized EHR could be a

- Refreshed VISTA and/or
- A collection of COTS applications

**Emulation can work over both.**



<https://vistadataproject.info>