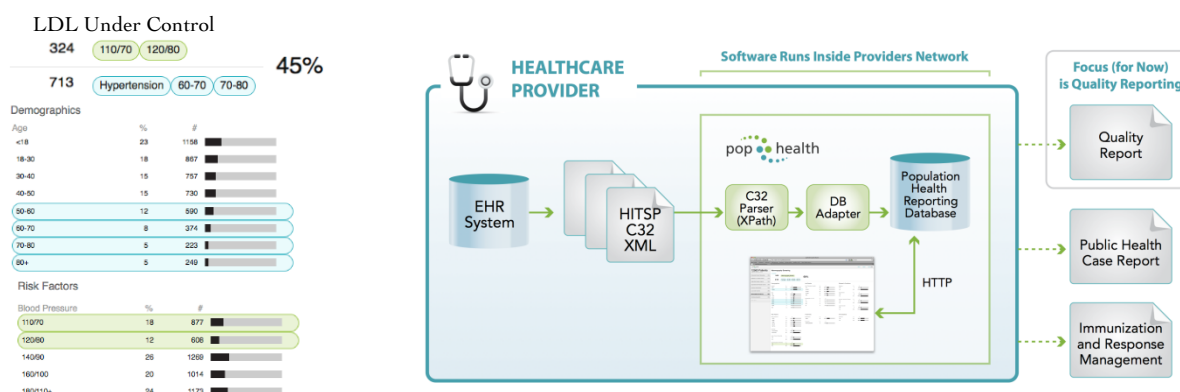# popHealth, an open source population health reporting prototype

popHealth is an **open source** population health reporting prototype developed by the Federal Health Architecture Program (FHA), Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT, to:
- promote easier submission of quality measures to public health organizations and
- empower providers to perform their own population care analysis.

This **easy to use** software prototype helps providers evaluate defined quality measures for their patient population and identify opportunities for improving the health of their patients. According to Vish Sankaran, FHA Program Director, demonstration of meaningful use requires the reporting of quality measures and public health data. This prototype demonstrates how a provider can use such a solution to submit quality measures or public health data as part of their existing workflow. Transmission of summary quality data is simpler, less data intensive, and more scalable and represents an alternative to traditional methods of data transmission.



popHealth is an **easy to implement,** web-based service, that works by using data from the electronic health record (EHR) to create reports of individual quality measures for a population of patients. Key design features include:
- popHealth uses established standards to extract data from the EHR and to generate the summary quality reports. popHealth has initially been designed to use the HITSP C32 data standard to extract report data from patients' continuity of care records in the EHR system.
- popHealth is designed to operate within a provider's infrastructure, which addresses privacy and security concerns associated with information associated with individual patient records. popHealth will have direct access to the summary data associated with individual patient records, however, only the aggregate/summary report data will interface with entities outside the provider's infrastructure.
- popHealth supports both pre-defined quality measure reports as well as ad hoc creation of reports.
- popHealth supports the ability to export the PQRI XML as a reporting artifact for transmission of summary quality data.
- popHealth is designed to be extensible for both input and output, supporting multiple standards such as CDA, CCR, or the QRDA as they are developed and defined.
- Summary quality information may be transmitted through the CONNECT solution to federal agencies.

The popHealth software is intended to be a prototype and is publically available. FHA expects that there will be many interested parties in popHealth, including the EHR vendor community, and they will contribute to the development of popHealth through the open source release process. Further information regarding popHealth is available on the project website (www.projectpophealth.org).