



- Please keep your microphone **muted**
- **Questions during the session?** Please use the chat box. We will address the questions in the second part of the webinar
- Note that this webinar will be **recorded** and made available on our IHE-Europe [YouTube channel](#)
- Slides will be **sent to you by email** early next week

**IHE Domains:  
what do they do -  
how can you  
participate -**

**Focus on IHE  
Radiology Domain**



**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> October  
1PM CEST**

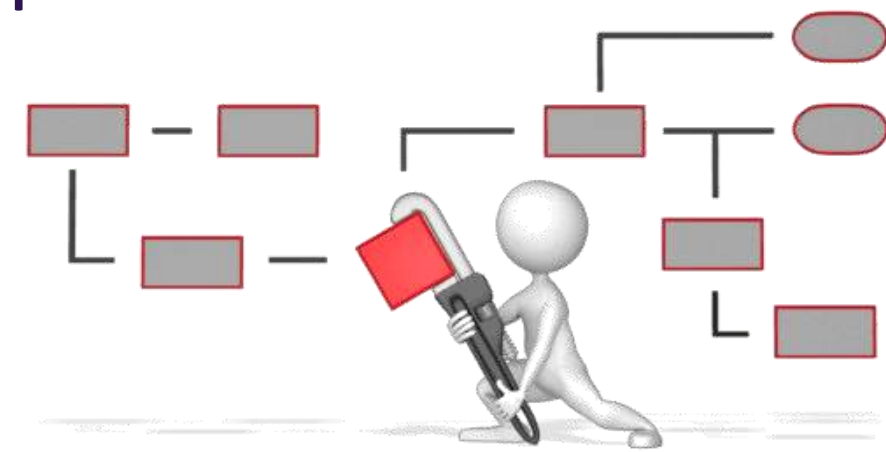


# Developing a Business Use Case (BUC)

## A review of best practices and country examples

IHE Europe Webinar Series  
20-Sep-2024

Silvia Winkler  
Nicole Veggiotti  
Morten Bruun-Rasmussen  
Derek Ritz



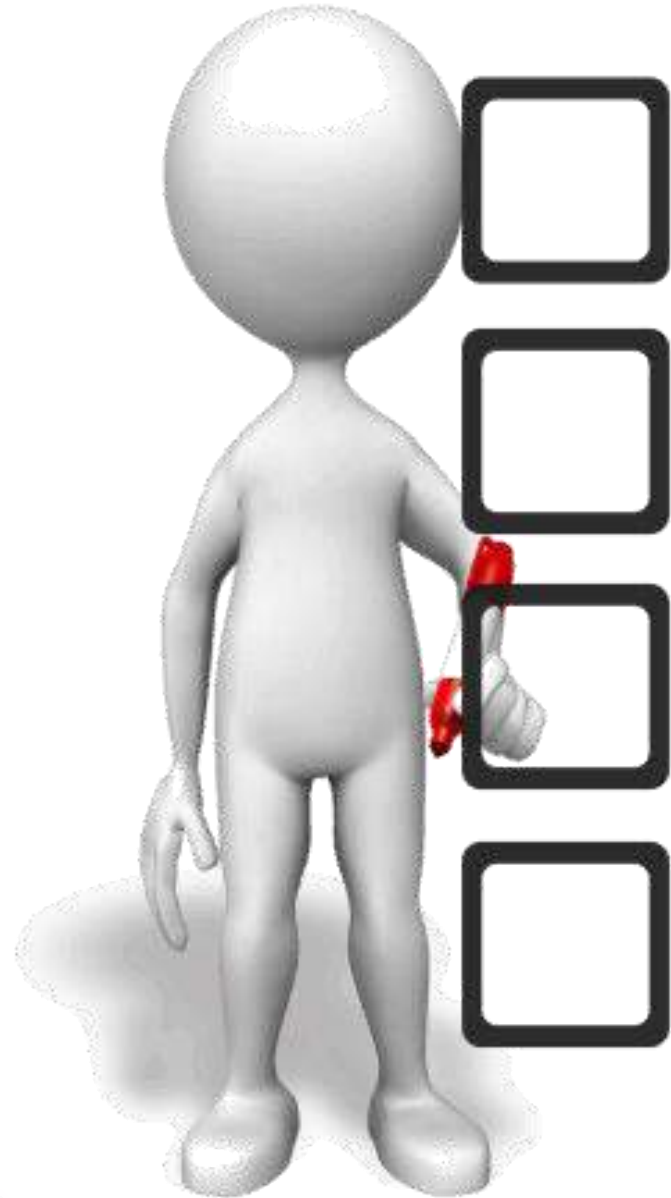
# Agenda

- ❑ Welcome and Introduction
- ❑ Brief overview: IHE Methodology
- ❑ BUC examples:
  - Denmark
  - Austria
  - Italy / Cross-border
- ❑ Mapping BUCs to Implementable Specifications
- ❑ Q&A



# Brief overview: IHE Methodology

# What are the parts to an **implementable, conformance-testable** specification?



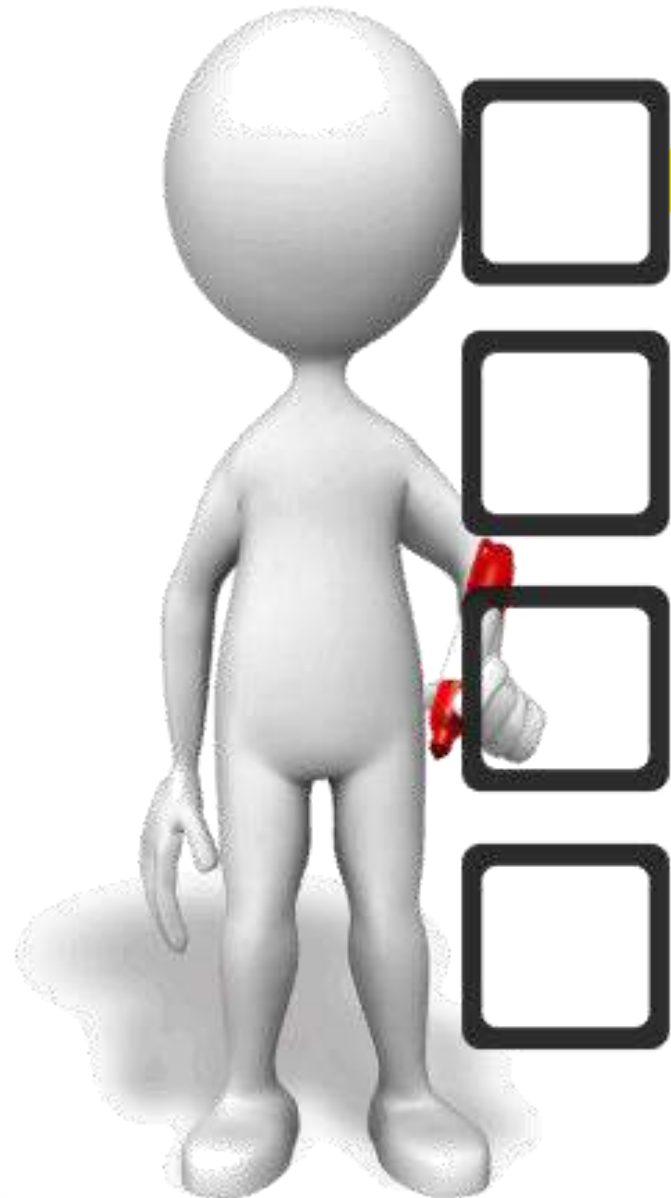
**Vol-1: *Non-engineering*** description of the “interoperability scenario”

**Vol-2:** Engineering specification of the *transactional* behaviours

**Vol-3:** Engineering specification of the digital health *content*

**Vol-4: *Contextualization*** of the specification to comply with *jurisdictional* norms

# What are the parts to an **implementable, conformance-testable** specification?



**Vol-1: *Non-engineering*** description of the “interoperability scenario”

**Vol-2:** Engineering specification of the *transactional* behavior

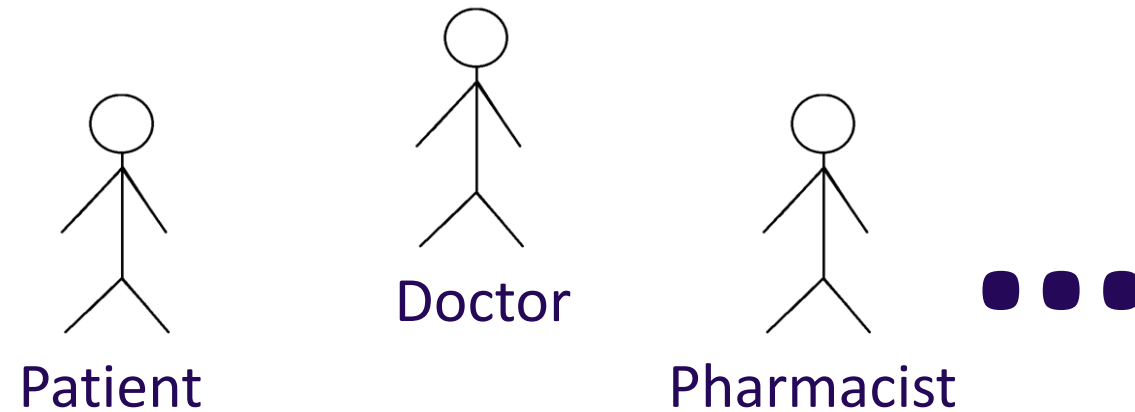
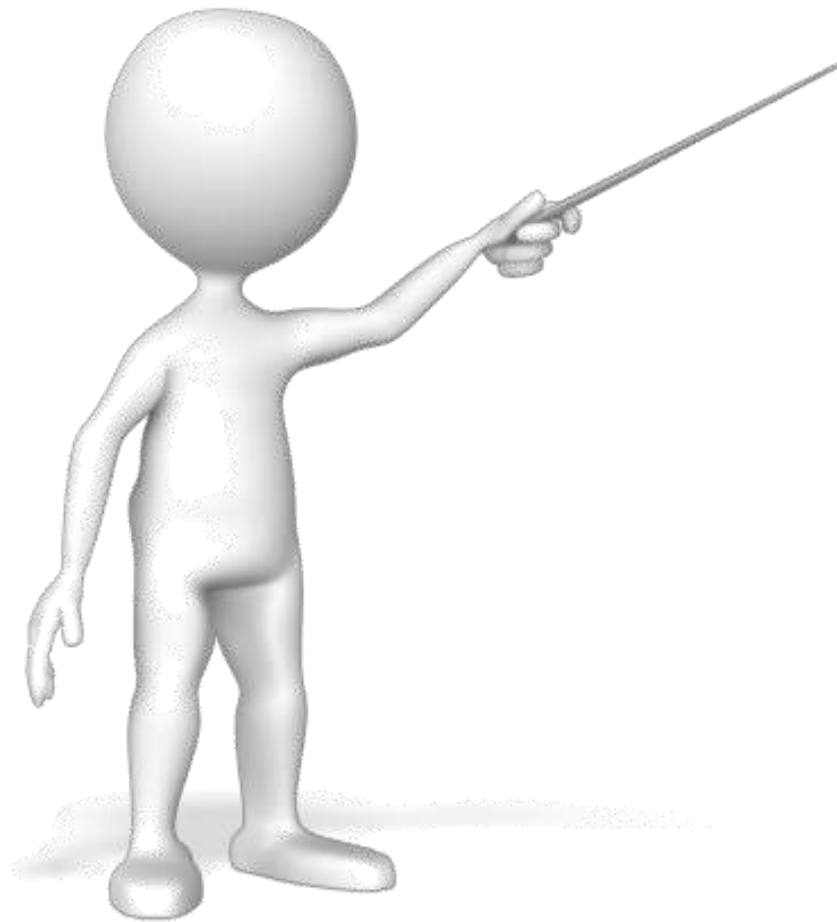
**Vol-3:** Engineering specification of the digital health *content*

**Vol-4: *Contextualization*** comply with *jurisdiction*

The **USE CASE** description is found in **Vol-1**. We *always* start with a specification’s *purpose*, described as a *story*.

# A story has **characters**, and they **interact** with each other within a **context**.

There can be **human** and non-human (**system**) characters. We want to include *both* in our story.





# The story is written as a narrative.



Mrs. Green visits Dr. Black for her diabetes checkup.

To give her safe and high-quality care, Dr. Black wants to know about any healthcare activities since the last time he saw Mrs. Green.

Dr. Black retrieves Mrs. Green's most up-to-date health information from the regional Health Information Exchange.

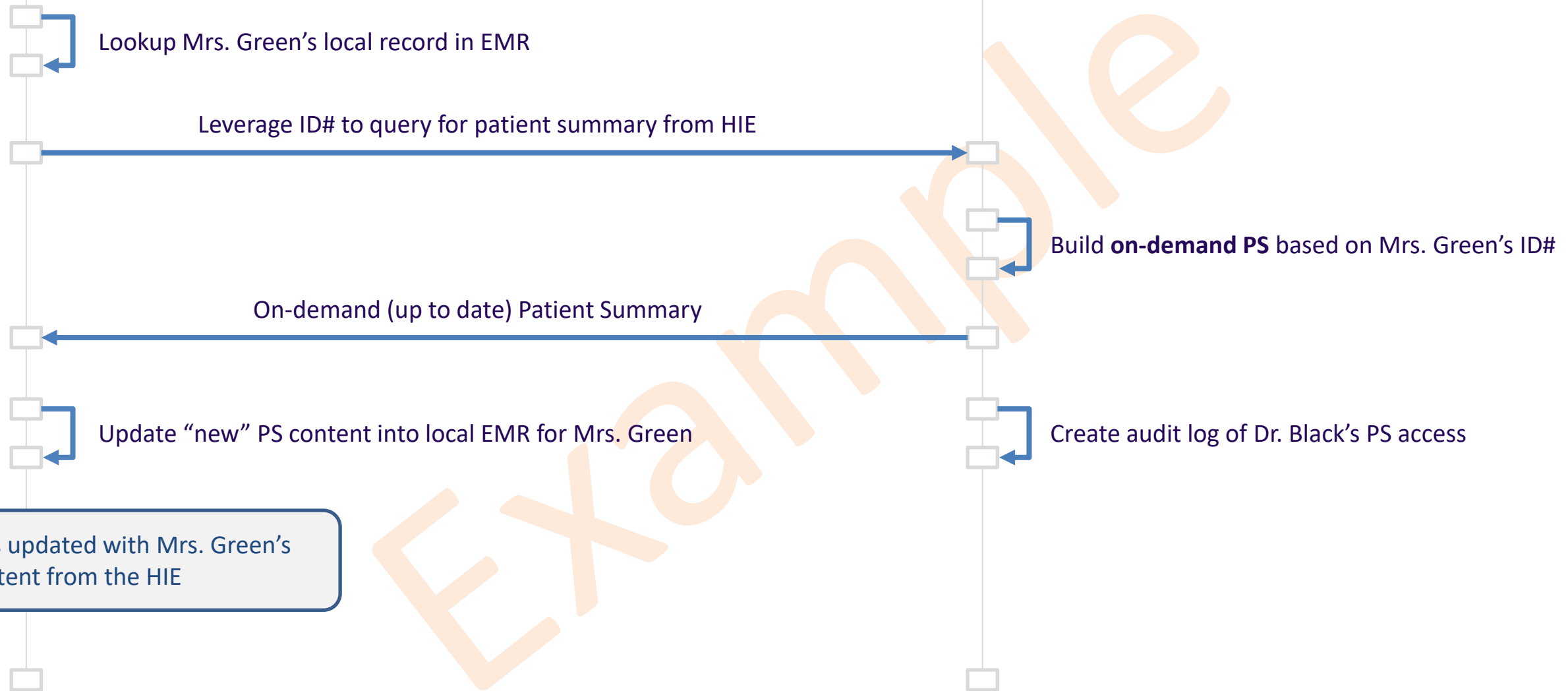
With this up-to-date health information, Dr. Black can discuss with Mrs. Green the best care pathway for her.



Dr. Black has Mrs. Green's health ID#

HIE has content from Mrs. Green's visits throughout the care delivery network, all keyed to her ID#

For added clarity, **story narratives** can be shown in a *diagram*.



Example



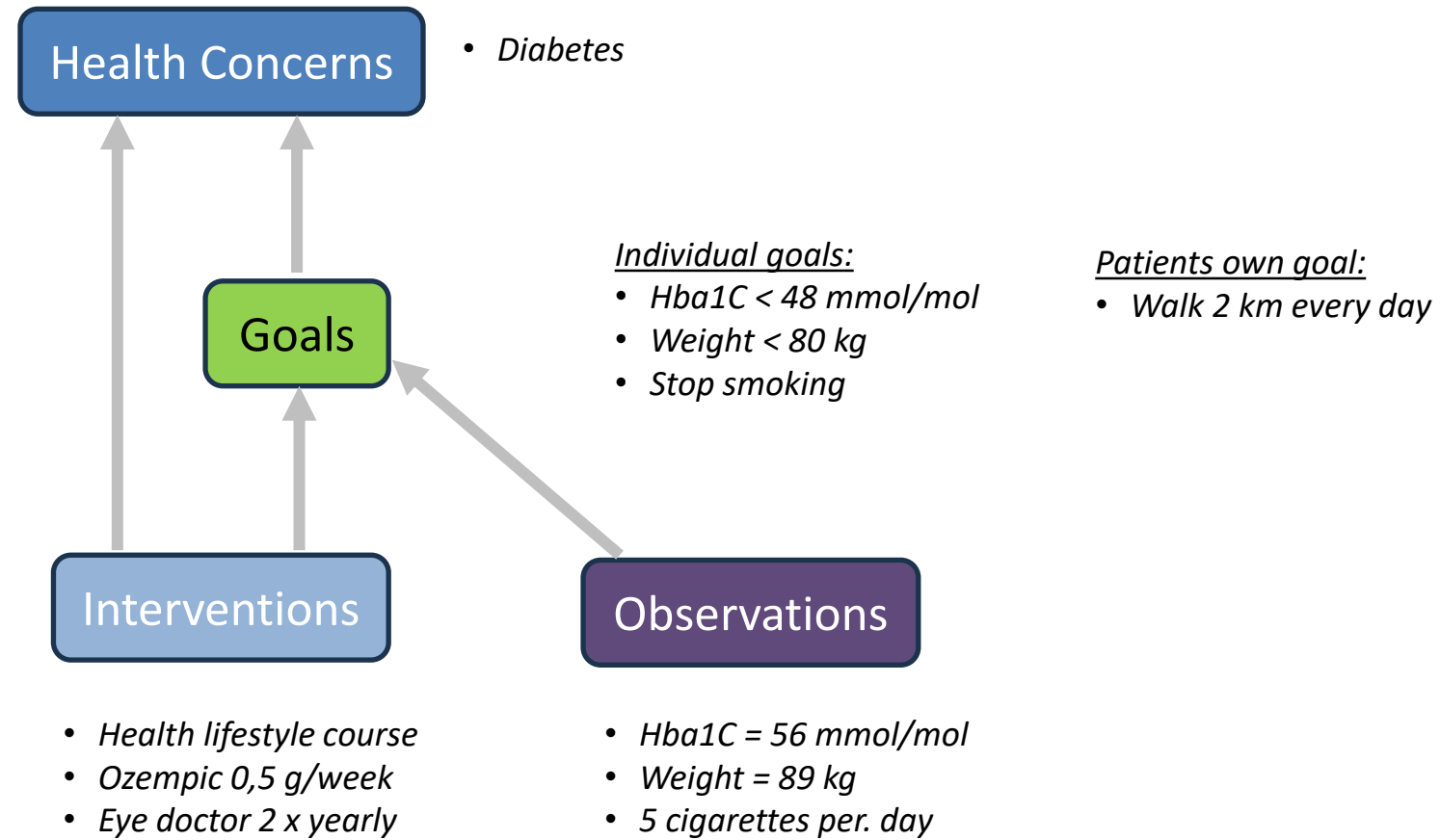
- ❑ Every conformance-testable, implementable digital health specification **begins** (in Vol-1) with one or more **USE CASE** stories.
- ❑ Stories include **characters**; these characters **interact** with each other within a **context**.
- ❑ It is a best practice to identify both the **human** and the non-human (**system**) characters in the story.
- ❑ A “picture” can be worth 1000 words. The story narrative can be illustrated by one or more **diagrams** that show the interactions between the characters – and the situational contexts that **precede** and **follow** these interactions.



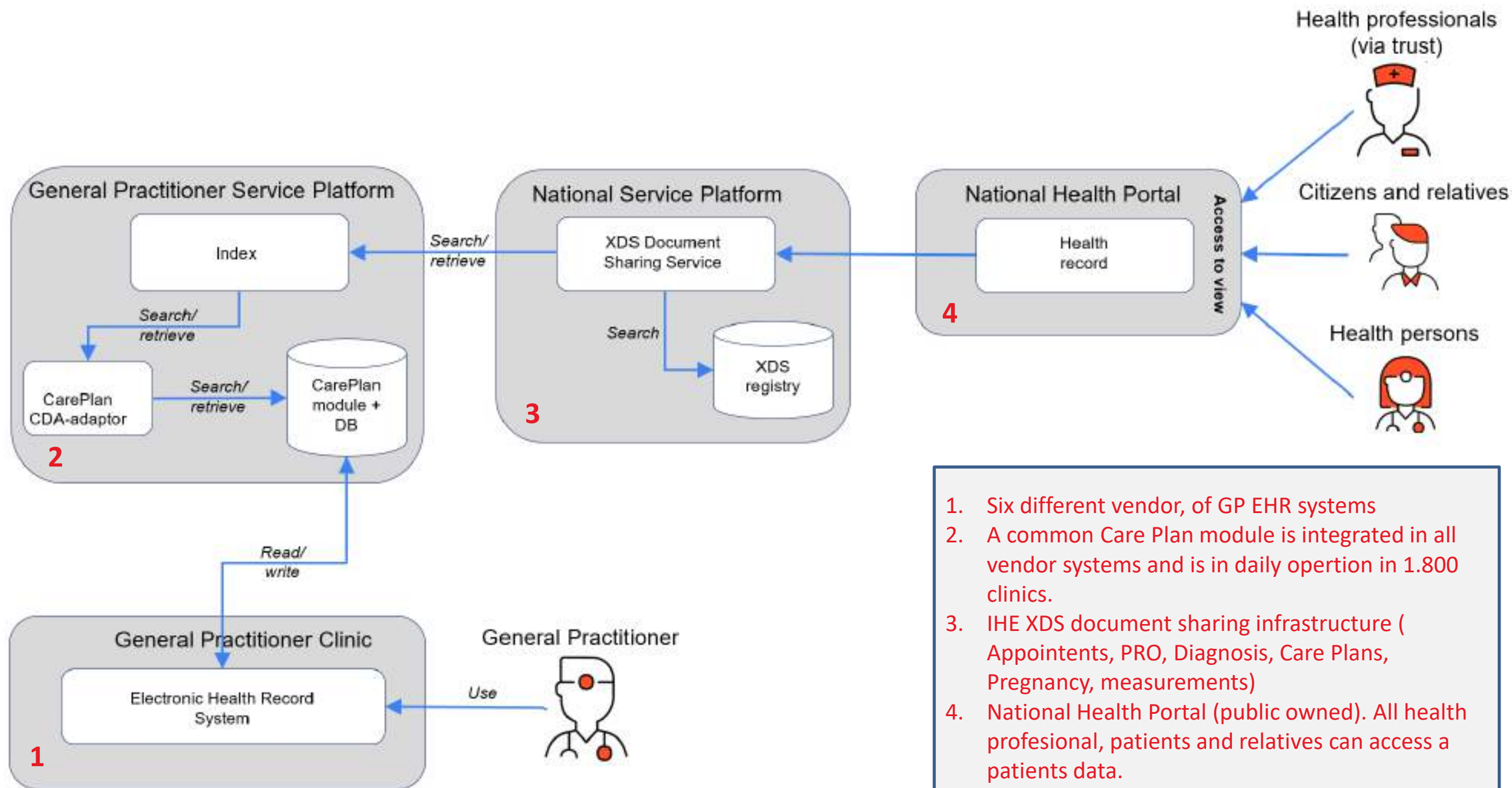
# BUC example: Care Plan Sharing



# What is a Care Plan

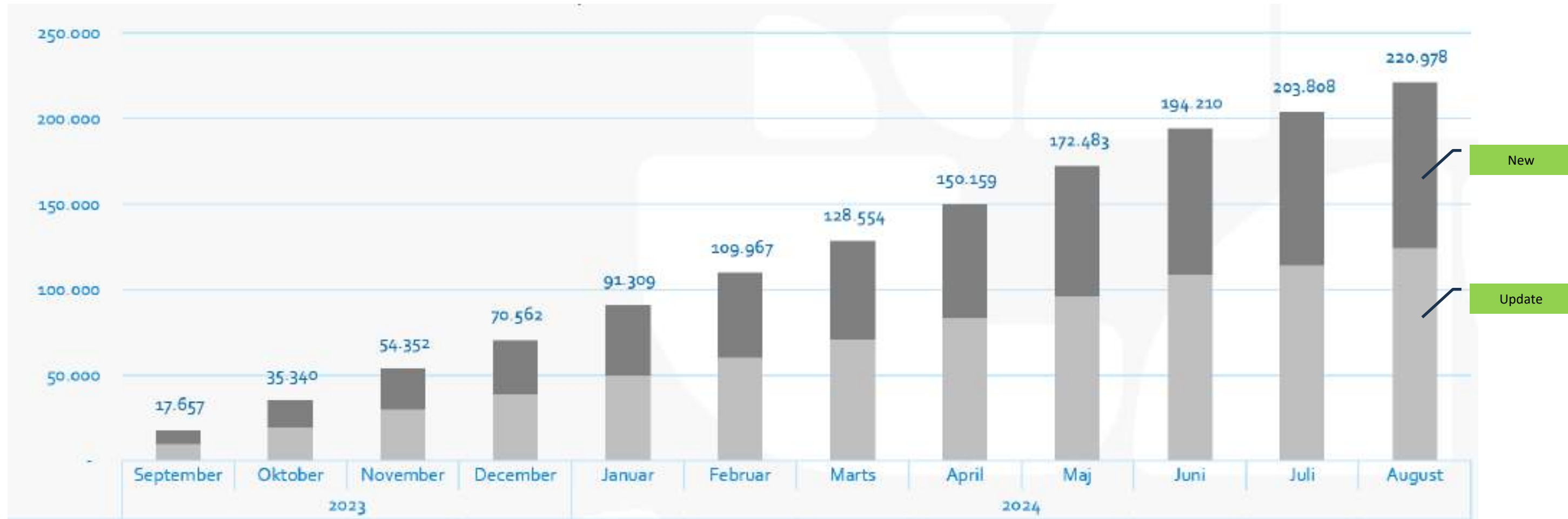


# Care Plan Sharing via the National Health Infrastructure



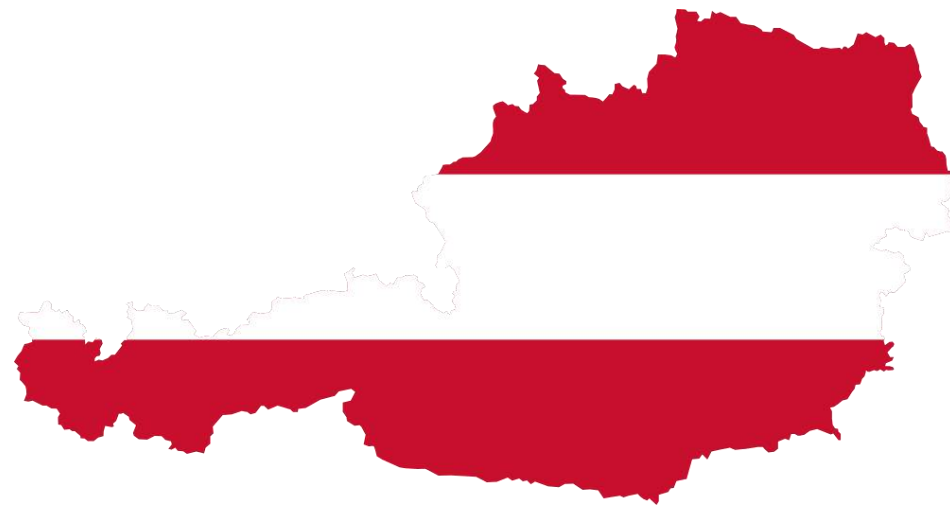
1. Six different vendor, of GP EHR systems
2. A common Care Plan module is integrated in all vendor systems and is in daily operation in 1.800 clinics.
3. IHE XDS document sharing infrastructure ( Appointments, PRO, Diagnosis, Care Plans, Pregnancy, measurements)
4. National Health Portal (public owned). All health profesional, patients and relatives can access a patients data.

# Monitoring





# BUC example: Radiology





# ELGA: Radiology Image Exchange

## Primary Use Cases

- Assignment
- Request
- Referral

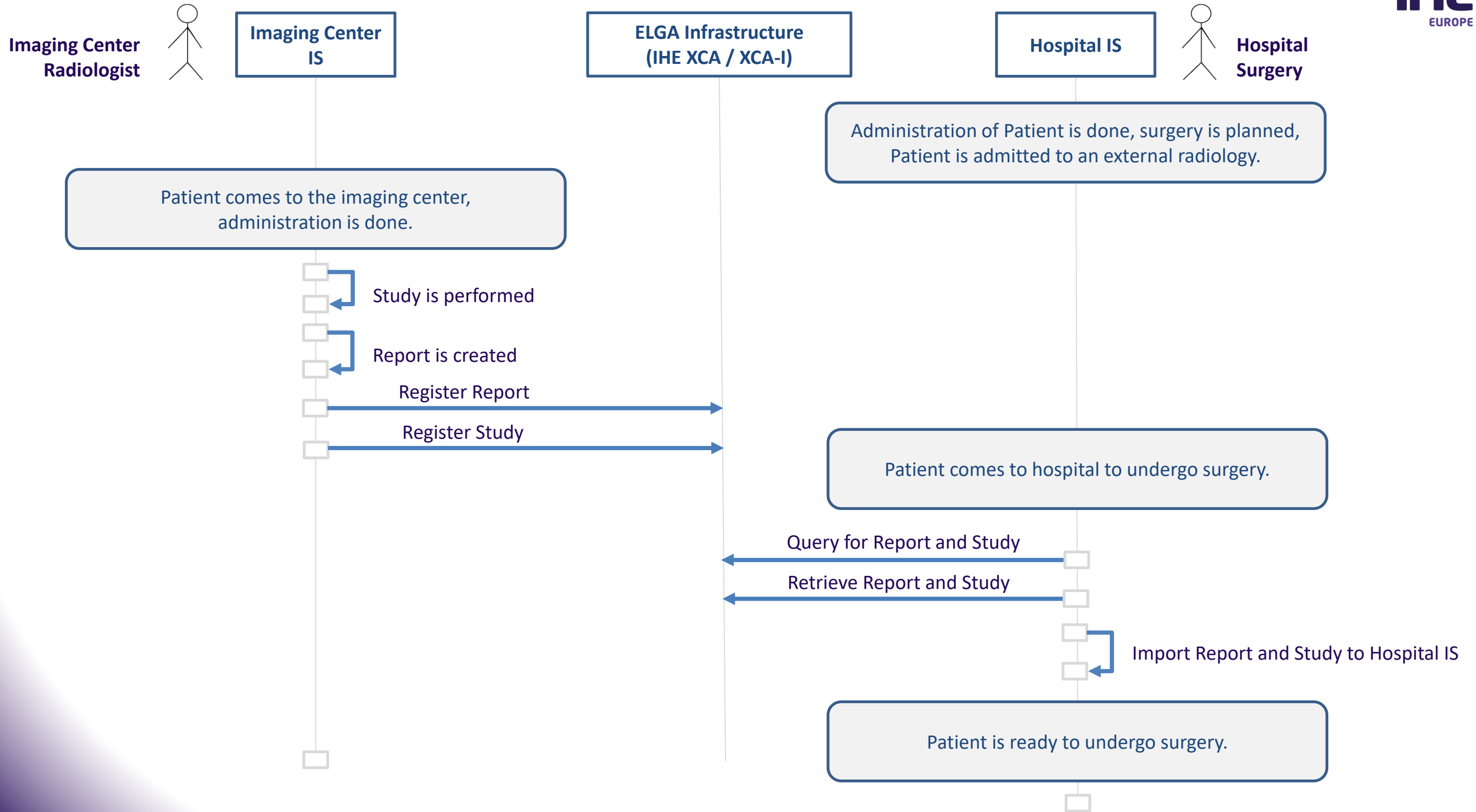
## Secondary Use Cases

- Mamma-Screening
- Preliminary Reads
- Expert Opinion

Helm E, Schuler A, Mayr H. Cross-Enterprise Communication and Data Exchange in Radiology in Austria: Technology and Use Cases. Stud Health Technol Inform. 2018;248:64-71.  
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29726420/>

# BUC Image Exchange in Case of Assignment

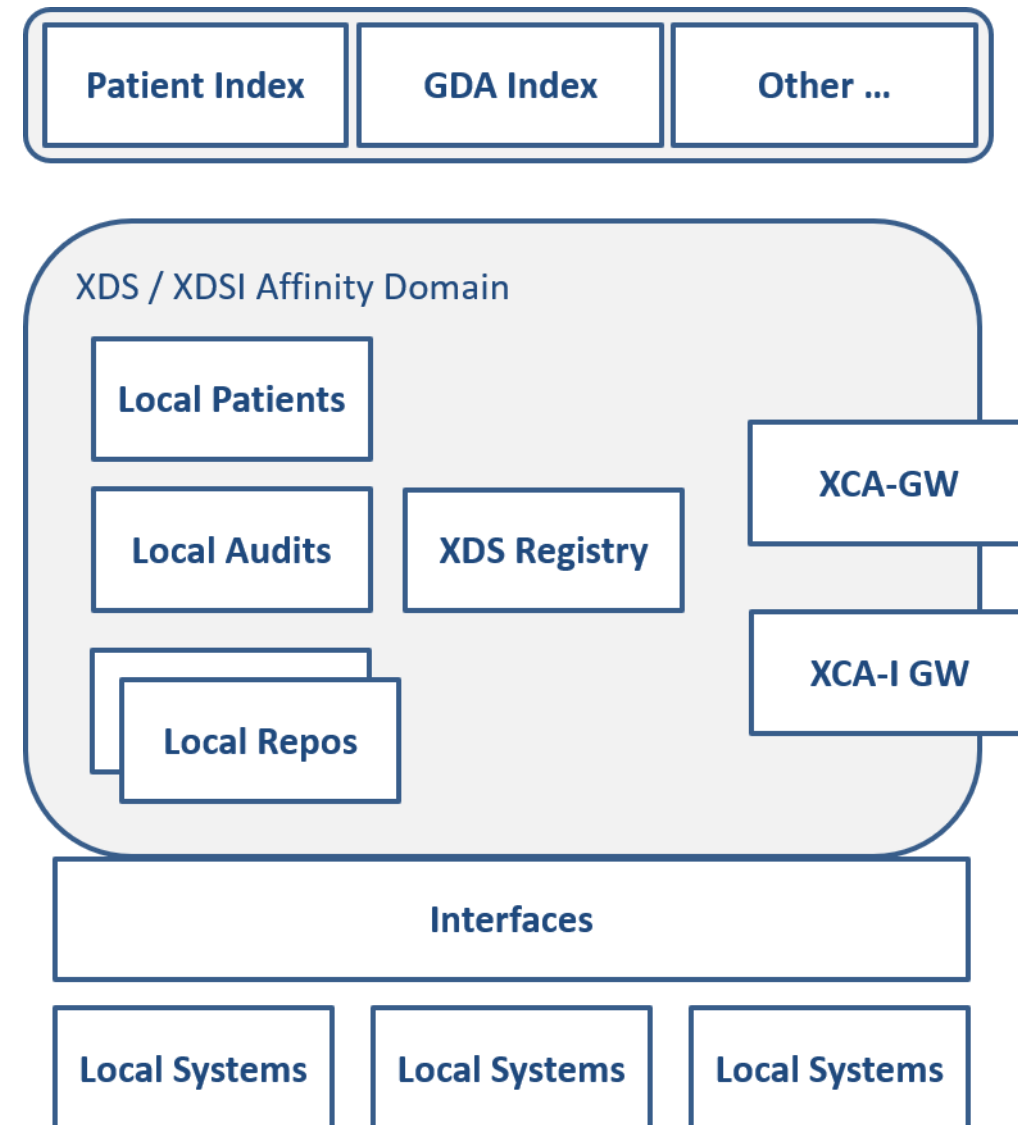
- ❑ Patient has to undergo surgery in an hospital and is requested to have a CT exam before.
  - Patient books this exam at an imaging center outside the hospital.
- ❑ The imaging center does the CT study and creates a report.
- ❑ Report and CT study is registered in ELGA.
- ❑ Patient comes to hospital to have surgery.
- ❑ Report and CT Images are available in ELGA.
  - CT study and report may be downloaded for further use in hospital



# BUC Image Exchange in Case of Assignment

## ELGA Infrastructure

- ❑ XCA / XCA-I Architecture
- ❑ > 10 Affinity Domains with divergent internal structure
- ❑ Central services:
  - Patient Index
  - Index of Healthcare Providers
  - Terminology Server
  - Authorization
  - Patient Portal
  - Audit Trail



## Using ELGA, the Austrian eHealth infrastructure, in radiology Use Cases



- ❑ is a paradigm shift from “push” to “pull” – this avoids administration of hundreds of point-to-point connections
- ❑ makes data available whenever and wherever needed - for the actual case and beyond
- ❑ enforces the out-hospital sector with the promise of more efficiency and cost reduction



# BUC example: Patient-facing App (PFA)



# Unicom and Patient-Facing Apps

*Project acronym: UNICOM*

*Project name: Up-scaling of global unique drug identification*

*Funding: Horizon 2020 IA, Grant Agreement no. 875299*

*Duration: December 2019 - May 2024*

The UNICOM project helps to ensure that any drug and its contents can be accurately identified anywhere in the world.

In UNICOM, patient-facing apps aim to empower patients' access to medicinal information and find substitute drugs abroad.

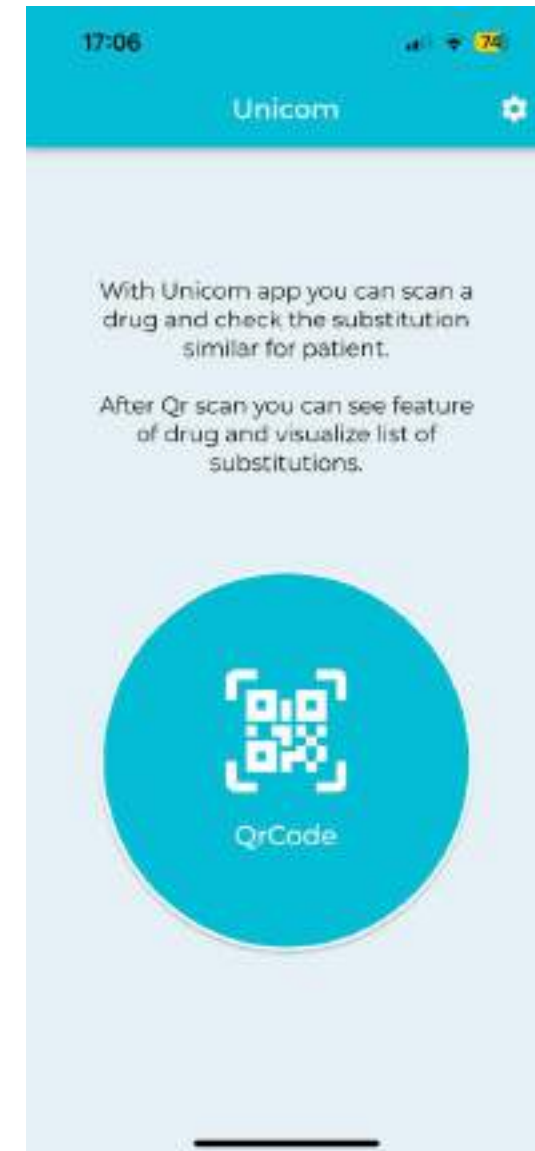
An important purpose of these applications is to provide patients **with information about the medications they are taking, put them on their personal medication list, and have a secure tool with them when travelling abroad** to find the same or equivalent medications in a foreign country.

# Types of applications

The UNICOM project provides two types of applications.

One type is dedicated to patients, and three different applications are developed for this scope (Pharmawizard4UNICOM, eHealthPass, and InfoSAGE).

The second type is dedicated to healthcare providers.



gnomon  
INFORMATICS S.A.

> BENEFICIARIES

Beth Israel Lahey Health  
Beth Israel Deaconess  
Medical Center



UNICOM

Datawizard



# Patient-Facing Apps (PFA)

With the Patient-Facing App the user is able to:



**Create a Medication List**

The patient saves Medicinal Products on his/her mobile device

**Generate QR codes for the Healthcare Provider App**

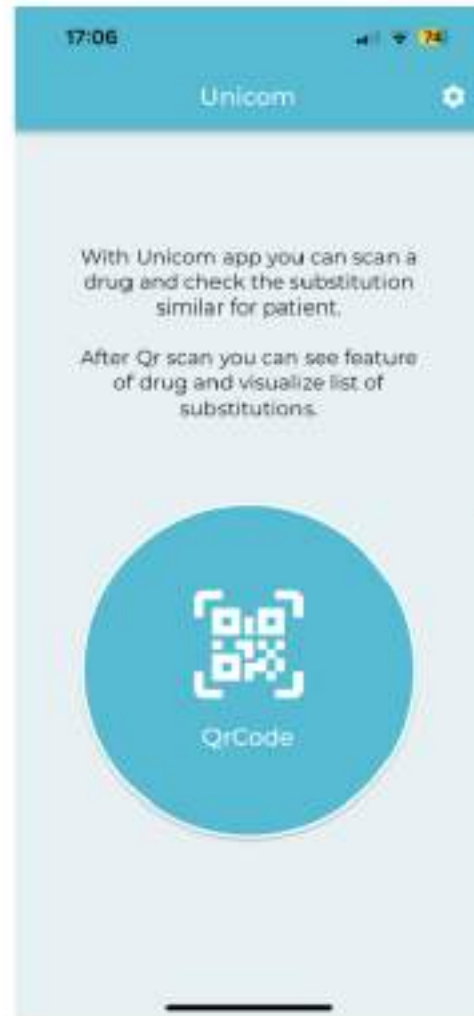
To communicate with the pharmacist (dispenser) about the drug that need to be substituted

**Add substitute drugs to the Medication List**

To record pharmacist's chosen medication on the app

# Healthcare Provider App (HCPA)

With the HealthCare Provider App the user is able to:



Scan FPA-generated QR codes

To obtain a list of similar medications and their characteristics

View the medication the patient is currently taking

Thanks to a Medication-IDMP Multilanguage Representation

Consult a list of potential substitute medications

To select the best substitute medications for the patient

Generate a QR Code to be sent back to the PFA

To inform the patient with the chosen medication's characteristics

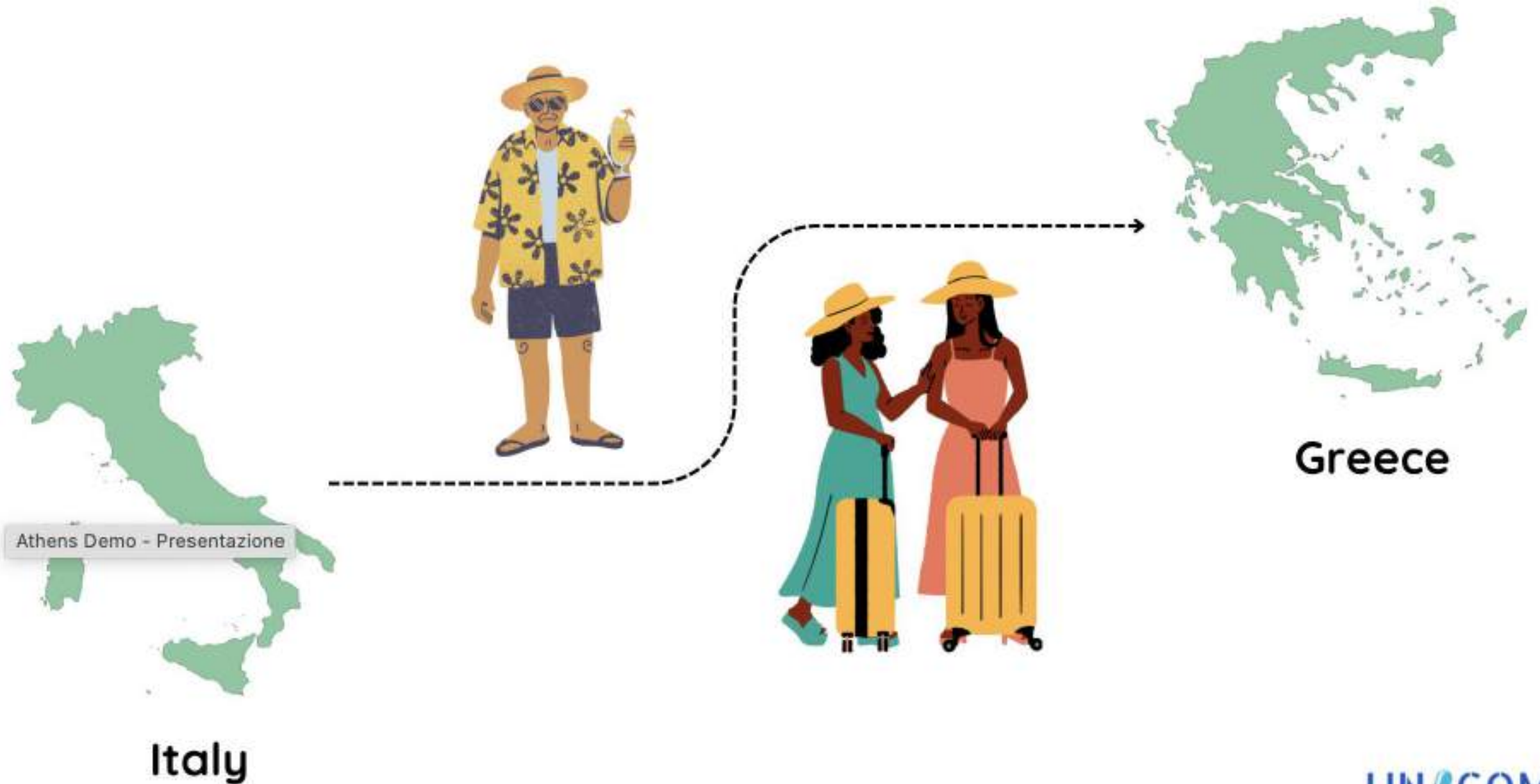
# Our citizen: Mario!

The use case presented involves a Italian citizen Mario suffers from epileptic attacks and uses **carbamazepine** to treat this disease

Patient medication list:  
**Carbamazepine, to treat epileptic attacks**



# Italian citizen travels to Greece



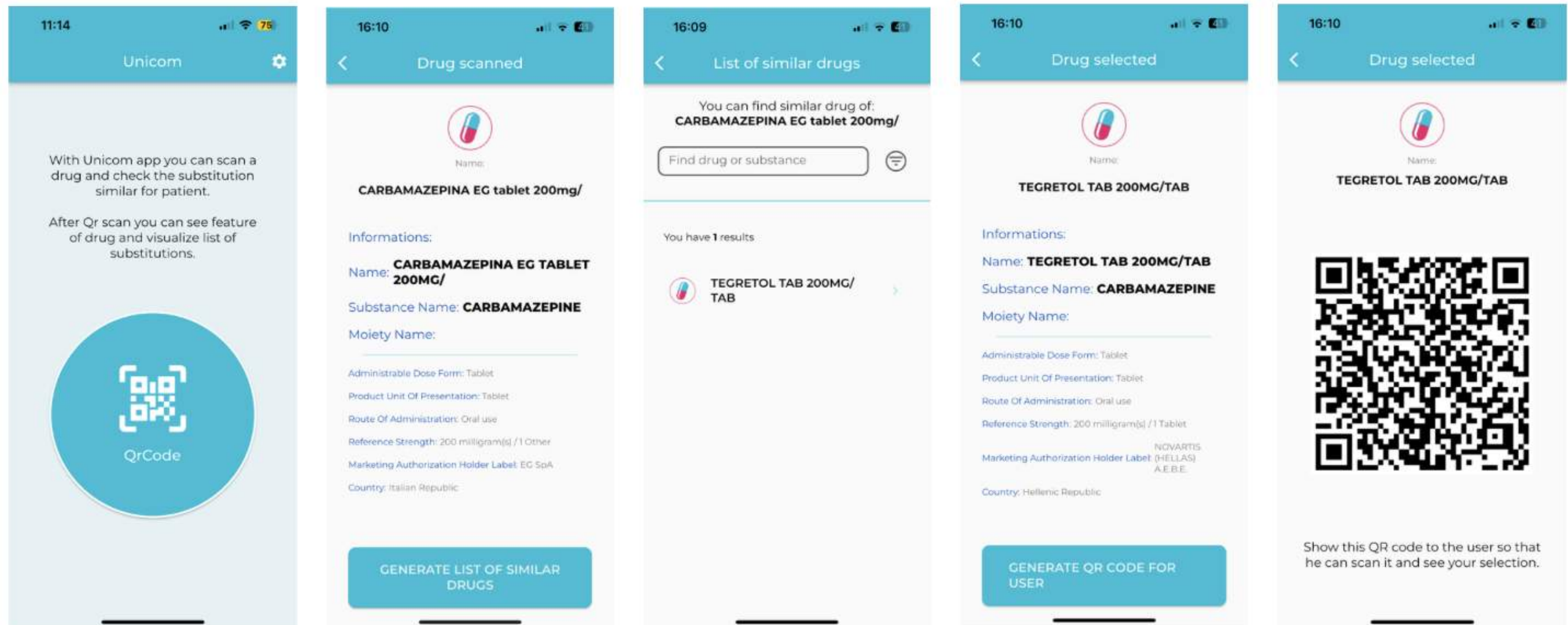
# Italian citizen travels to Greece

The Italian citizen goes to Greece on holiday but forgets the medicine **carmazepine** at home in Italy. **He absolutely must find a good substitute for his carbamazepine.** He goes to the pharmacy, and thanks to the application provided by the UNICOM project...



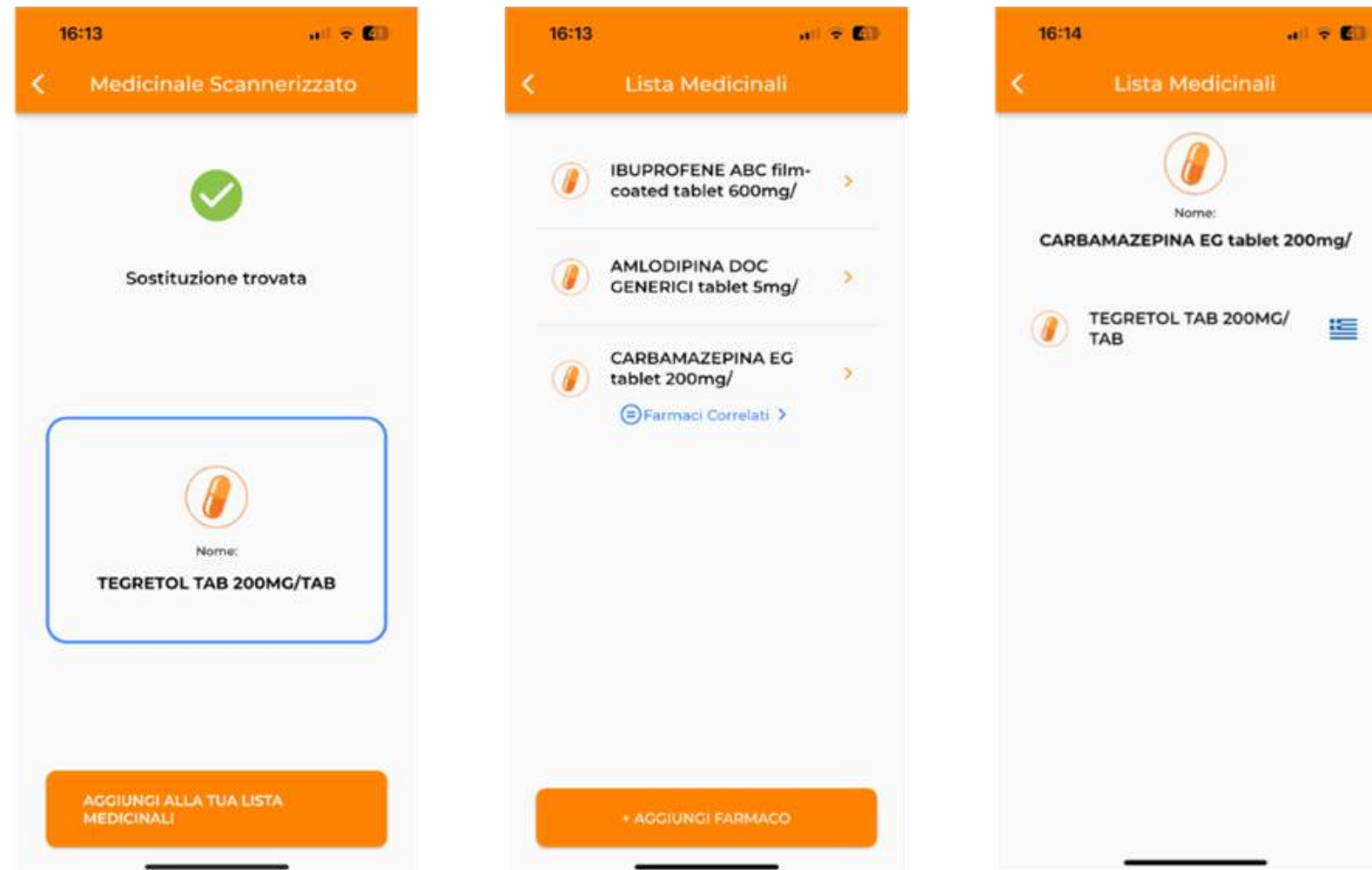
# Italian citizen travels to Greece

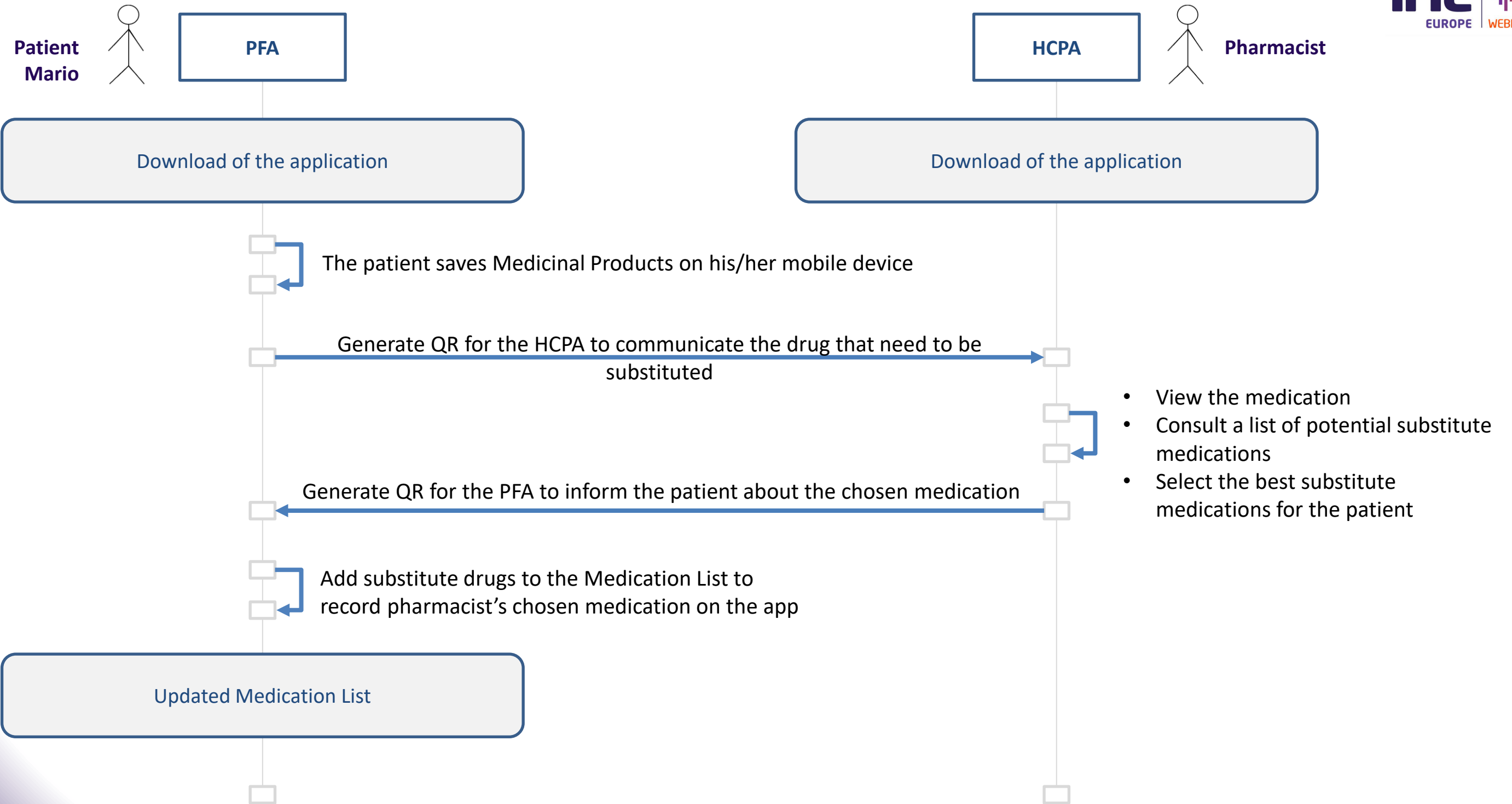
The pharmacist recognizes that the medicine comes from Italy. Thanks to the HCPA, the dispenser **can identify a similar medicine marketed in Greece**. The dispenser shows the patient the new drug.



# Italian citizen travels to Greece

The Italian citizen scans the pharmacist's QR code and adds this drug to the Medication List. Now the Italian citizen has **carbamazepine** in his bag





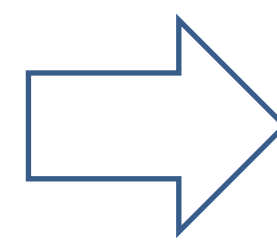
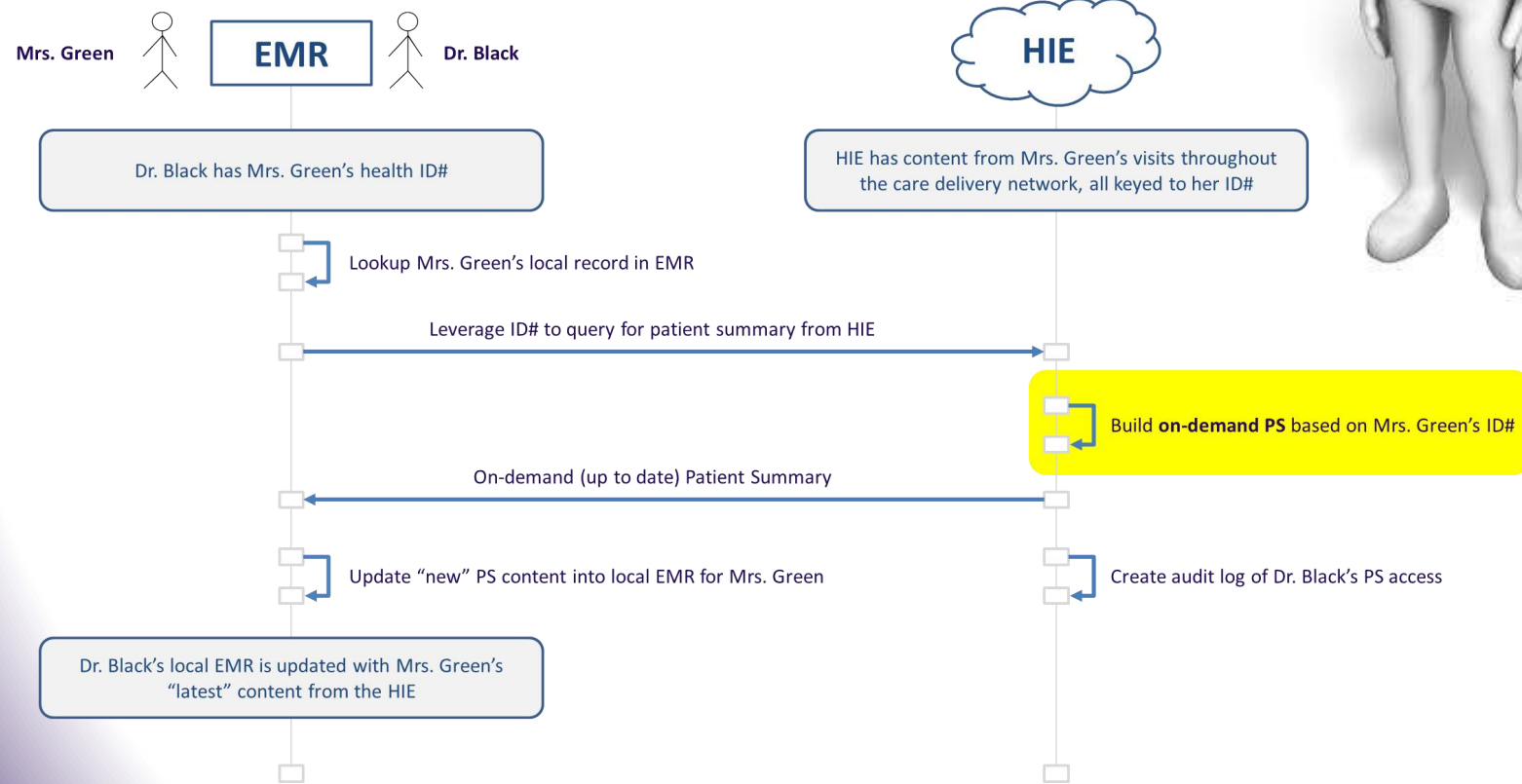


# Re-usable Lego<sup>®</sup> blocks: IHE Profiles



How do we get  
from *stories* to  
specifications?





Canada Health Infoway  
Inforoute Santé du Canada



Domestically, Canada has adopted a **4-phase model** based on the IHE Methodology as its **process** for digital health specification development.

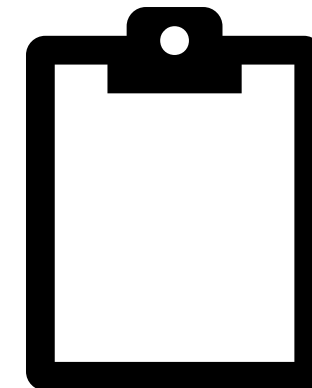


**Canada Health Infoway**  
**Inforoute Santé du Canada**



1

Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition

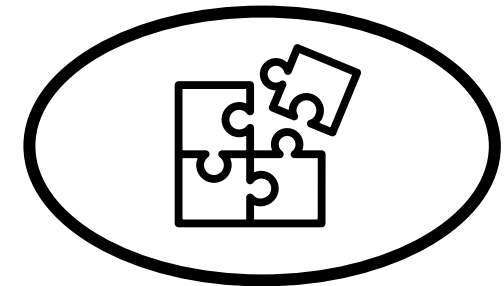


Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



# 2

## Phase 2 Workflow Components



Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition

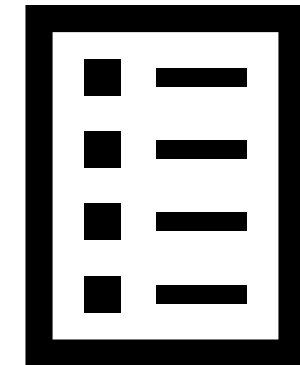


Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



# 3

## Phase 3 Interoperability Standards



Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components

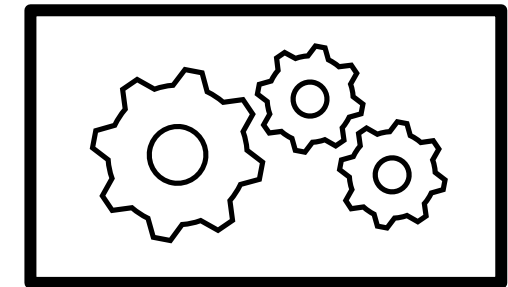


Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards



# 4

## Phase 4 Implementable Architecture





Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components

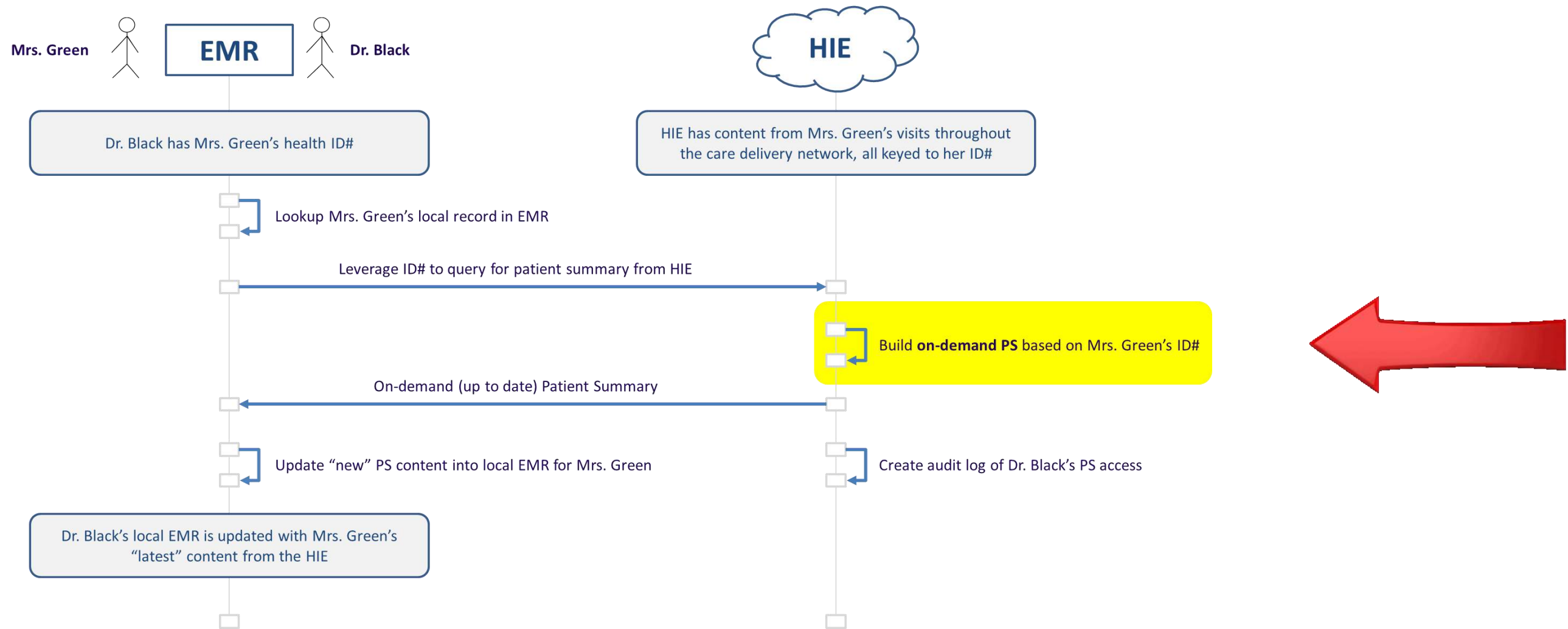


Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards



Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture





Let's illustrate this with an example...

Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards



Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture

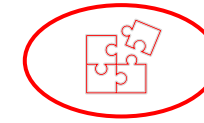


The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `infoscribe.infoway-inforoute.ca/display/SPS/National+and+International+Knowledge+Base`. The page title is "InfoScribe" and it features a navigation menu on the left with categories like "Overview", "How to Contribute FAQ", "National and International", "What's New?", "Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations", "National Patient Summary", "Alberta Patient Summary", "British Columbia Patient Summary", "Newfoundland Patient Summary", "Ontario Patient Summary", "Saskatchewan Patient Summary", and "Vendors". The main content area displays a highlighted section titled "UC-06 - HCP requests PS from EHR on Demand" with the text: "Health Care Provider requests a Patient Summary from the EHR, which is created on-demand at the time of request from one or more source systems for viewing and consumption." Below this is a blue button labeled "BC, ON" and a paragraph: "Please refer to the [National Patient Summary Analysis](#) page for more details." A red arrow points from the right side of the page towards this highlighted section. Further down, there is a red heading: "Canadian Patient Summary Planning and Implementations Alignment with the International Patient Summary (IPS) Composition" and a note: "Note: this alignment is from a high-level perspective only. Additional analysis of the data elements within each implementation is required." At the bottom, there are two asterisked notes: "\*We will add additional information from each PT as it becomes available" and "\*CIHI PHC EMR MDS and CA Baseline comparison work underway".

Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



Phase 2  
**Workflow  
Components**



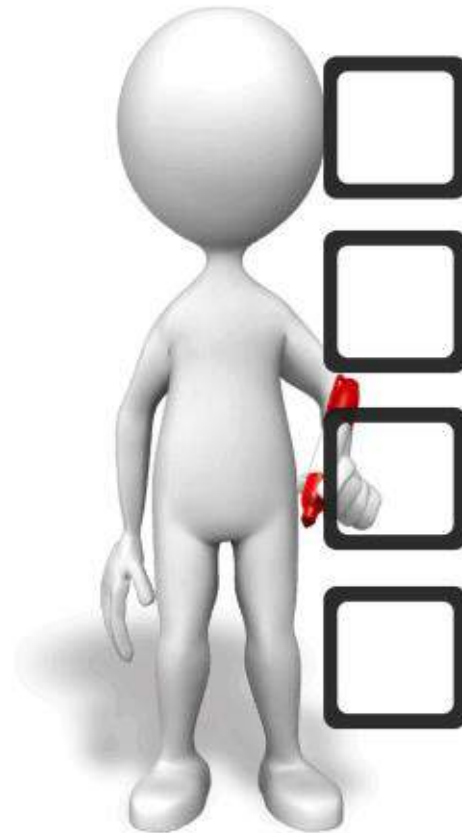
Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards



Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture



An on-demand  
**Patient Summary  
Builder** would need  
to be able to...



**Unambiguously identify the patient (get the enterprise ID)**

**Get permission to access data sources holding this patient's data**

**Use this permission to fetch data from all the pertinent sources**

**Assemble the retrieved data into a well-formed patient summary**



**IHE**  
INTERNATIONAL

Making  
Healthcare  
Interoperable

**Domain Committees**

- Radiology
- IT Infrastructure
- Pharmacy
- Quality, Research & Public Health
- Patient Care Coordination
- Cardiology
- Devices
- Eye Care
- Dental
- Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
- Radiation Oncology

**Deployment Committees**

*Create engineering artefacts.*

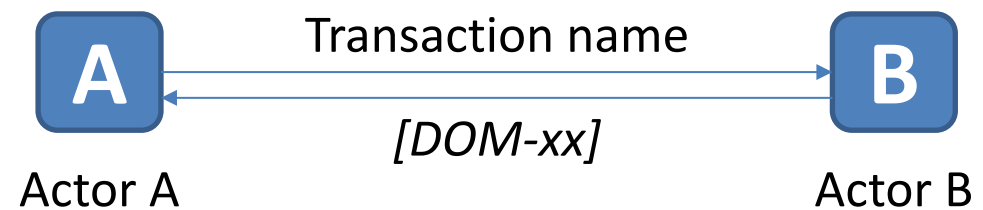
©2021 CANADA HEALTH INFOWAY

Canada Health Infoway

A bit of pedagogy...



At the heart of IHE's engineering artefacts is the notion of re-usable building blocks: the **actor-transaction pair**.



Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



**Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards**



Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture



**Patient Demographics  
Consumer**



**Patient Identity  
Registry**



*Mobile patient demographics  
query [ITI-78]*

**Unambiguously identify the patient (get the enterprise ID)**

Get permission to access data sources holding this patient's data

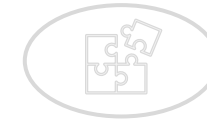
Use this permission to fetch data from all the pertinent sources

Assemble the retrieved data into a well-formed patient summary

Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



**Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards**



Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture



**Authorization  
Client**



**Authorization  
Server**



*Get access token  
[ITI-71]*

- Unambiguously identify the patient (get the enterprise ID)
- Get permission to access data sources holding this patient's data**

Use this permission to fetch data from all the pertinent sources

Assemble the retrieved data into a well-formed patient summary

Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



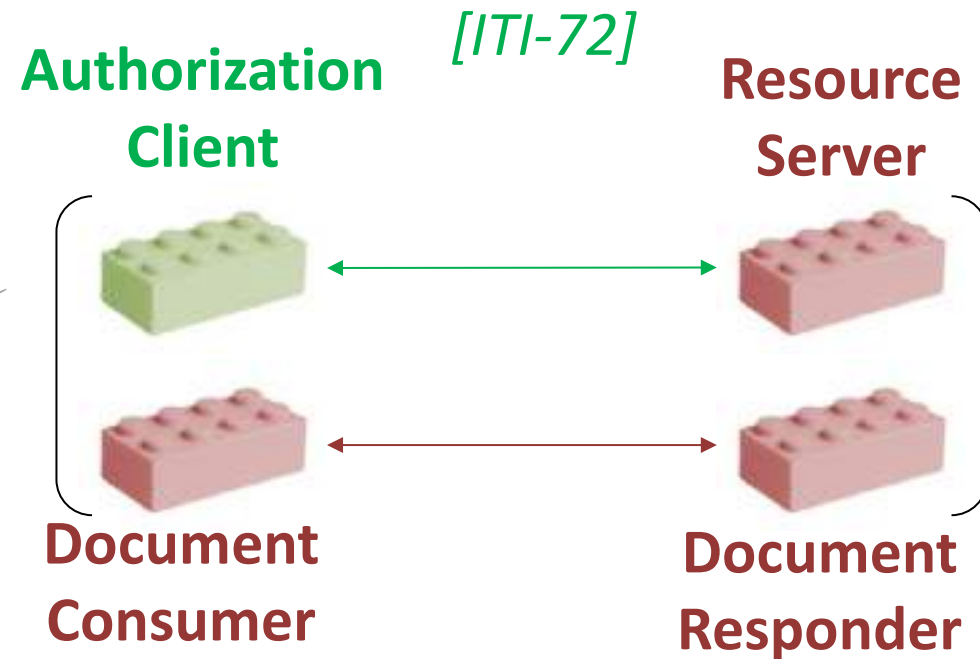
**Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards**



Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture



*Incorporate access token*



*Find document references*

[ITI-67]

*Retrieve document*

[ITI-68]

- Unambiguously identify the patient (get the enterprise ID)
- Get permission to access data sources holding this patient's data
- Use this permission to fetch data from all the pertinent sources**

Assemble the retrieved data into a well-formed patient summary



Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



Phase 3  
**Interoperability  
Standards**



Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture



*Incorporate access token*

*[ITI-72]*

**Authorization  
Client**

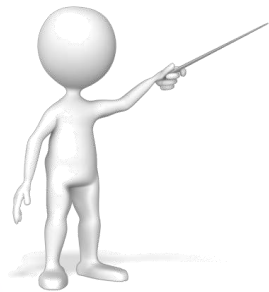
**Resource  
Server**

**Clinical Data  
Consumer**

**Clinical Data  
Responder**

*Mobile query existing data*

*[PCC-44]*



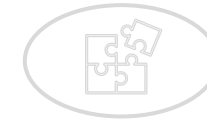
- Unambiguously identify the patient (get the enterprise ID)
- Get permission to access data sources holding this patient's data
- Use this permission to fetch data from all the pertinent sources**

Assemble the retrieved data into a well-formed patient summary

Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



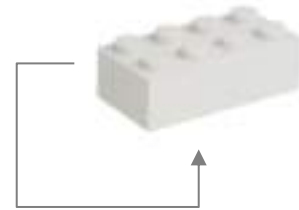
**Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards**



Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture



## Patient Summary Builder



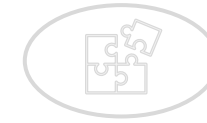
*Assemble patient summary  
[CAN-01]*

- Unambiguously identify the patient (get the enterprise ID)
- Get permission to access data sources holding this patient's data
- Use this permission to fetch data from all the pertinent sources
- Assemble the retrieved data into a well-formed patient summary**

Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



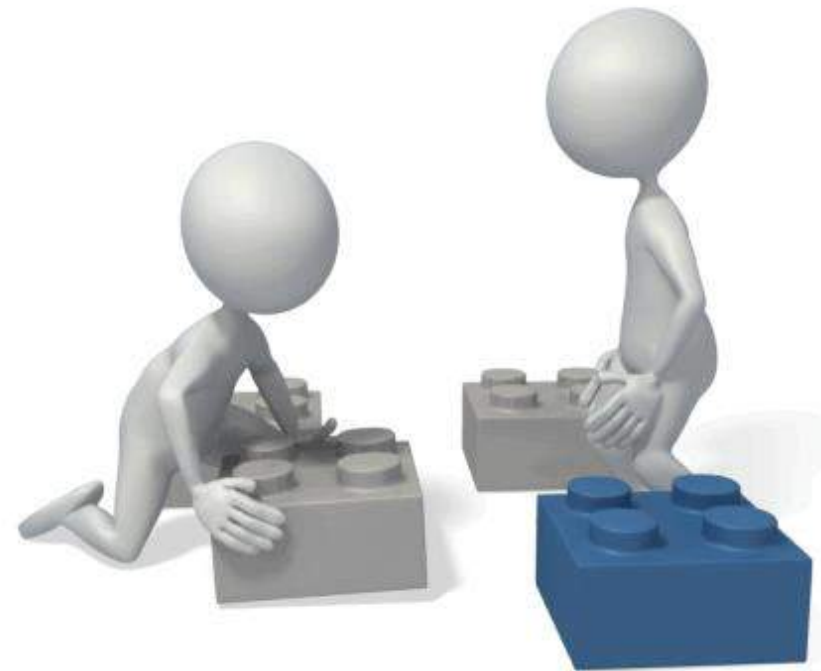
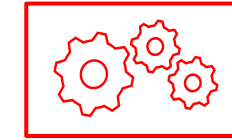
Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards



Phase 4  
**Implementable  
Architecture**



We need to “assemble” the characteristics of our new **Patient Summary Builder** actor from the already-existing building blocks, *plus* define the normative properties of a new “**Assemble patient summary**” transaction.

Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



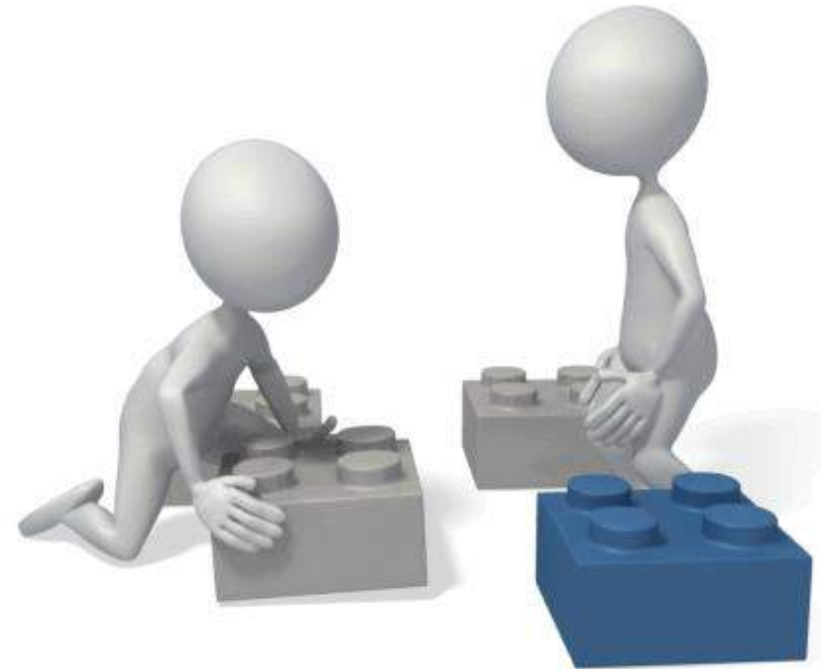
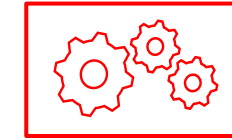
Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards



**Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture**



Patient Summary Builder  
[CAN-01]

We need to “assemble” the characteristics of our new Patient Summary Assembler actor from the available building blocks, plus define the normative properties of a new “Assemble patient summary” transaction.

Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



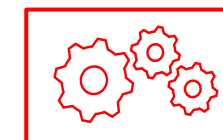
Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



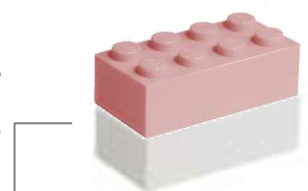
Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards



**Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture**



Clinical Data Consumer  
Patient Summary Builder



[CAN-01]

[PCC-44]



Clinical Data Source

Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



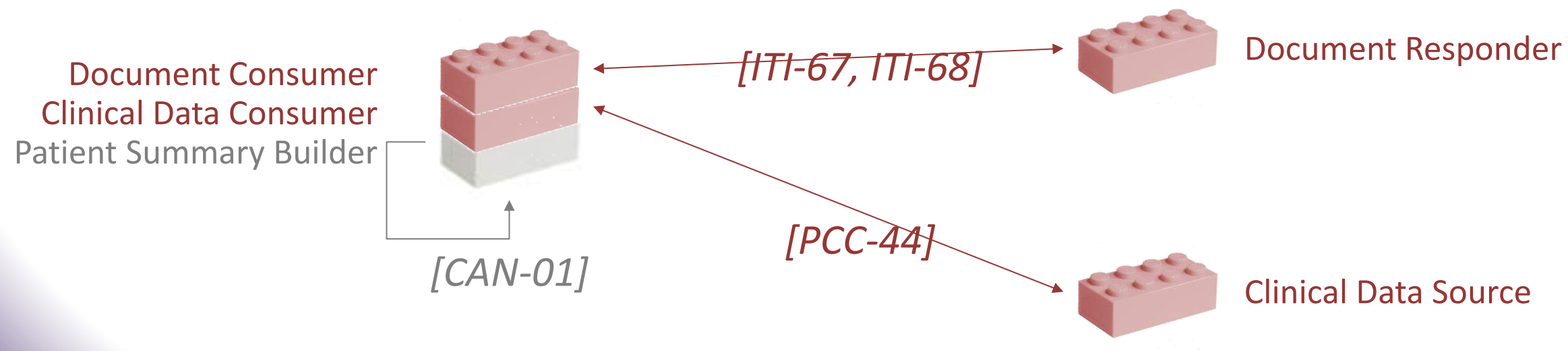
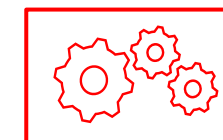
Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards



**Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture**



Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



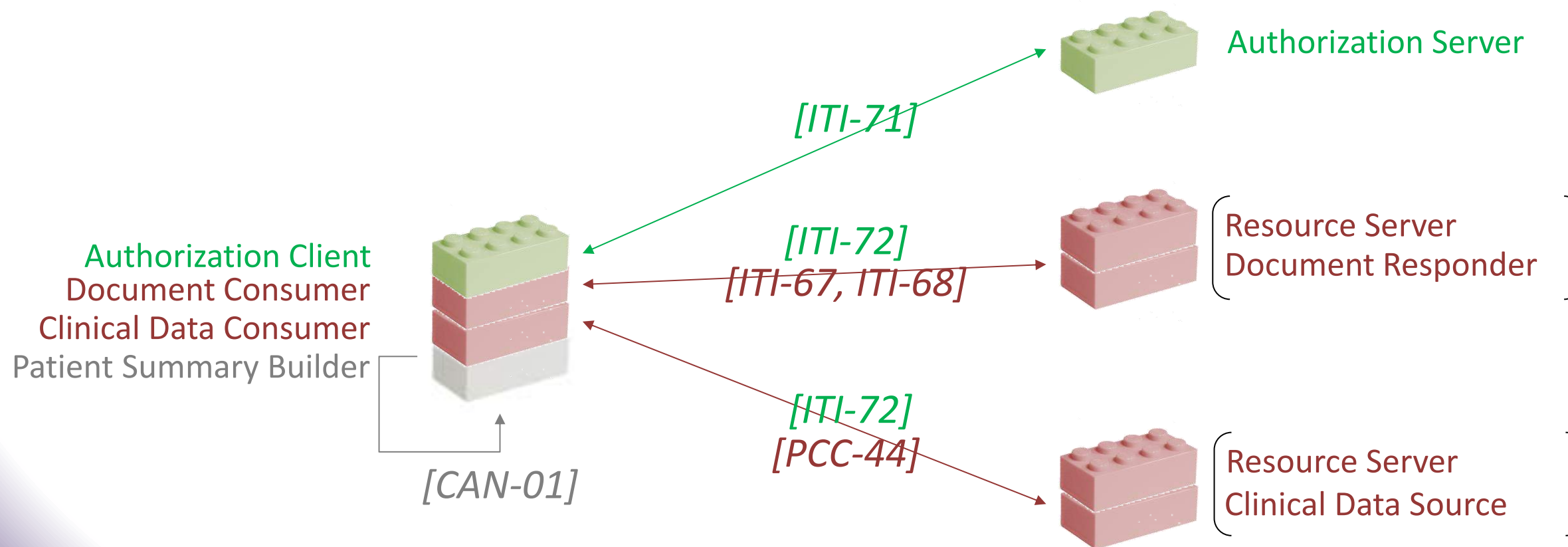
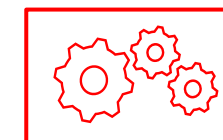
Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards



Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture



Phase 1  
Clinical/Business  
Definition



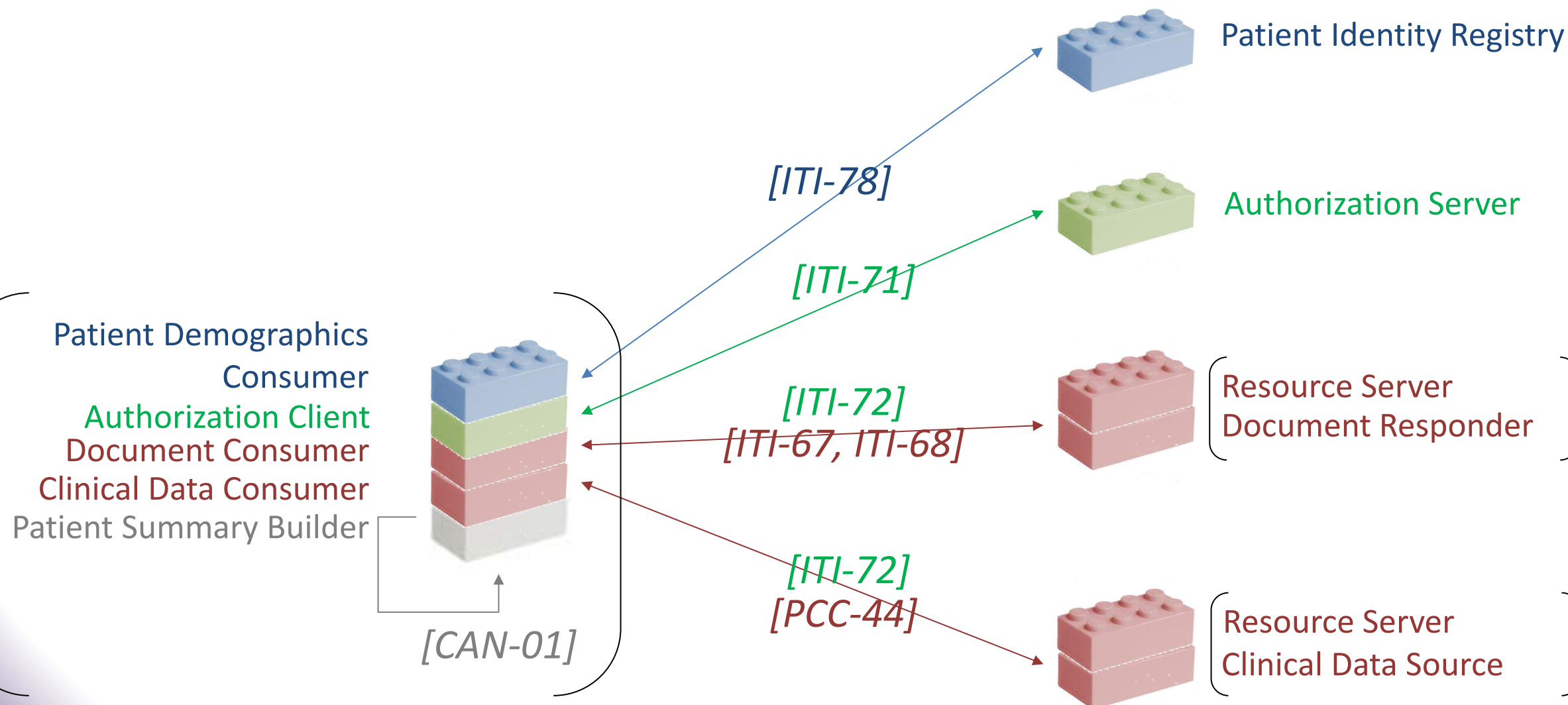
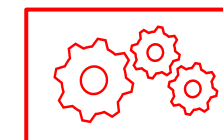
Phase 2  
Workflow  
Components



Phase 3  
Interoperability  
Standards



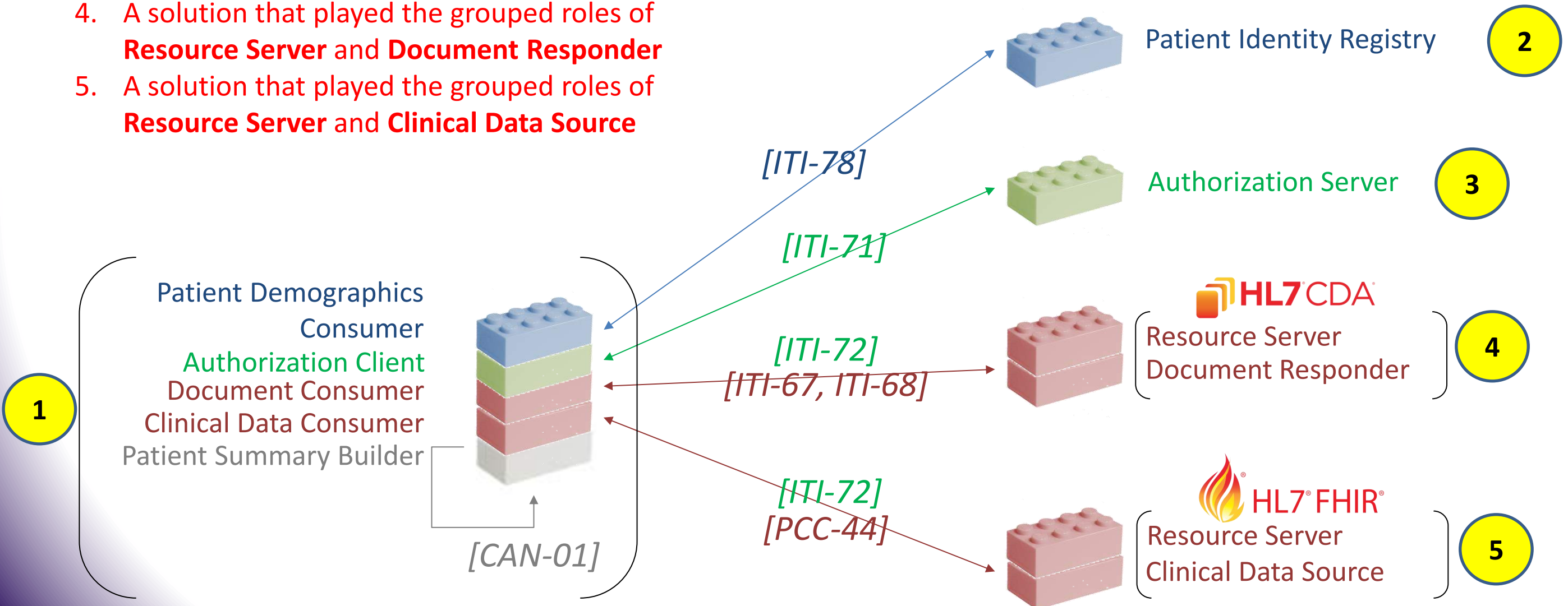
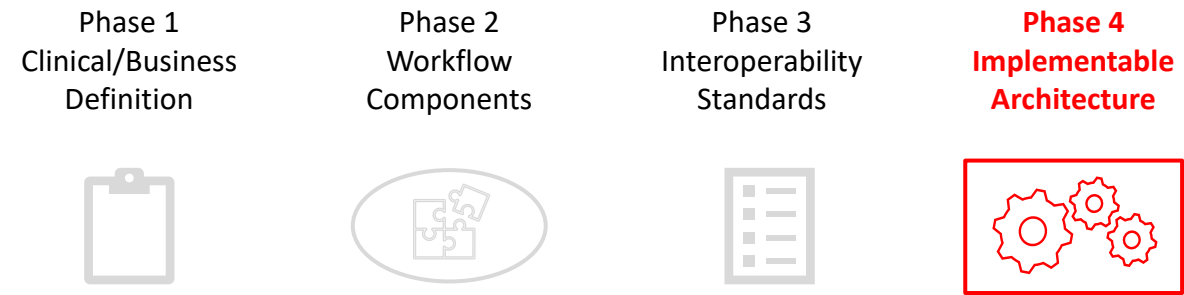
Phase 4  
Implementable  
Architecture





# For a **Connectathon** test, we'd need:

1. A solution that played the role of the five grouped actors of a **Patient Summary Builder**
2. A **Patient Identity Registry**
3. An **Authorization Server**
4. A solution that played the grouped roles of **Resource Server** and **Document Responder**
5. A solution that played the grouped roles of **Resource Server** and **Clinical Data Source**





- ❑ The role of the USER STORIES is **foundational**. They define what the specification must **do**. (1)
- ❑ The stories are mapped to **workflow** steps (2) and these, in turn, are mapped to standards-based “**building blocks**” (3). NOTE: *sometimes*, we identify a **gap** where a new building block is needed.
- ❑ Blocks are **assembled** into conformance-testable reference architectures (4).



Where it is practical to do so – to maximize **implementability** we should try to define our USER STORIES in terms of “building blocks” that we are ***already have***.

**Thank you!**



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**IHE Domains: how they develop profiles - how can you participate ?**

**Focus on IHE Radiology and ITI Domain**



**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> of October**  
**1PM CEST**