APHL Informatics

DATA STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION IN PUBLIC HEALTH - OVERVIEW OF ELECTRONIC LABORATORY REPORTING

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Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) is the national nonprofit representing governmental laboratories that monitor and detect public health threats, ranging from lead contamination in drinking water to metabolic and genetic conditions in newborns.

Working extensively in the development and implementation of data standards for laboratory reporting for over 8 years (ELSM, ELR, ETOR, LRN, NBS, etc.)

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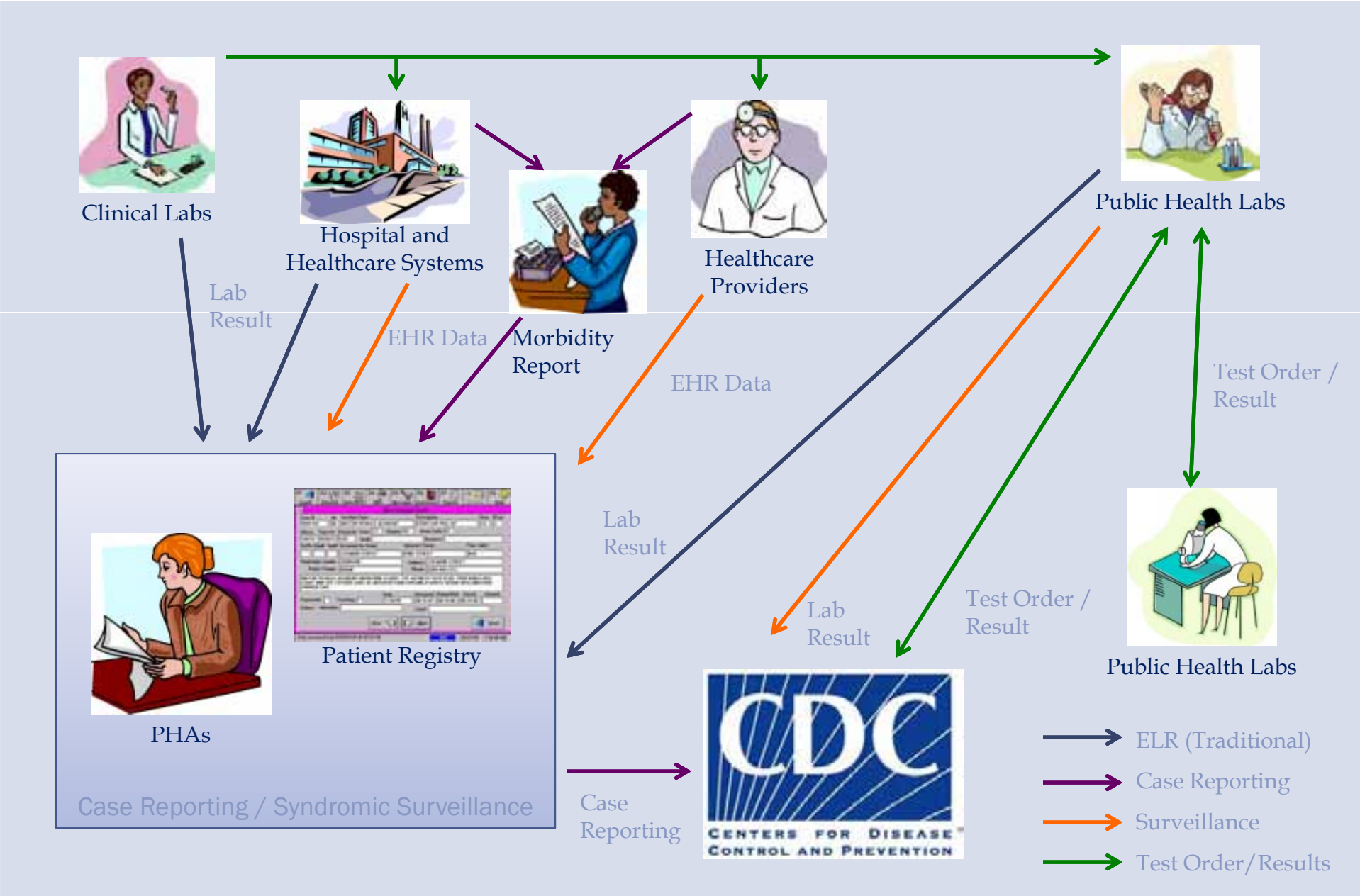
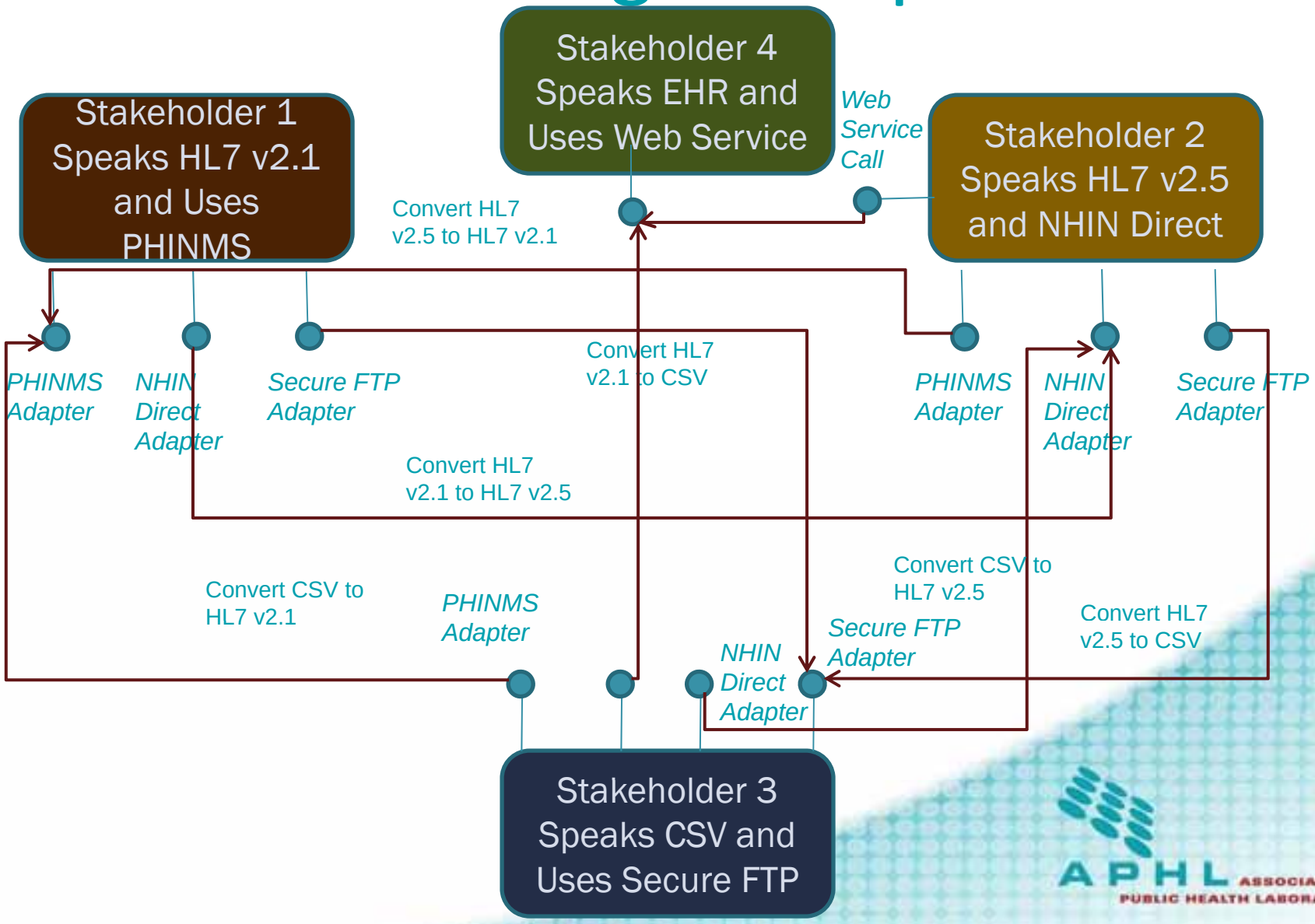
Lab Reporting - The Big Picture



Data Exchange Complexities



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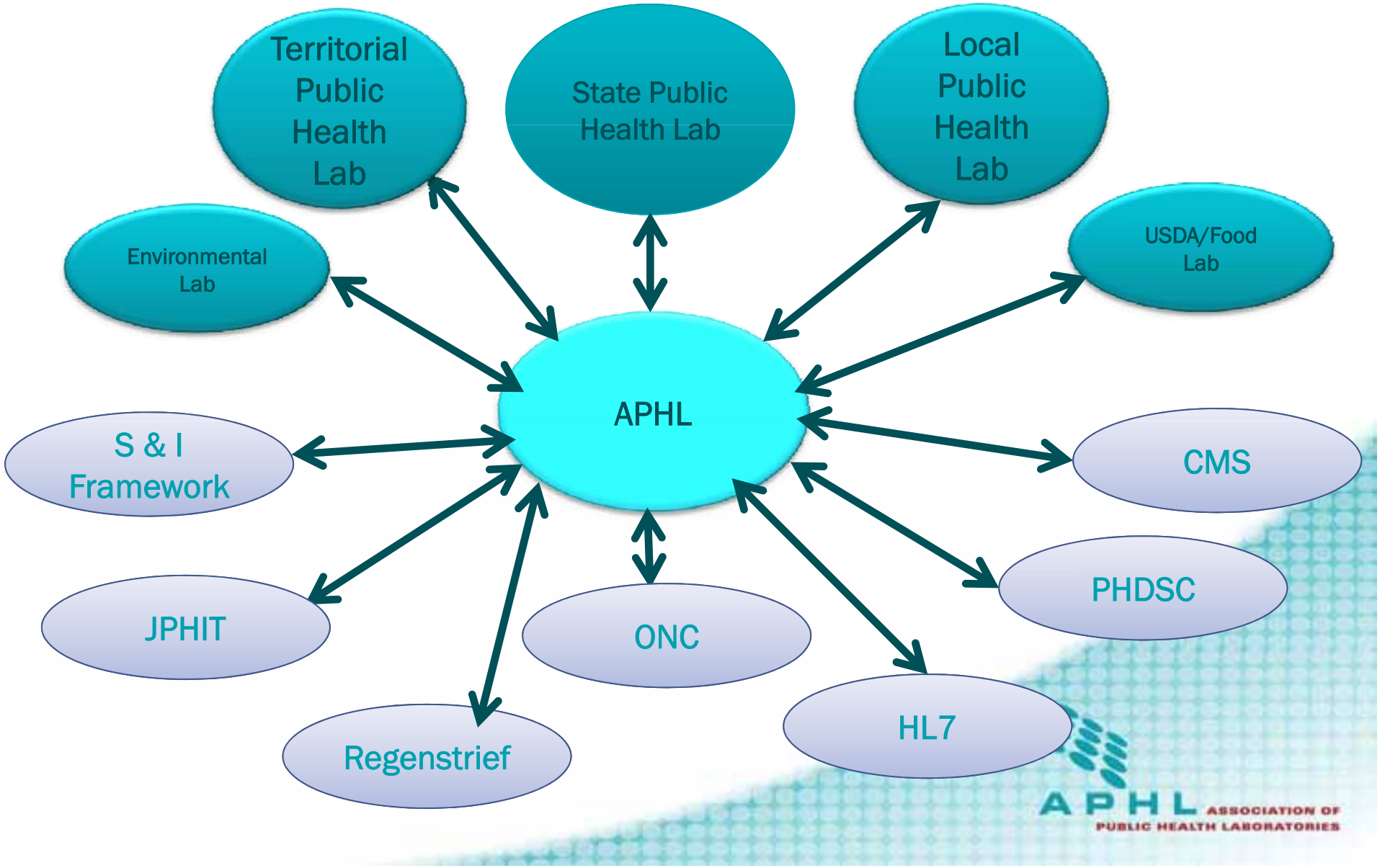
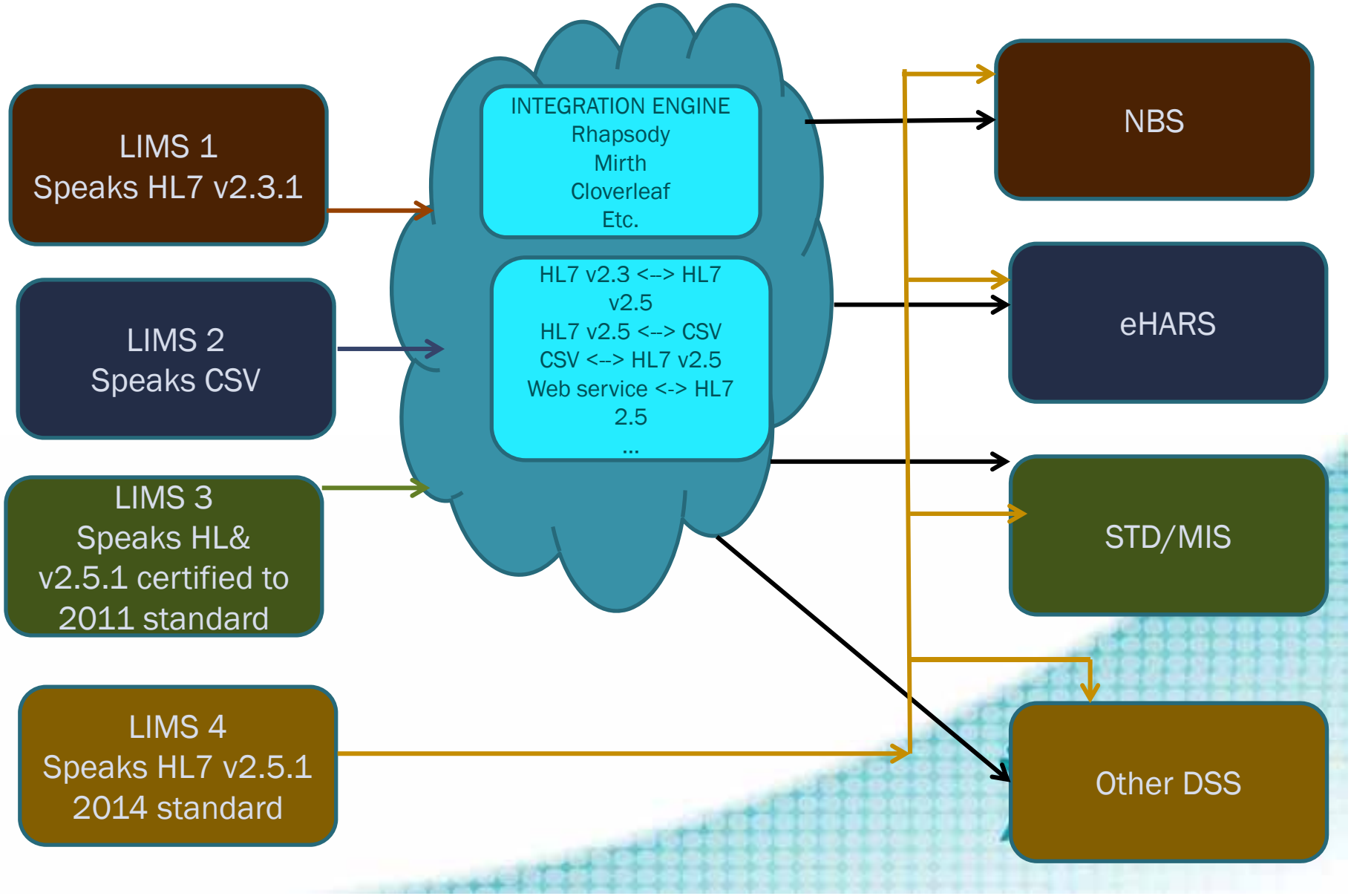
Public Health Depends on Associations



State of Data Exchange with EMR (LIMS)



DATA STANDARDS - SUMMARY

- The state of data standards – key word is inconsistent
  - Some (HL7 2.3.1 ELSM) well developed, highly utilized.
  - Others (HL7 2.5.1 ELR) well developed, emerging utilization
  - CDA well developed for some implementations, not well developed or accepted for others.
  - PHER – Emerging
- Barriers
  - Inconsistent funding
  - Lack of available resources
  - Software limitations
  - Training requirements
- Incentives and Drivers
  - Efficiency/utilization of existing personnel
  - Data senders driven by governmental financial incentives

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