



**Canada Health Infoway**

# **Shared Pan-Canadian Interoperability Roadmap – HINF537 Virtual Workshop**

Meeting Date: May 16, 2023

Presenter: Abhi Kalra, EVP, Digital Health Interoperability Program

# Context: Working together to improve health care for Canadians

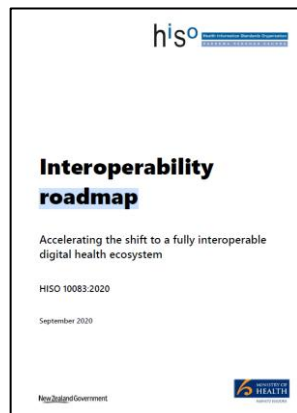
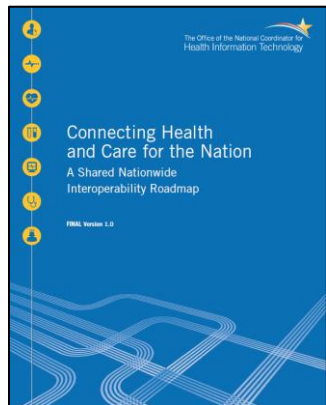
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- The Government of Canada will also commit to dedicated action to advance and integrate our shared health priorities, and support collaboration, in areas such as immigration, credential recognition, official language minority communities and **data infrastructure and standards**. This includes the following additional funding:
  - \$505 million over 5 years to CIHI, **Canada Health Infoway** and federal data partners to work with provinces and territories on developing new health data indicators, to support the creation of a Centre of Excellence on health worker data, to **advance digital health tools and an interoperability roadmap**, and to underpin efforts to use data to improve safety and quality of care.

## Shared Health Indicators and Results

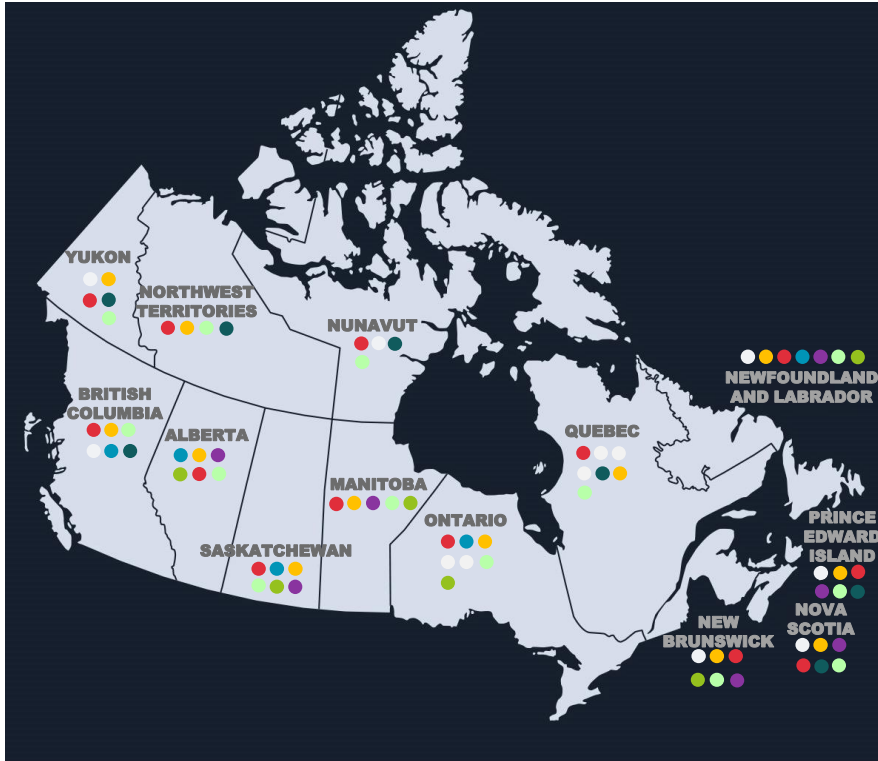
- The federal government is prepared to measure and report annual progress on the following common indicators with disaggregated data and is asking the provincial and territorial governments to do the same as part of their data commitment.
  - Percentage of Canadians who can access their own comprehensive health record electronically; and
  - Percentage of family health service providers and other health professionals (e.g., pharmacists, specialists, etc.) who can share patient health information electronically.

# What is an Interoperability Roadmap?



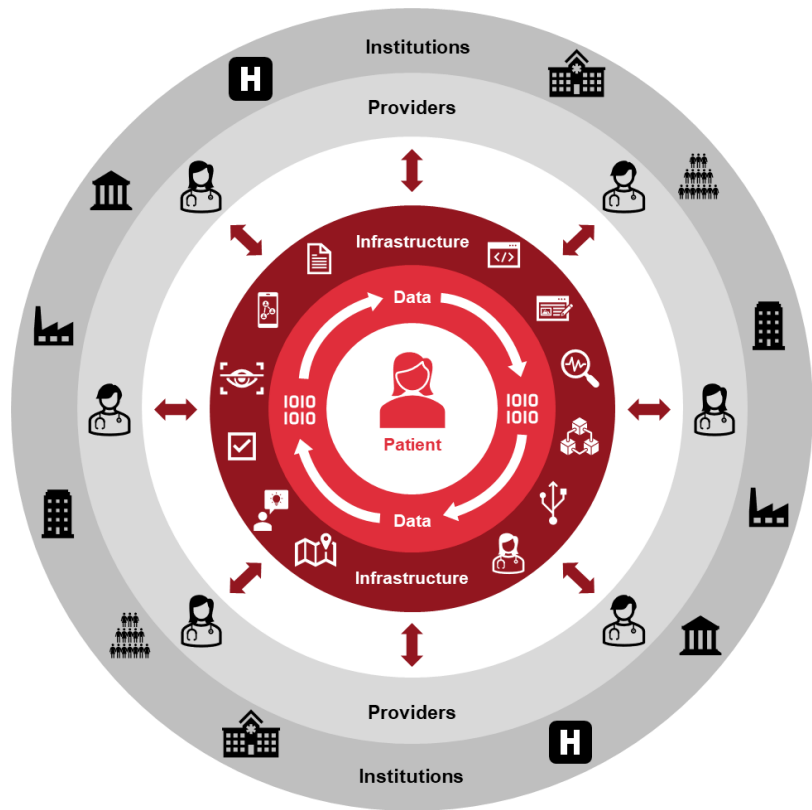
- Many countries have been publishing national digital health interoperability roadmaps as a means to **signal to the market the strategic direction towards which their digital health ecosystems are evolving**
- **Roadmap usually have a timeframe of 5-10 years with a long term vision with focus on near-term wins; they defines stages** as digital transformation is not a big-bang process, public and private sector players can only move in a multistage fashion to achieve progressive levels of maturity.
- These roadmaps include:
  - **core interoperability building blocks that are necessary to advance interoperability** (e.g. reference architectures, data standards, trusted exchange frameworks, digital identity, patient/provider access), and;
  - **common targeted initiatives** that help to advance health system interoperability and achieve outcomes.
  - the **health system, business and clinical benefits and outcomes** that will be derived

# Why Does Canada Need One?



- Canada needs a shared roadmap that articulates how interoperability will be advanced over the next 5 years and onwards to advance:
  - **Patient centric model for safe, secure access to and management of their health information electronically from anywhere**
  - **Connected care to improve providers access to patient health information from various sources at the point of care to provide appropriate and safe care etc.**
- Canada, like many nations have healthcare delivery models that are decentralized, which means their digital health ecosystems are also decentralized and therefore, **a roadmap serves as a compass to guide the convergence of all jurisdictions to common standards for identified priorities**
- In Canada, each jurisdiction is currently at a different level of digital health maturity – **a roadmap will inform and guide all jurisdictions to progress towards the same standards, allowing each to do so at its own pace**, first establishing the necessary and critical capabilities
- The pan-Canadian roadmap **aligns, supports and complements PT roadmaps** by providing common, pan-Canadian data, technical and policy standards

# A Common Vision: Connected Care To Enable Healthier Canadians

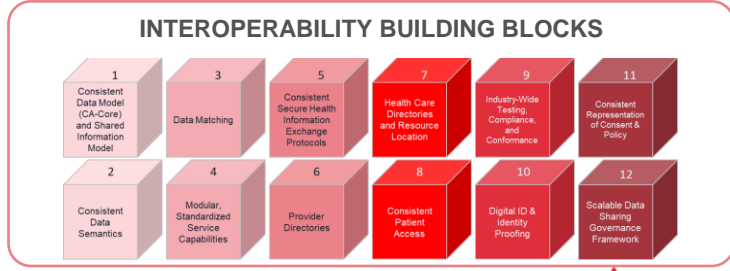
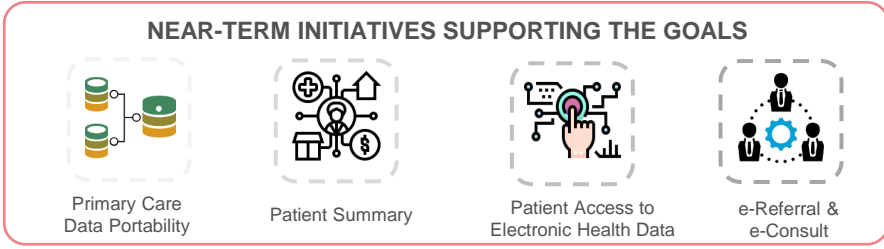
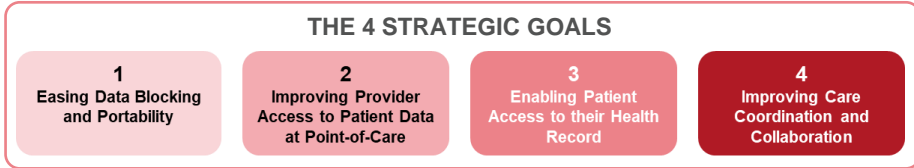
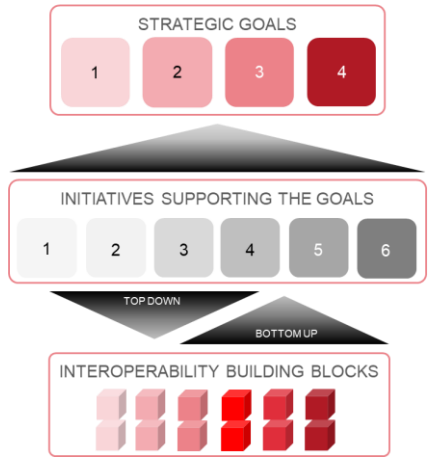


Over the next five years, Infoway will be committed to driving value for all Canadians through:

1. Access to health information for all Canadians
2. A modernized health system built on connected care
3. Digital health innovation by and for all Canadians.

# A Comprehensive Approach To Advance Pan-Canadian Interoperability

## Top-Down, Bottom-Up Approach



See Appendix for Draft 5-Year Roadmap of Initiatives



# Pan-Canadian Interoperability Strategic Goals



1

## Reducing Data Blocking and Easing Portability

### Objectives:

1. Advocate for legislative and/or policy changes to support the elimination of data blocking in Canada.
2. Establish a standardized Pan-Canadian healthcare data set and new specifications to enable data portability.

2

## Improving Provider Access to Patient Data at Point-of-Care

### Objectives:

1. Enable providers, via their point of care solutions, to access relevant patient data
2. Allow point of care solutions to contribute relevant data about a patient into clinical repositories.

3

## Enabling Patient Access to their Health Record

### Objectives:

1. Enable patients to access their longitudinal health record in a seamless manner.
2. Empower patients with the literacy to be able to understand and interpret their health information through better data standardization.

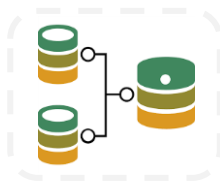
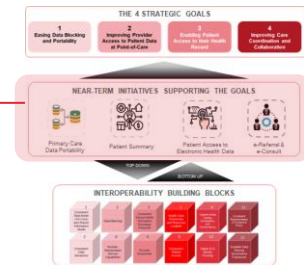
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## Improving Care Coordination and Collaboration

### Objectives:

1. Foster efficient and secure exchange of health information across the entire care continuum.
2. Facilitate ubiquitous inter-professional collaboration through secure electronic communications across vendor solutions.

# Initial Set of Initiatives Supporting the Strategic Goals



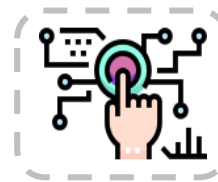
## 1. Primary Care Data Portability

Initiative will initially focus on developing a primary care data set (part of the broader pan-Canadian healthcare data set (CA-Core)) that represents the standardized set of health data classes and constituent data elements for interoperable health information exchange



## 2. Patient Summary

Pan-Canadian Patient Summary (PS-CA) will allow care solutions to contribute pertinent health information into clinical repositories (e.g., provincial/regional EHR, CDR, PHR, etc.) to improve health outcomes and reduce administrative burden for clinicians



## 3. Patient Access to Electronic Health Data

Many Jurisdictions are already enabling patient access to their patient record, mostly through provincial, hospital and private care portals.  
Through this Patient Access initiative, we will work towards enriching the information available to patients, aspiring to enable access to full longitudinal health record



## 4. e-Referral & e-Consult

Establishing pan-Canadian specification will streamline referrals (patients being referred to specialists) and consults (physicians consulting specialists for their expertise) between interoperable systems



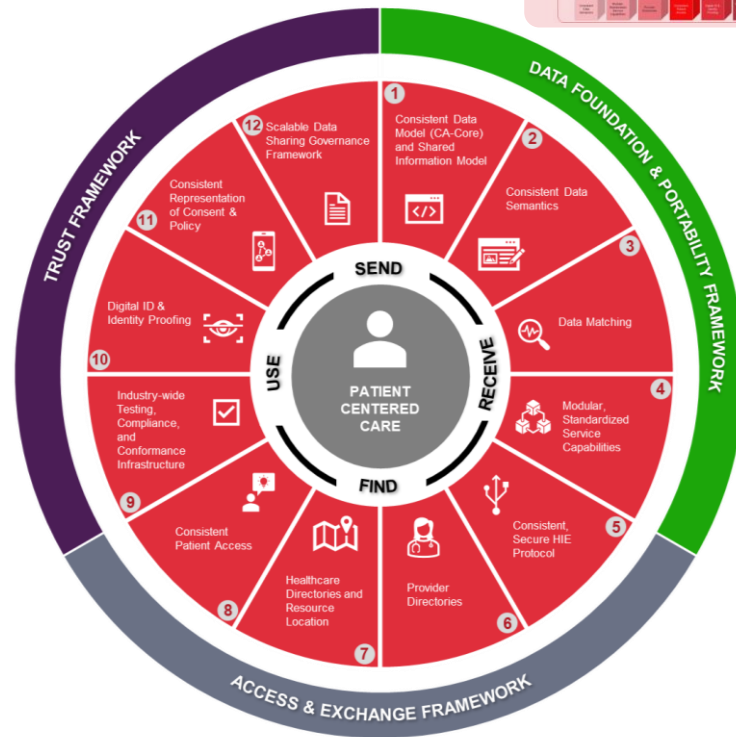
# The Building Blocks Of Interoperability

The initial set of building blocks will be continually developed over the next 5 years based on:

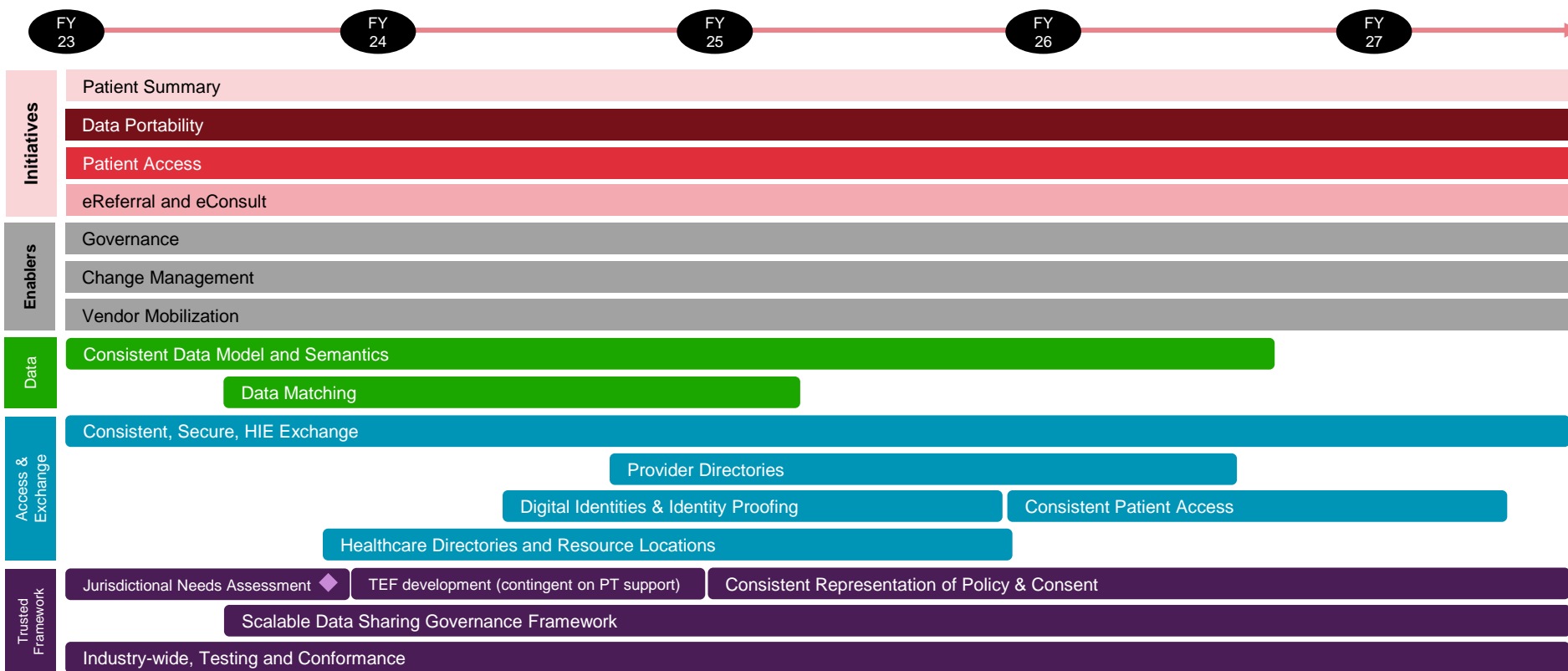
- i. A series of initiatives and programs that are meaningful and aligned to jurisdictional priorities
- ii. The foundational investments that must be made to satisfy programmatic needs and dependencies in the future

The building blocks were identified and grounded in 3 core frameworks that support the entire array of top-down functionalities desired:

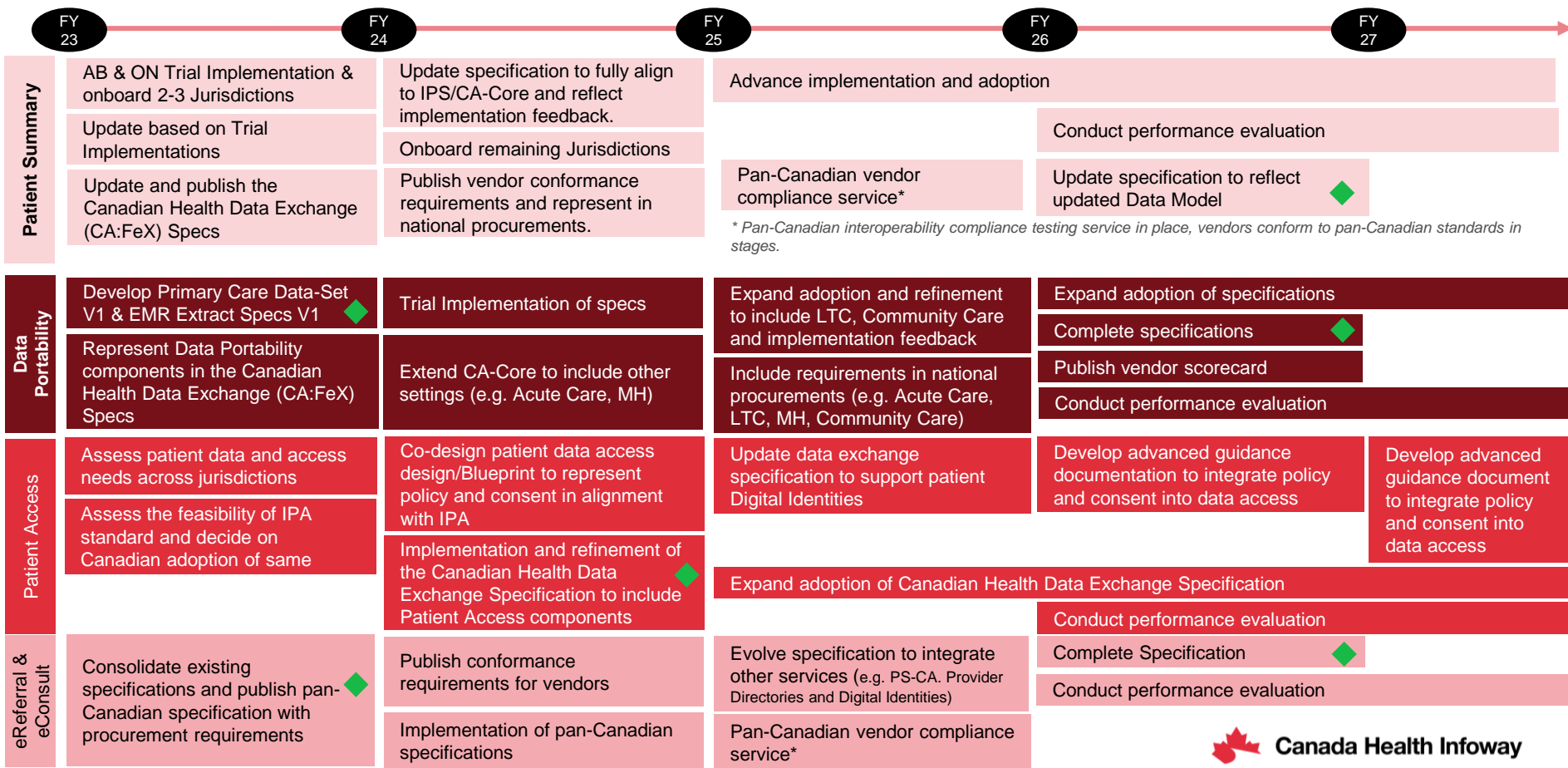
1. **Data Foundation and Portability Framework:** Will create a shared data foundation that is both patient-focused and internationally aligned, driving towards a single, extensible approach, encompassing a referenceable data model, appropriate guidance around semantic data components, minimal mandatory data assets, and the appropriate clinical guidance
2. **Access and Exchange Framework (Data and Service):** This reference architecture driven, conformance assessed, technical framework will define the standard components of the health technology ecosystem. At minimum, this framework will cover access, services, and information exchange as core functionalities
3. **Trust Framework:** Will establish and build consensus on auditable business, technical, and legal rules that create the go-to guide for what participants in shared digital health systems need for electronic health systems to be able to connect and share with each other in the way that meets the needs and expectations of Canadians



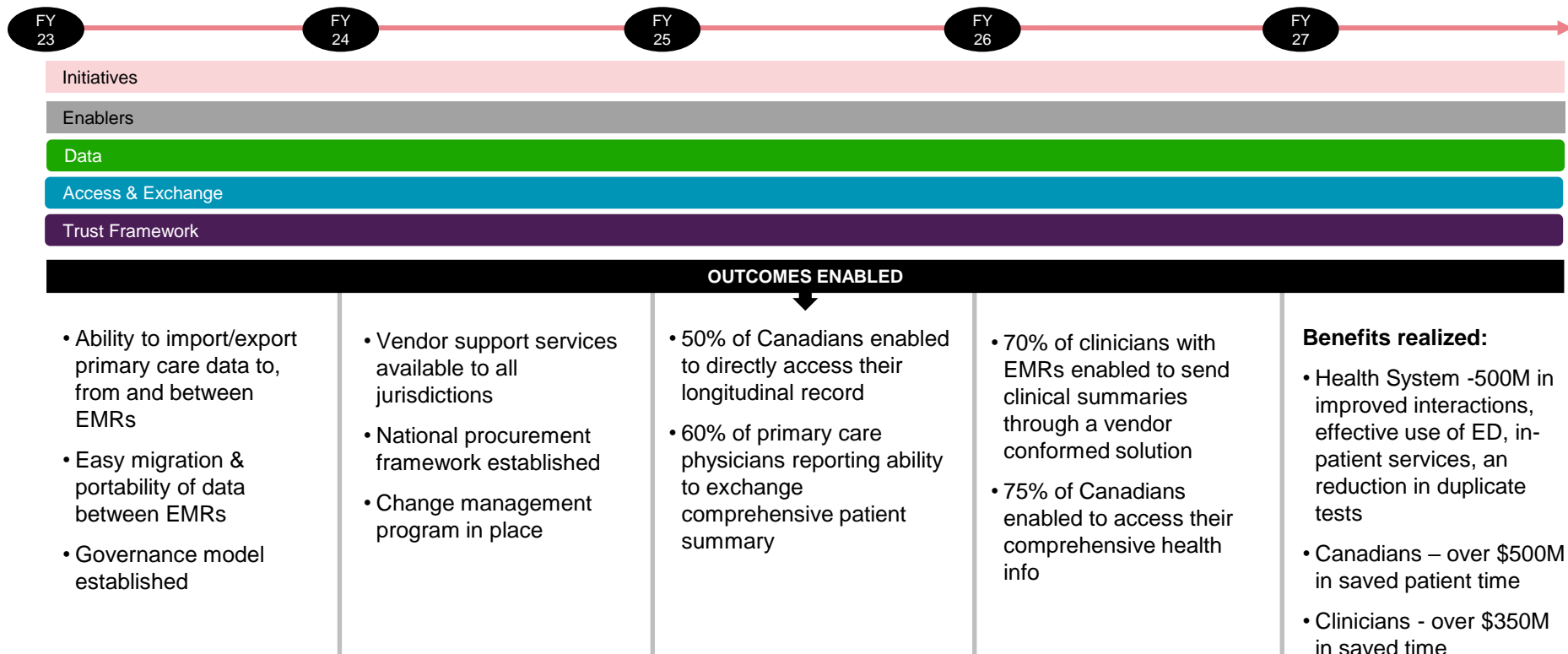
# 5-Year Shared Pan-Canadian IO Roadmap (Draft)



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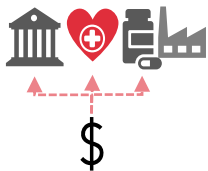


# Anticipated Benefits and Outcomes of Interoperability



# Critical Success Factors

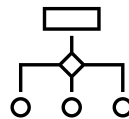
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**1. Adequate Funding**



**2. Legislative assessment & change**



**3. Governance**



**4. Vendor Mobilization**



**5. Change Management**



**6. Policy, Privacy & Security**



**7. National Procurement**



**8. Standards: National Release Centre**

# Next Steps

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## 1. Alignment with PTs local implementation plans

## 2. Develop market guidance

- In collaboration with our vendor partners/stakeholders, we will work towards generating a market guidance document that will detail the expected trends to be observed in each of the three interoperability frameworks (within the first two quarters of FY23)
- While final and detailed conformance specifications will only be available when those priority areas are addressed, general market guidance will be given for areas of health data definition and use, information access and exchange, as well as privacy, consent and security, and others.



**Canada Health Infoway**

# Thank you!

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