



Federal HIT Strategic Plan: Health TechNet Presentation

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Content of Today's Discussion

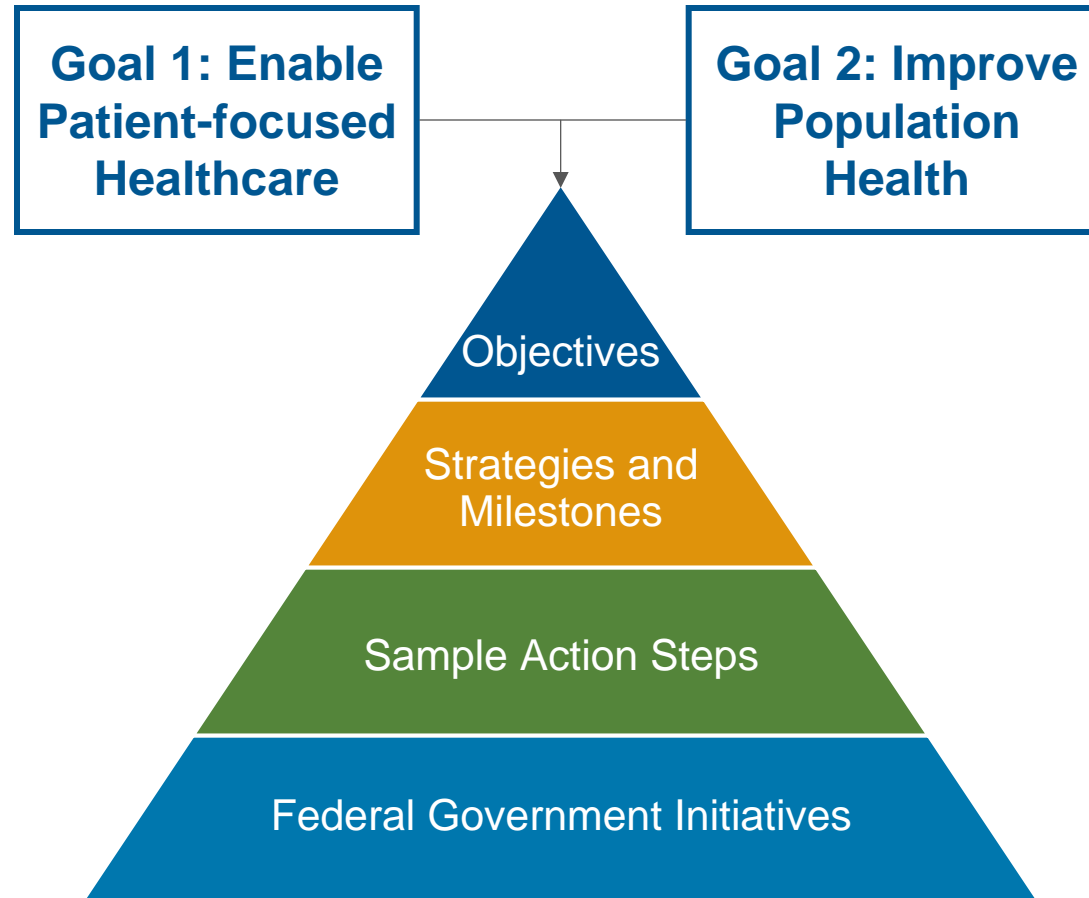
Agenda

- Overview of federal government plans to advance HIT over next 5 years
- Implications of new administration on strategic plan
- Outstanding questions that will shape plan's impact

Federal HIT Strategic Plan Lays Out Priorities, Action Steps

- Responding to 2004 Presidential Executive Order to promote use of HIT, and to Congressional criticism, ONC coordinates government-wide effort to develop Strategic Plan
 - » ONC also faced funding cut by Congress in absence of a plan
- 5-year Strategic Plan aims to:
 - » Improve health and healthcare through advancing use of HIT and driving electronic exchange of information at point of care
 - » Promote greater transparency on areas where federal government has been active and believes it should continue to be involved
 - » Set Privacy and Security Framework as top priority – assigns 2008 deadline

Organizational Structure of Strategic Plan



Plan Objectives Indicate Areas for Ongoing Federal Role

Federal policy priorities fall into four major categories

Promote widespread provider and consumer **adoption of HIT tools**

Establish necessary protections to ensure **privacy and security** of consumer health information

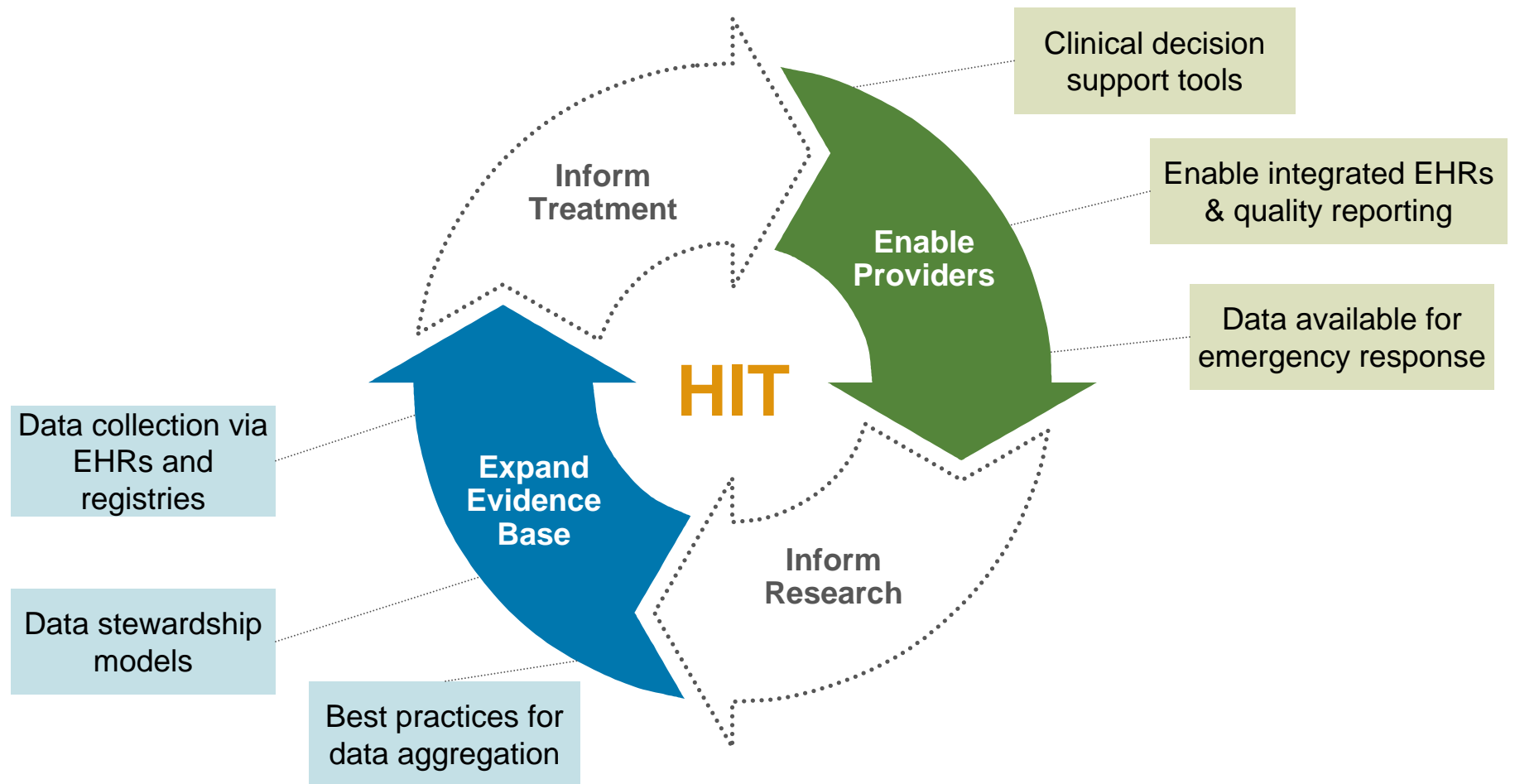
Foster the **infrastructure** to support the flow (giving and receiving) of clinical information

Ensure **broad stakeholder participation** and representation in HIT decision-making and oversight

Common Themes of Strategic Plan

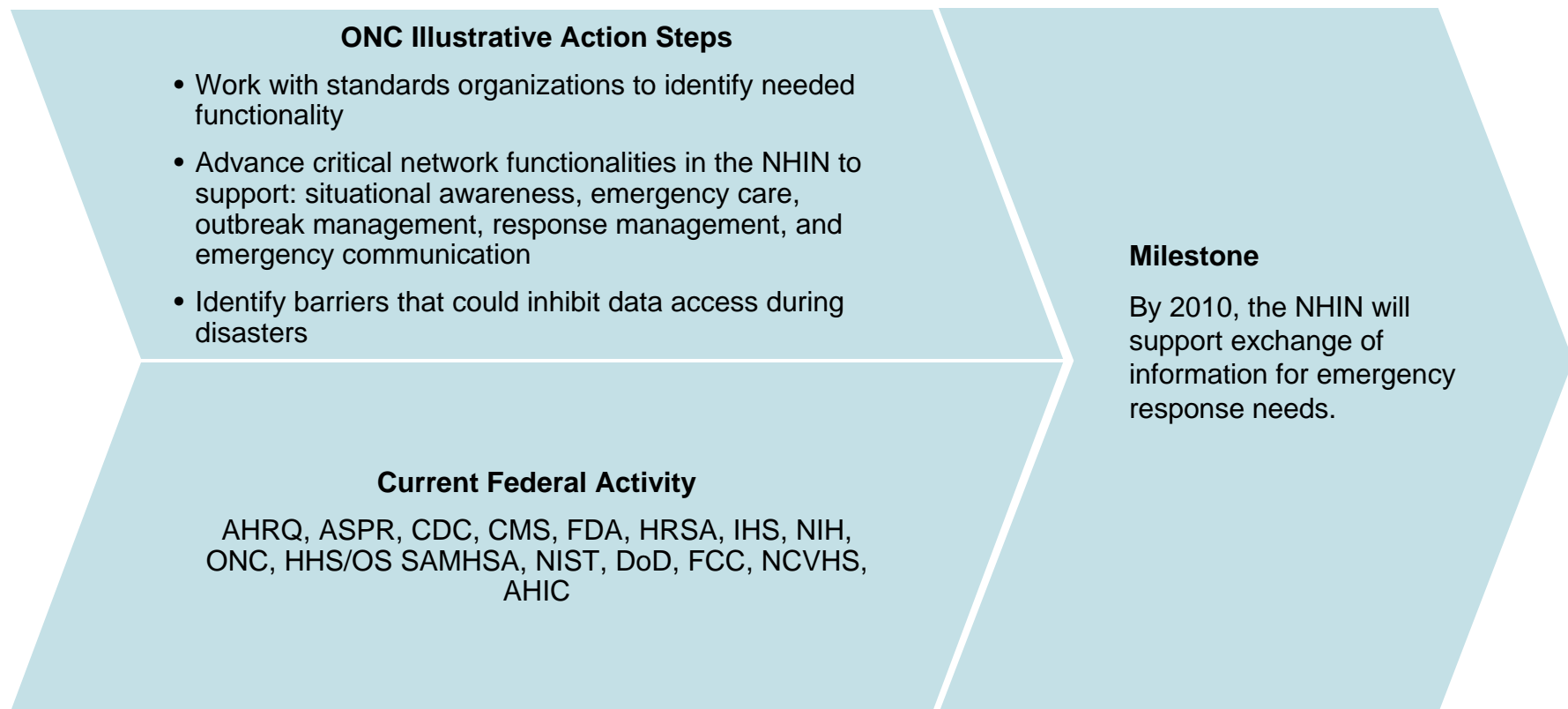
- Objectives under each goal underscore the need for:
 - » Trust
 - » Robust and enabled infrastructure
 - » Critical mass of users
 - » Stakeholder buy-in and accountability
- Plan does not create new policy, but it does outline the process for bringing stakeholders together to define priorities and shape the future
 - » Federal government will not dictate the direction of the HIE market
 - » Objectives and strategies promote flexible solutions that support multiple models of information exchange
 - Organization-based (e.g., integrated delivery network)
 - Geographically based (e.g., RHIO)
 - Individually controlled (e.g., health data bank)

Strategic Plan Contemplates How HIT Can Support Patient Care and Population Health Activities

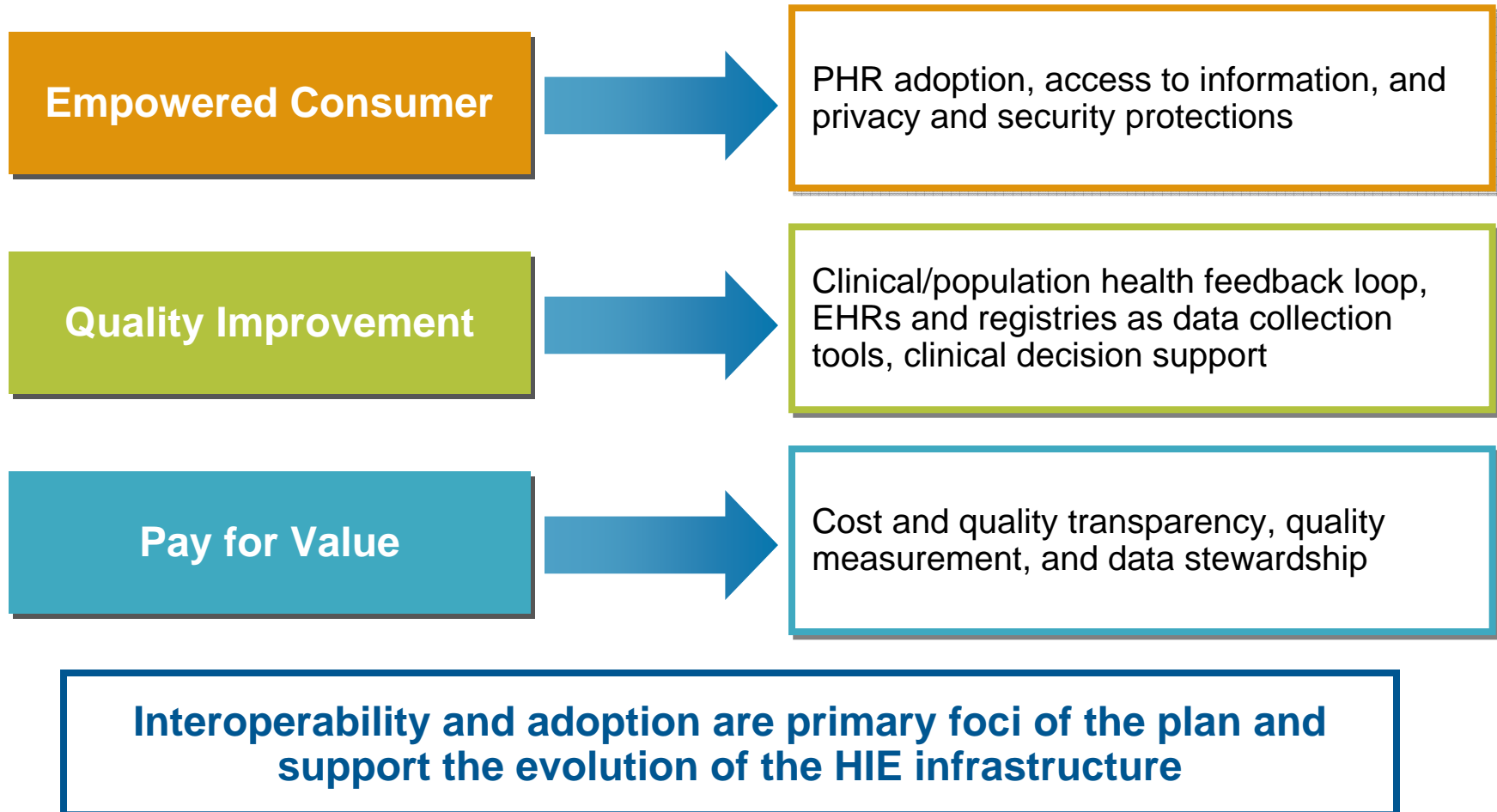


Case Study: Population Health Strategy 2.2.5

Strategy 2.2.5: Provide population health information needed for emergency response



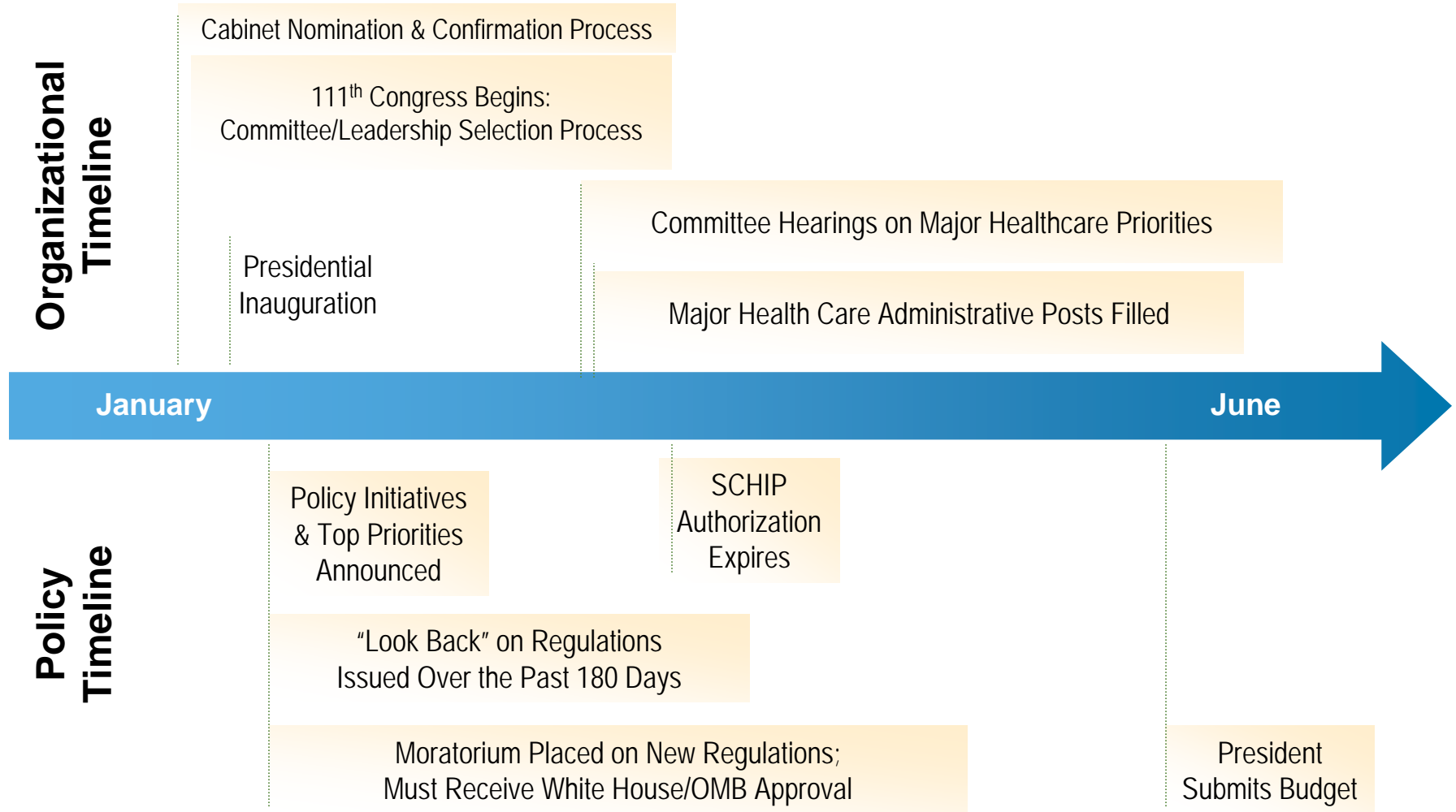
Federal HIT Strategic Plan Supports Trends Impacting HIE



Reactions to Plan Generally Positive

- “Great roadmap for the task at hand,” *Brett Furst, vice president of healthcare, Covisint*
- Pragmatic approach of cataloguing achievements and ongoing programs with delineation of goals and objectives, *Neal Neuberger, Health Tech Strategies*
- Innovative thinking regarding plan metrics, describes plan as “comprehensive”, notes that “milestones often don’t push the boundaries,” *Harris Stutman, executive director of clinical informatics at Memorial Health Services*
- Plan is “poorly conceived”, due to focus on government instead of private sector, *Greg Scandlen, The Heartland Institute*
- Generally supportive, *American Medical Informatics Association, American Hospital Association*

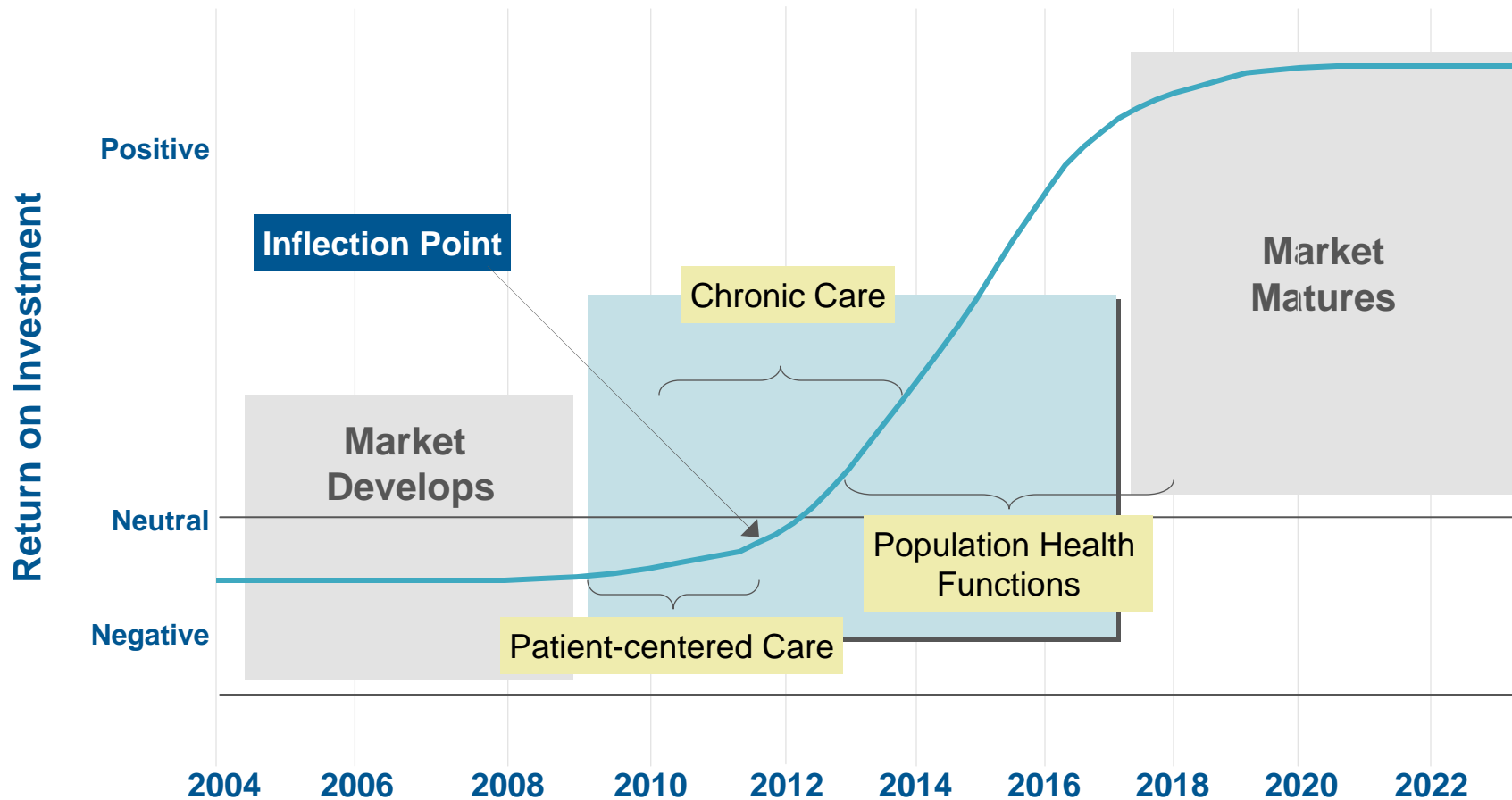
Administration Transition Creates Several Competing Priorities for the Plan



Plan Faces Several Possible Scenarios in New Administration

- New administration rarely establishes new policy in advance of the relevant Cabinet post being filled such as the Secretary of HHS
 - » Cabinet heads rarely establish policies without their political leadership in place, i.e., agency heads
 - » The combined timing of the Cabinet and agency confirmations can take 6-9 months
- Once the new administration has filled major positions it could address the plan and HIT in a few ways:
 - » Unless ONC is an early target of the new administration, significant changes on agencies activities already underway are not likely for at least one year
 - » Once focused, a new Administration would likely replace or retool key elements of the plan (e.g., reliance on A2) to make it its “own”
 - » Plan could get caught in the look-back net

Trends Driving Market Growth



Outstanding Questions To Shape Plan Impact

- Will the renewed Congressional focus (e.g., Stark legislation) create a new playing field?
 - » Would AHIC 2.0 be eclipsed by legislative provisions?
- What does the Plan's reliance on AHIC 2.0 mean if it does *not* succeed?
- Are the standards and certification processes working or much ado about nothing?
 - » Carol Diamond and Clay Shirky *Health Affairs* article claiming reduced focus on standards will help adoption
- Were the NHIN investments a mistake?
 - » HIMSS white paper "The NHIN Highway is Already Paved"
- What does the lack of a privacy and security framework from ONC (expected March 2008) mean for the rest of the milestones laid out in the Plan?
- Are the Plan's funding expectations unrealistic? Do the recently passed eRx incentives indicate funding availability?

Thank You

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