



***FAST* Technical Learning Community  
Proposed Solutions: Exchange**



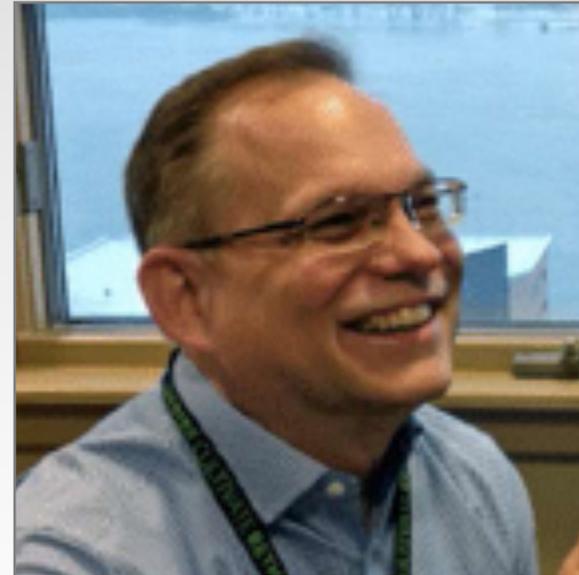
# Presenters – *FAST* Tiger Team Leads & Members



**Durwin Day**

*Health Information Manager*

HCSC



**Patrick Murta**

*Architecture Fellow*

Humana





# FAST Exchange Team Members & Expertise

Durwin Day ( <i>Co-Lead</i> )	HCSC
Alberto Llanes ( <i>Co-Lead</i> )	Anthem
Patrick Murta ( <i>Chief Architect</i> )	Humana
Rachel Forester	RFI-EDI
Corey Spears	Infor
Bryan Scott	Humana
Sonja Ziegler	Optum
Karen Zapata	Diameter Health
Adam Wong	ONC





# FAST Taskforce Antitrust Notice

- The ONC FHIR At Scale Taskforce (*FAST*) (Hereinafter “Taskforce”) is committed to full compliance with existing federal and state antitrust laws.
- All members involved in the Taskforce effort, including its advisory groups, will comply with all applicable antitrust laws during the course of their activities. During Taskforce meetings and other associated activities, including all informal or social discussions, each member shall refrain from discussing or exchanging competitively sensitive information with any other member. Such information includes, but may not be limited to:
  - Price, premiums, or reimbursement charged or paid for products or services
  - Allocation of customers, enrollees, sales territories, sales of any products or contracts with providers
  - Any other competitively sensitive information that is proprietary to a member company
- If you have any specific questions or concerns, seek guidance from your own legal counsel.
- Members should not bring confidential information or intellectual property (hereinafter “Intellectual Property”) owned by their respective member companies into Taskforce meetings. To the extent such Intellectual Property is shared with the Taskforce that shall not be construed as a waiver of member company’s rights to, or ownership in, the Intellectual Property.



# Agenda

- **FAST Technical Learning Community (TLC) Webinar Series**
- **What is *FAST*?**
- **Exchange Barriers**
  - What problems are being addressed?
  - Why are they problems?
- **Proposed Exchange Metadata Solution**
  - Overview of point to point and hybrid model
  - Reliable Routing
    - Point to Point
    - Across intermediaries in a hybrid model
  - Alternative intermediary approach





# Technical Learning Community (TLC) Webinar Series

## Exchange

[Today's Presentation](#)

## Identity

Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>  
[Presentation](#)

## Directory, Version and Scale

Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>  
[Presentation](#)

## Testing and Certification

Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>  
[Presentation](#)

## Security

Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>  
[Presentation](#)



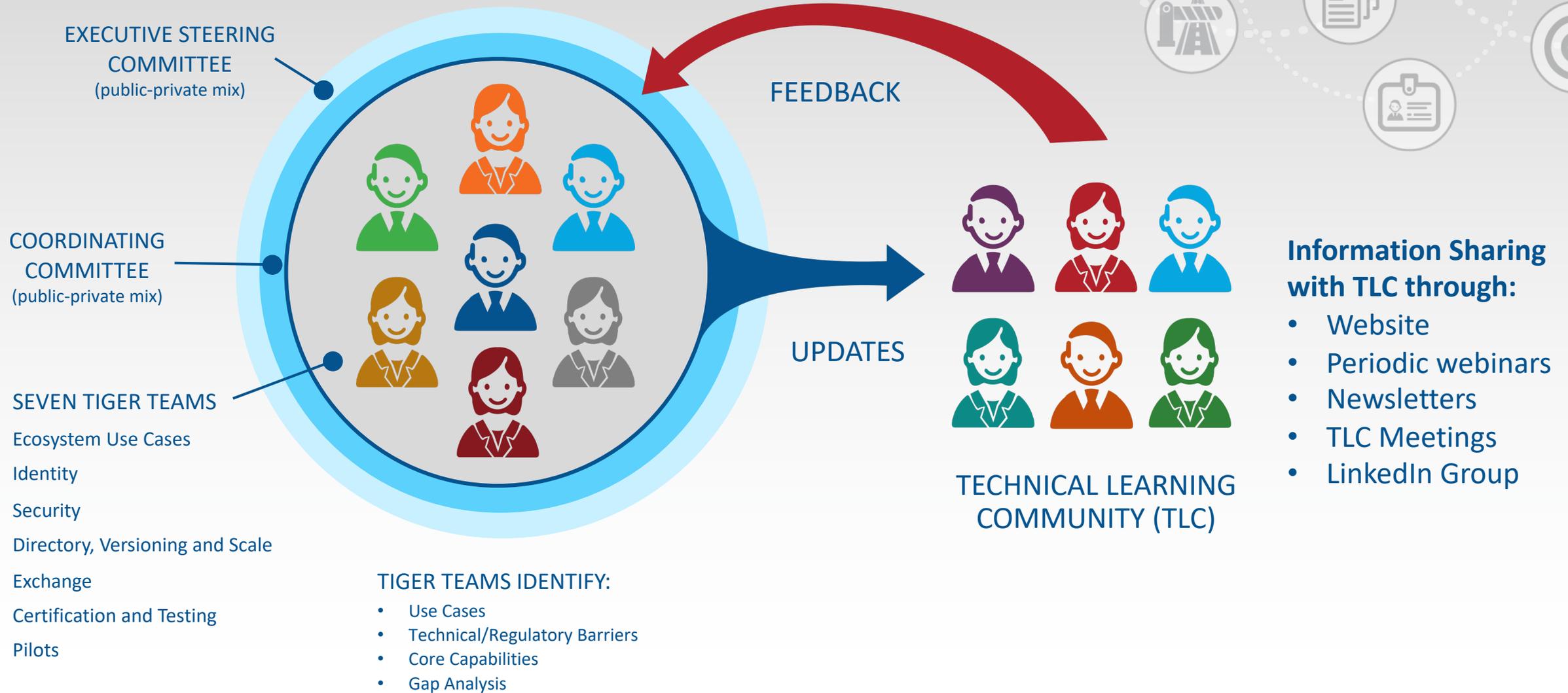
## What is *FAST*?

*The FHIR at Scale Taskforce (FAST), convened by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC), brings together a highly representative group of motivated healthcare industry stakeholders and health information technology experts.*

*The group is set to identify HL7<sup>®</sup> Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR<sup>®</sup>) scalability gaps and possible solutions, analysis that will address current barriers and will accelerate FHIR adoption at scale.*



# FAST Organization & Community Engagement





# FAST Initiative Output & Communication Strategy

## FAST CONTENT

[FAST Initiative Use Cases, Version 2](#)

[FAST Regulatory and Policy Barriers, Version 1](#)

[FAST Solutions \(In Development/Drafts\)](#)

[FAST Initiative Core Capabilities](#)

[FAST Technical Barriers, Version 1](#)

## FAST COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

[FAST 101 - Public Webinar](#)

[FAST 101 and Keystone Presentations](#)

[Technical Learning Community](#)

All content is available on the [FAST Project Page](#)



# FAST Focus and How to Get Involved

Patient & Provider Identity Management

Directory Services

Version Identification

Scale

Exchange Process/Metadata

Testing, Conformance & Certification

Security

Pilots

## WANT TO GET INVOLVED??

*Join the Technical Learning Community to get updates and provide input on the technical and regulatory barriers, use cases, and proposed solutions as they are developed.*

**SIGN UP!!**

**&**

**JOIN THE LINKEDIN GROUP**

# Polling Question 1

What type of organization do you represent?

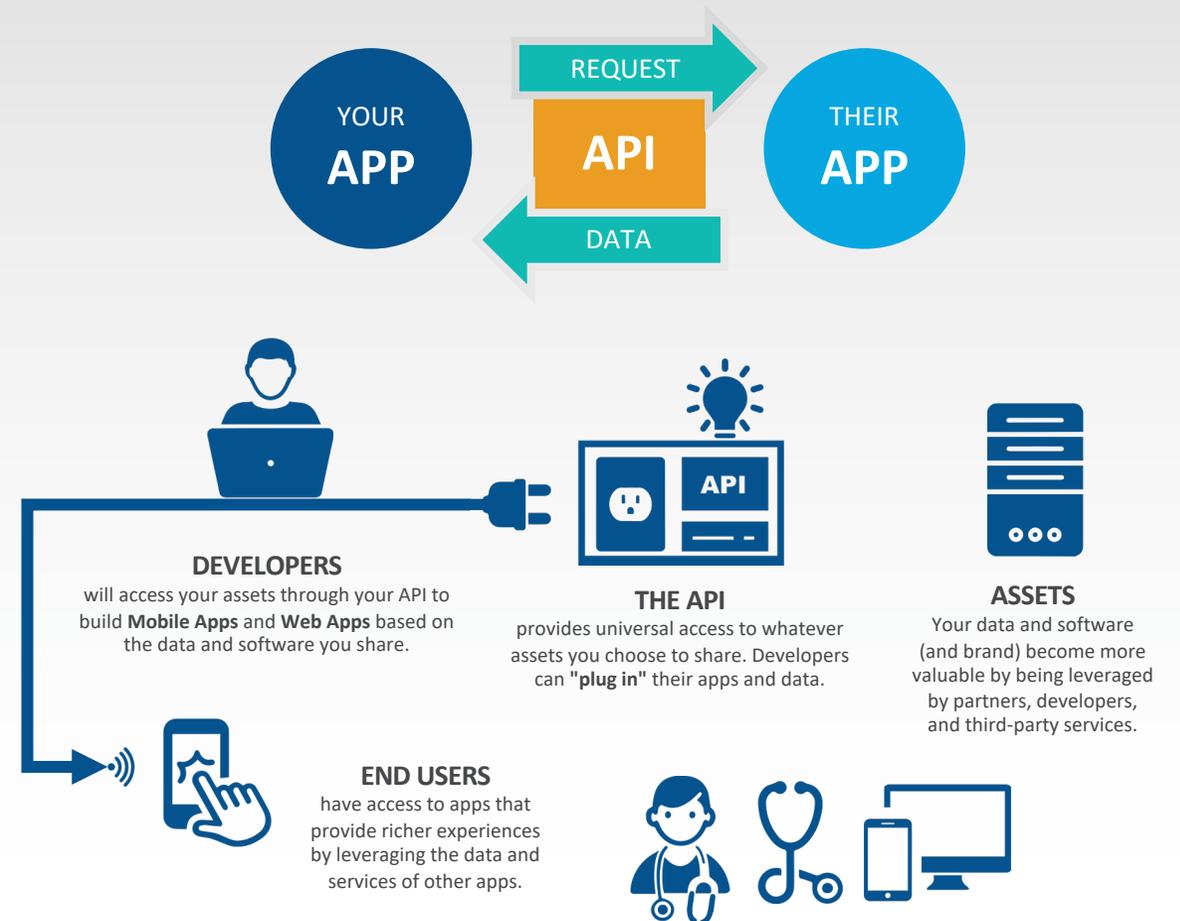
1. Provider
2. Payer
3. Health IT Vendor
4. Standards/Research/Academic
5. Other (Please add comments in the question box)



# Application Programming Interface (API)

**Dictionary Definition: A System of Tools and Resources in an Operating System, Enabling Developers to Create Software Applications**

- Allow the capabilities or data of one computer program to be used by another
  - Lego blocks of data
  - Computer technology agnostic
- Many industries drive their economy by using APIs (Amazon, Netflix, Google, Facebook, eBay, YouTube, etc)
- Enable innovation by allowing programs to use and combine data





# Fast Health Interoperability Resources (FHIR)

## A Standard for Exchanging Healthcare Information Electronically

- HL7 - intellectual property is all licensed to use under the Creative Commons – free to use
- Accelerates data exchange by leveraging the HL7 standard to create allowing modular components (FHIR resources) to refer to each with URLs
- FHIR Resources, Profiles, and Implementation Guides go through a rigorous vetting process ensuring stakeholder input
- Implementation Guides leverage publicly available test servers, connectathons, and human readable instances that are easy to understand to support common healthcare use cases

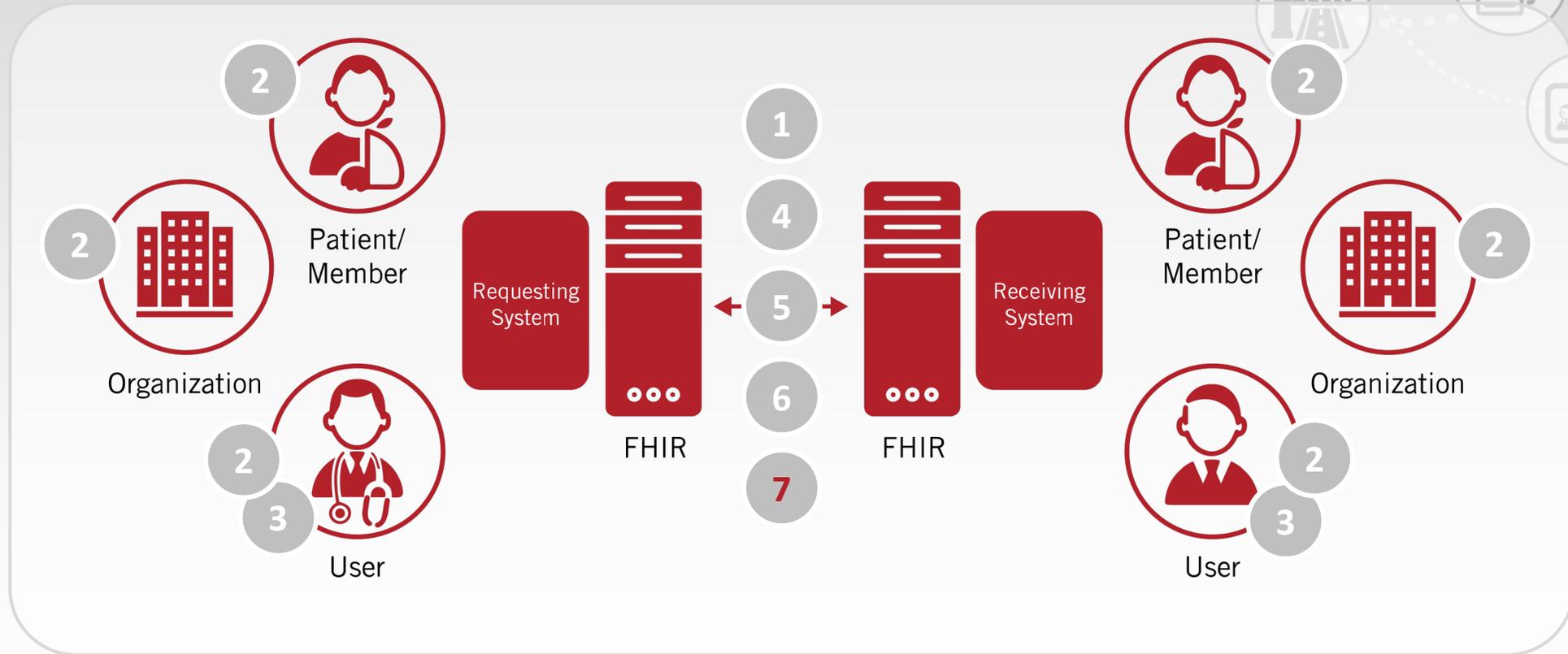
# Polling Question 2

## How familiar is your organization with FHIR?

1. Expert (i.e., installed FHIR server, doing FHIR production exchanges)
2. Advanced (i.e., well-versed in FHIR and some production exchanges)
3. Beginning (i.e., aware of FHIR standard)
4. Not at all
5. Other (Please add comments in the question box)



# Known Technical Barriers & Focus Areas



- 1 Directory Services
- 2 Identity
- 3 Security
- 4 Testing, Conformance & Certification
- 5 Versioning
- 6 Scaling
- 7 **Reliable Routing**

# Example FHIR Transaction Journey

 Patient visits Primary Care Physician (PCP)

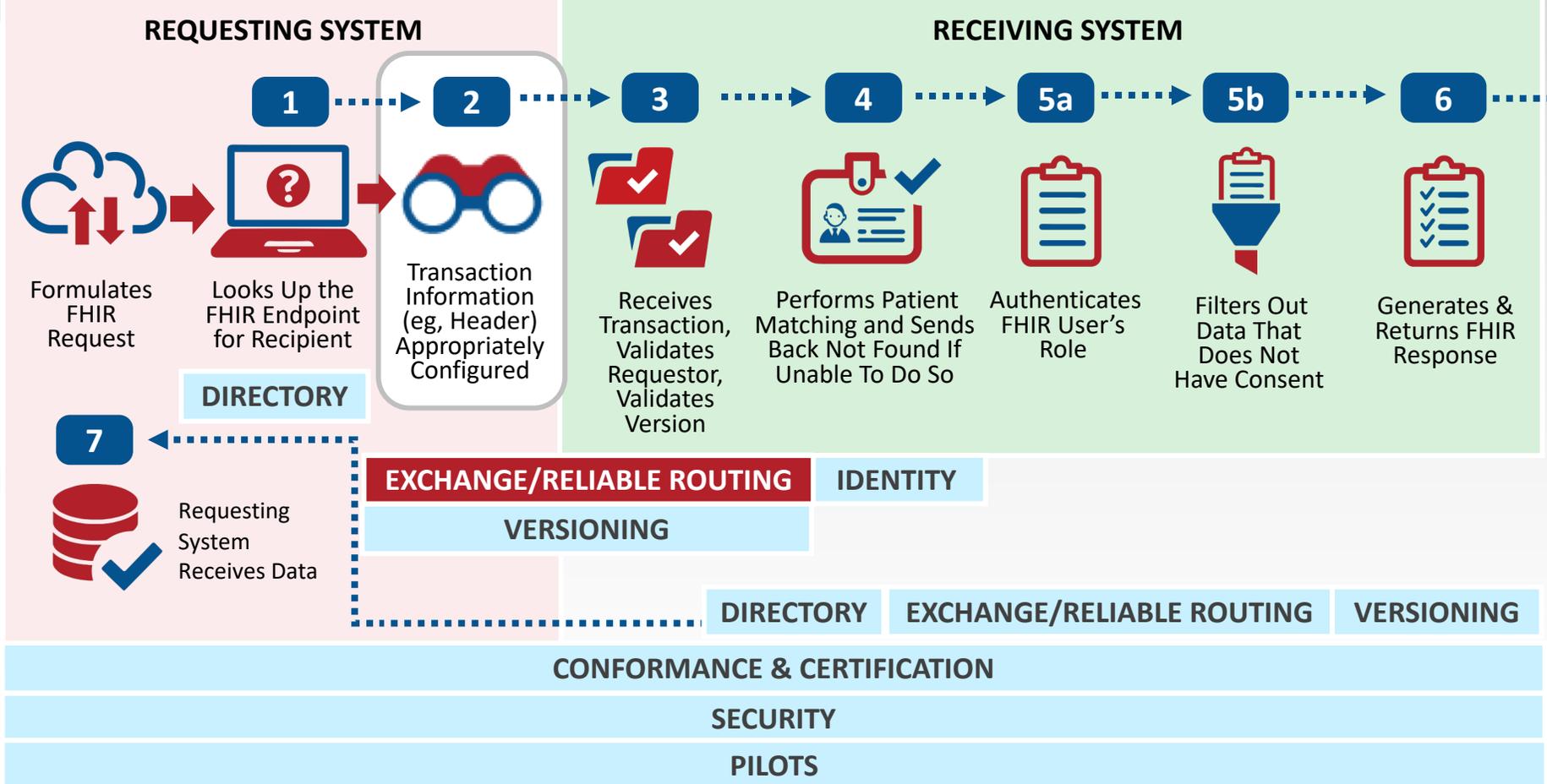
 PCP needs information from Payer

 Payer receives PCP request

**CHALLENGE:** How do we consistently and reliably exchange clinical data across a hybrid system where partners may use one or more intermediaries for technical and business operations?

**SOLUTION:** Reliable Routing with Metadata Across Intermediaries

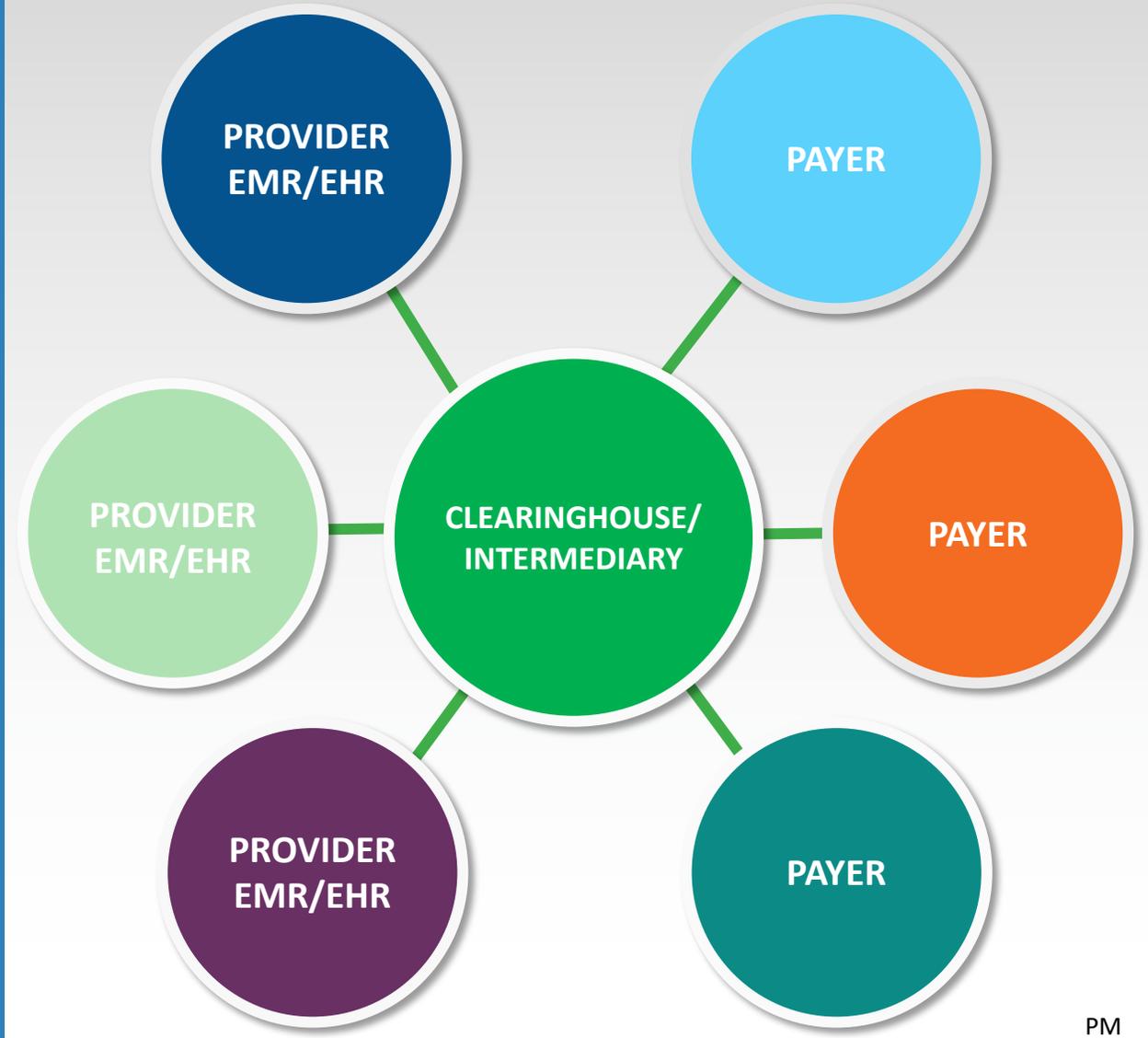
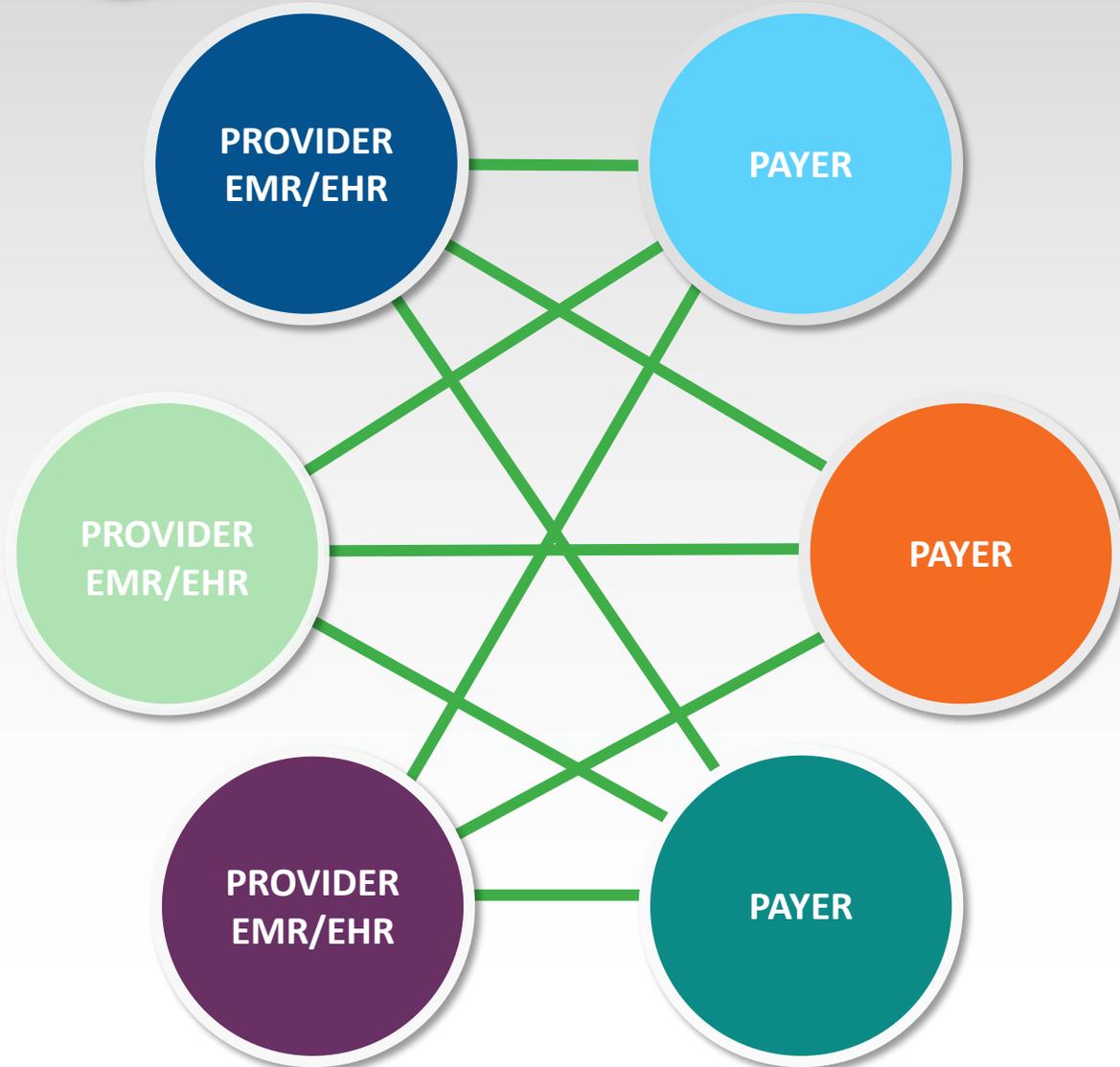
 PCP views patient information



For more information view [FAST 101](#)

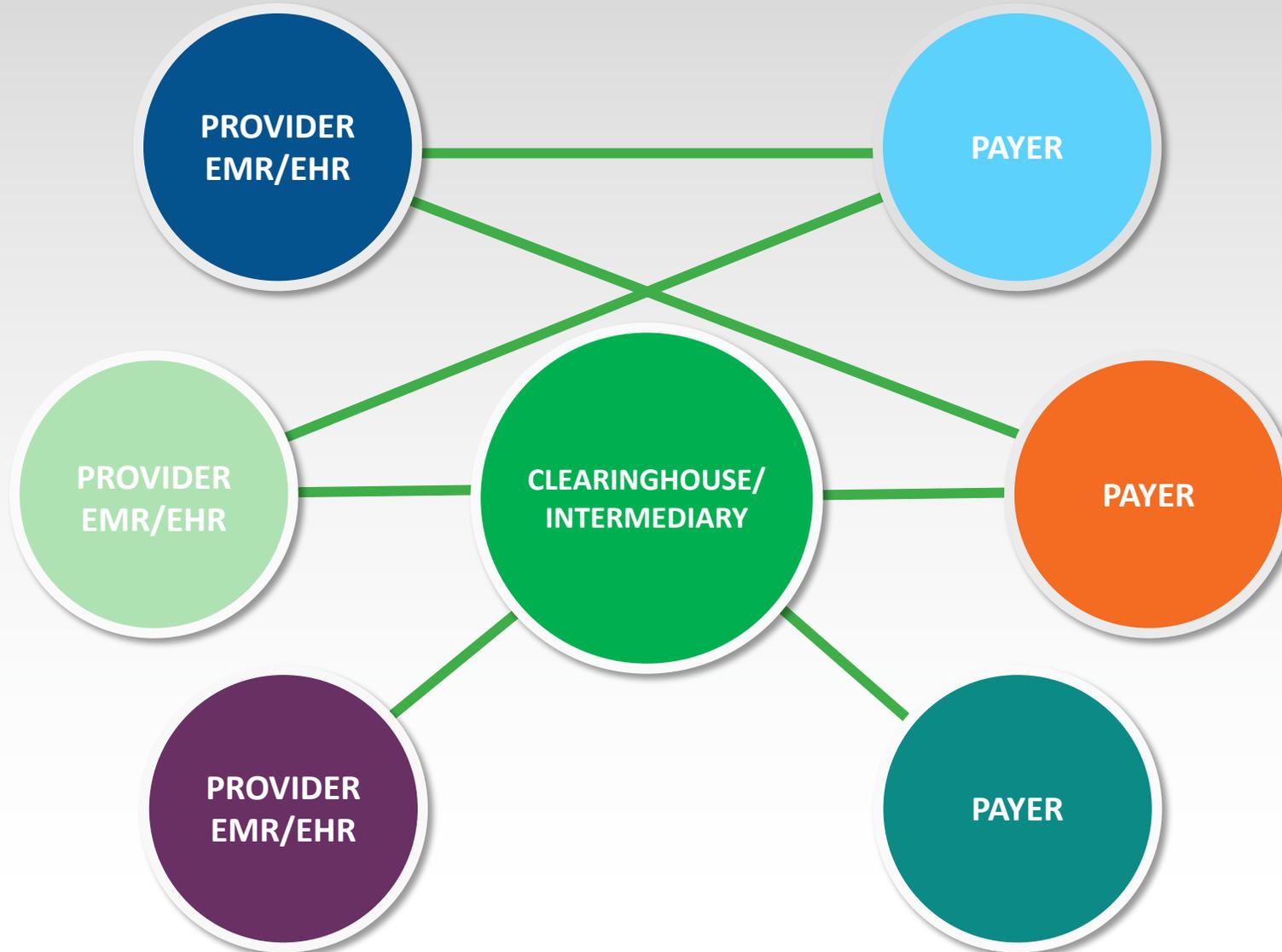


# Supporting Both Point to Point & Intermediary Models





# Supporting a Hybrid Model



# Polling Question 3

**How familiar are you with intermediary/clearinghouse model?**

1. Aware and think it adds value
2. Aware but do not think it adds value
3. Not aware
4. Other (Please add comments in the question box)



# What is Metadata/Routing Information?

- Within FAST, exchange is solely concerned with routing across intermediaries and other tiger teams are focusing on directory, version, security, etc...
- Metadata – data about the data!
  - Classic example
    - Author
    - File size
    - Create date
    - Keywords
- Within the context of exchange, metadata refers to routing information that is carried along with the transaction so that it can reliably route across multiple ‘hops’ and arrive at the appropriate destination
  - Exchange examples
    - Payer ID
    - Organizational identifier
    - NPI
    - Originator ID



# Exchange Tiger Team Approach



<b>Industry Initiatives and Research</b>	<p>Considered best practices and approaches from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Existing API interaction patterns and models</li><li>• SOAP wrappers around X12</li><li>• IHE</li><li>• Direct Trust</li><li>• ACH</li><li>• Block chain</li></ul>
<b>Community feedback</b>	<p>Soliciting early and continued feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SME involvement</li><li>• Requesting feedback from FAST TLC through Webinars and LinkedIn Group</li></ul>
<b>FAST Internal Reviews</b>	<p>Leveraging expertise on the taskforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Feedback from FAST Coordinating Committee</li><li>• Reviews with FAST Chief Architects and other Tiger Teams</li></ul>



# FAST Exchange Barriers to FHIR Scalability



## EXCHANGE BARRIERS



## IMPLICATIONS

### USE OF DIFFERENT IDENTIFIERS

The metadata will need to have a standardized identifier set and attribute name (NPI, Payer ID, etc)



Routing engines will expect consistent attribute and identifier sets to route information

### SYNCHRONOUS & ASYNCHRONOUS MODELS

Both models need to be supported with reliable routing



The model will need to support both push and pull models in synchronous and asynchronous patterns

### HYBRID ENVIRONMENTS

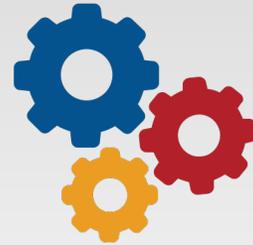
The environment will consist of both dynamic point to point & intermediary models



The model must support transactions over both dynamic point to point and intermediary brokered models



# Proposed Exchange Solution



## EXCHANGE

### Reliable Transaction Routing

#### APPROACHES

**Primary: Reliable Routing Across Intermediaries Using Metadata**

**Alternative: Reliable Routing Across Intermediaries Using Destination Specific Endpoints**



# Proposed Solution: Metadata





# Proposed Solution: Routing Metadata – Overview

## Solution Summary

In today's environment, FHIR integration is typically point-to-point without the need for routing meta-data. In addition, given the point-to-point model, it is typically obvious who the requester and responder are without the need for multi-hop routing data.

As FHIR scales and given that an intermediary/multi-intermediary hybrid model is being accounted for by other tiger teams, the need to support reliable multi-hop routing is planned.

## Assumptions

- Point to point (including dynamic) models exists
- Intermediary model exists

## Complexity Rating

**Medium:** Builds on existing technology solution frameworks, but uses them in a new manner

## In Scope

- Exchange using intermediaries
- Exchange using point to point (including dynamic)

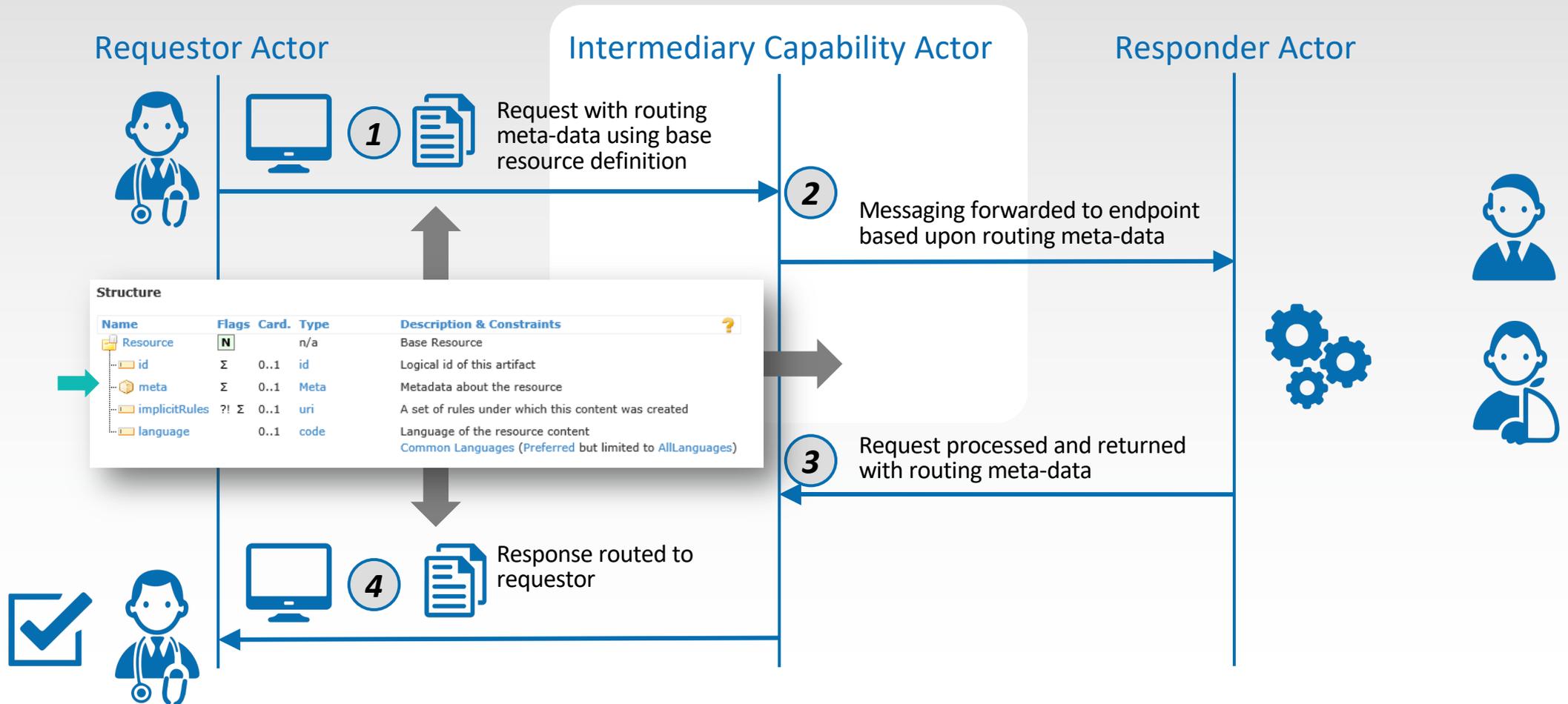
## Out of Scope

- Versioning
- Directory services
- Security
- Authentication
- Authorization



# Proposed Solution: Routing Metadata – Process Flow

Planning for a hybrid future while learning from existing models such as CAQH Core and clearing house patterns





# Proposed Solution: Routing Metadata – Status & Open Issues

## Proposed Solution Status: In Progress

1. Vetting of solution continues including this webinar
2. Additional modeling of the structure and content, including value sets, continues
3. Additional SME focus teams to review in early 2020

## Open Items

1. Vetting of appropriate metadata structures and locations such as
  1. Base resource metadata (source, tag) .. <https://www.hl7.org/fhir/resource.html>
  2. Resource MessageHeader
2. Value set for identifiers reconciliation

# Polling Question 4

**Do you agree with this approach?**

1. Yes
2. No (Please add comments in the question box)
3. Somewhat (Please add comments in the question box)

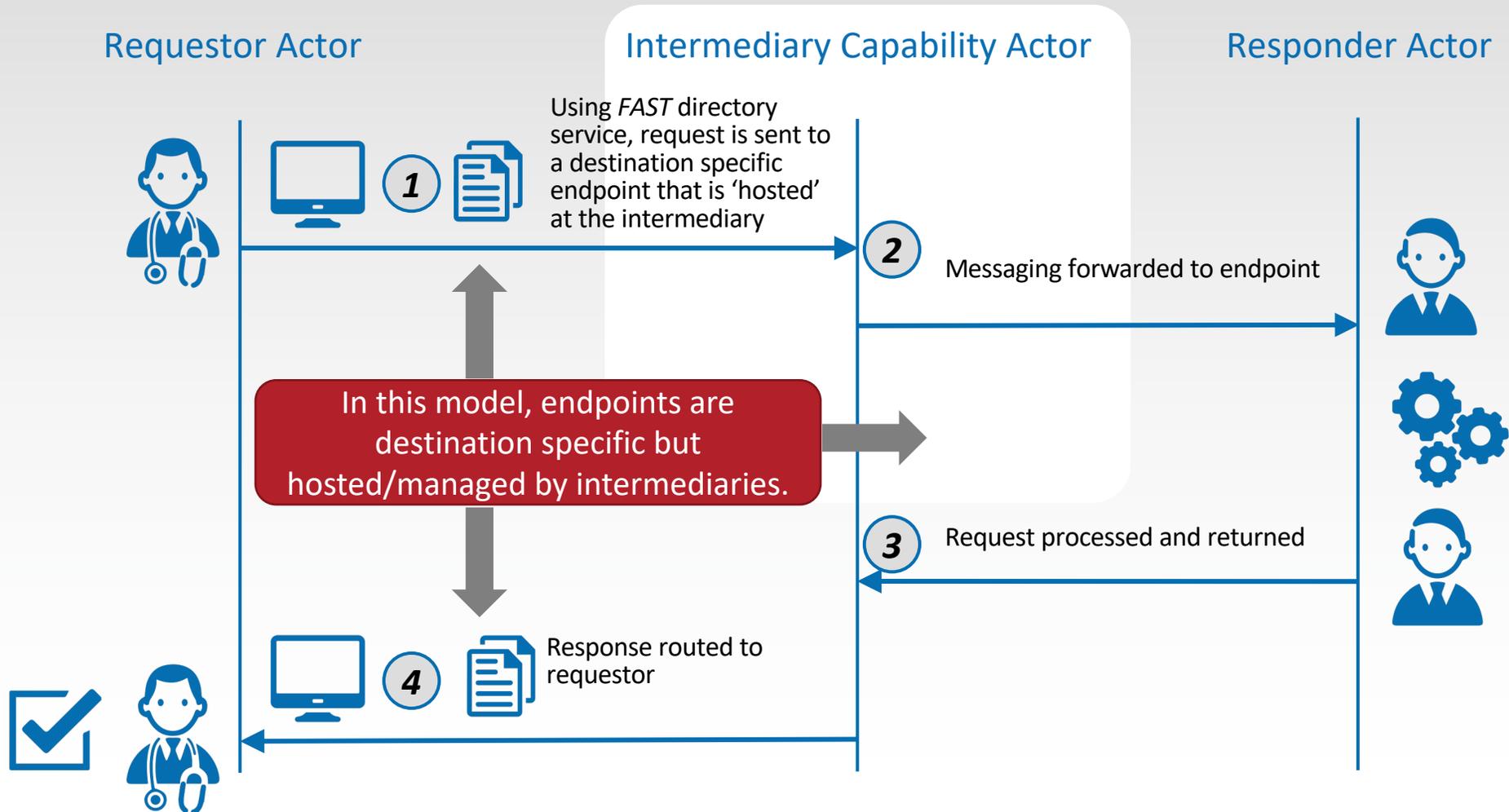
# Alternate Solution: Destination Specific Endpoints Using Intermediaries





# Alternate Solution: Destination Endpoint – Process Flow

Planning for a hybrid future while learning from existing models such as CAQH Core and clearing house patterns



# Polling Question 5

Do you agree with this alternate approach?

1. Yes
2. No (Please add comments in the question box)
3. Somewhat (Please add comments in the question box)



# FAST Technical Learning Community (TLC) Webinar Series

## Identity TLC Webinar

Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>

*Mediated Patient Matching  
Collaborative Patient Matching  
Distributed Identity Management*

Presentation

## Certification & Testing TLC Webinar

Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>

*ONC FHIR Testing and  
Certification Program*

Presentation

## Exchange TLC Webinar

Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

*Reliable Routing Across  
Intermediaries Using Metadata*

Presentation

## Directory, Versioning & Scale TLC Webinar

Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>

*Directory: A national solution for FHIR Endpoint Discovery  
Versioning: Supporting multiple production versions of FHIR  
Scale: Requirements for FHIR RESTful exchange intermediaries*

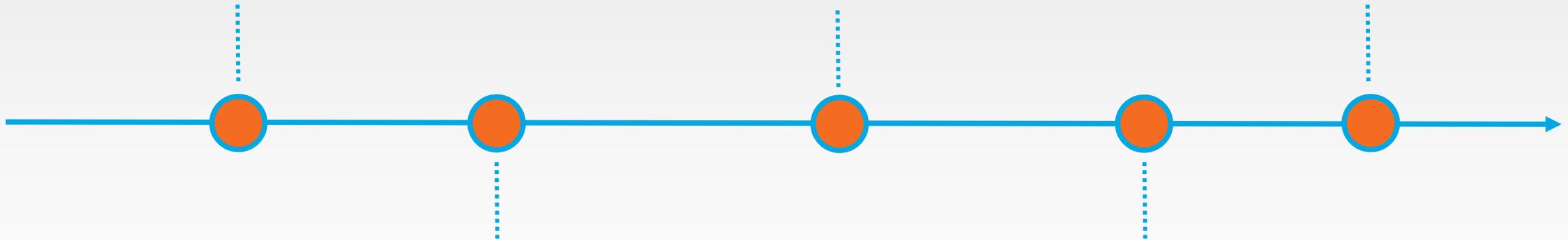
Presentation

## Security TLC Webinar

Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup>

*Trusted Dynamic Client  
Registration & Token Request*

Presentation





# Additional Questions & Feedback

Patient & Provider Identity Management

Directory Services

Version Identification

Scale

Exchange Process/Metadata

Testing, Conformance & Certification

Security

Pilots

## ***FAST* Technical Learning Community**

**The *FAST* team wants to hear from you!**

**Please post additional questions and comments for Tiger Team members to review and respond in the ***FAST LINKEDIN GROUP*****



# Thank You – Today's Presenters

**Durwin Day**

*Health Information Manager*  
HCSC

**Patrick Murta**

*Architecture Fellow*  
Humana

Connect with us on [LinkedIn](#) to stay informed

For more information on the *FAST* Initiative,  
visit the *FAST* [Project Page](#) or <https://tinyurl.com/ONC-FAST>

Have any further questions/suggestions?

Please contact Stephen Konya at [Stephen.Konya@hhs.gov](mailto:Stephen.Konya@hhs.gov)  
& Diana Ciricean at [Diana.Ciricean@hhs.gov](mailto:Diana.Ciricean@hhs.gov)