



# Health-e-Child: A Platform for European Paediatrics

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**HeC workshop, EGEE07**  
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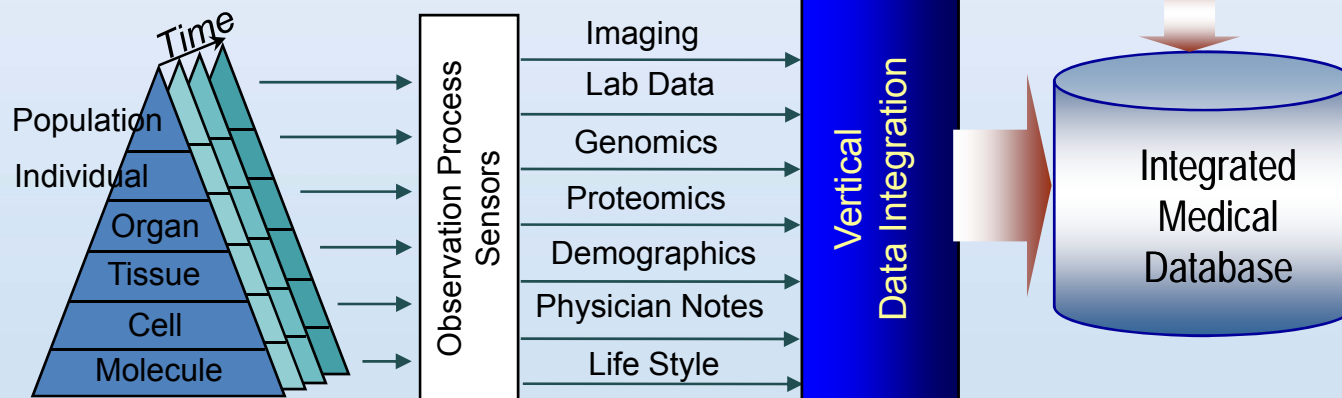
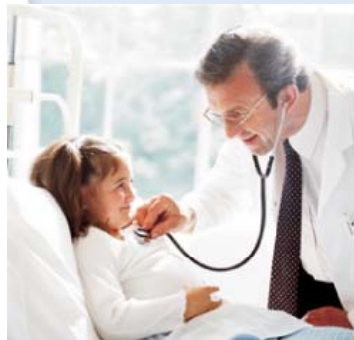
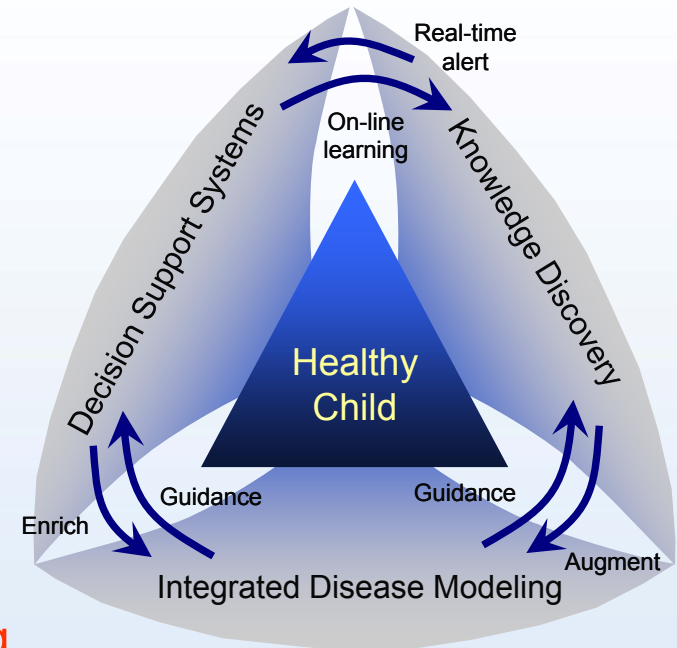
## Motivation for the Project

- **Clinical demand for integration and exploitation of heterogeneous biomedical information**
  - vertical dimension – multiple data sources
  - horizontal dimension – multiple sites
- **Need for generic and scalable platforms (Grid?)**
  - integrate traditional and emerging sources
  - provide decision support
  - ubiquitous access to knowledge repositories in clinical routine
  - connect stakeholders in clinical research
- **Need for complex integrated disease models**
  - build holistic views of the human body
  - early disease detection exploiting in vitro information
  - personalized diagnosis, therapy and follow-up



# Objectives of Health-e-Child

- Build enabling tools & services that improve the quality of care and reduce cost with
  - Integrated disease models
  - Database-guided decision support systems
  - Cross modality information fusion and data mining for knowledge discovery
- Establish multi-site, vertical and longitudinal integration of data, information and knowledge
- Develop a GRID-based platform, supported by robust search, optimisation and matching





## What's unique about Health-e-Child?

- **Paediatrics:**
  - Temporal component
  - Some adult concepts do not (directly) apply, existing models might be misleading
  - Different examinations, treatments, some cannot be performed
  - Align with adult models (follow-up ?) ... Not in project scope
- **Vertical Integration**
  - Collect, represent and present the information, knowledge in an integrated way
  - Integration as a means of novel diagnosis/classification
- **Extreme heterogeneity**
  - Diseases, modalities, standards, interest...



## Focus on Paediatric Diseases

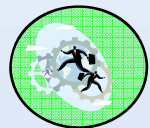
- **Three Paediatric Diseases with at least partly unknown cause, classification and/or treatment outcomes**
  - Heart diseases (*Right Ventricular Overload, Cardiomyopathy*)
  - Inflammatory diseases (*Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis*)
  - Brain tumours (*Gliomas*)
- **Many Clinical Departments**
  - Cardiology
  - Rheumatology
  - (Neuro-)Oncology
  - Radiology
  - Lab (Genetics, Proteomics)
  - Administration, IT
- **Main Modalities / Data Sources**
  - Imaging (MR, US/echocardiography, CT, x-ray)
  - Clinical (Patient information, Lab results etc)
  - Genetics & Proteomics



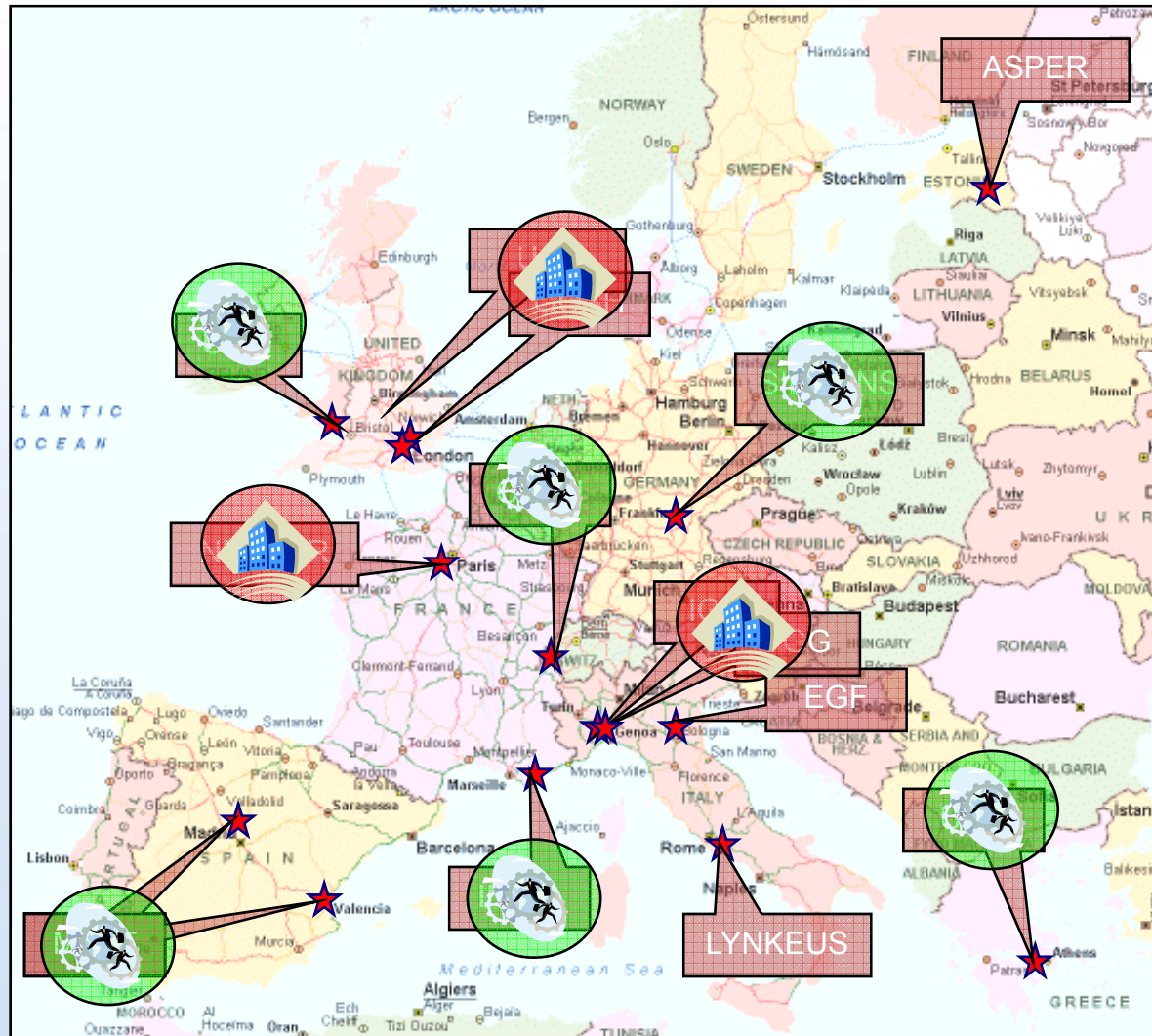
# A Geographically Distributed Environment



Clinical Site

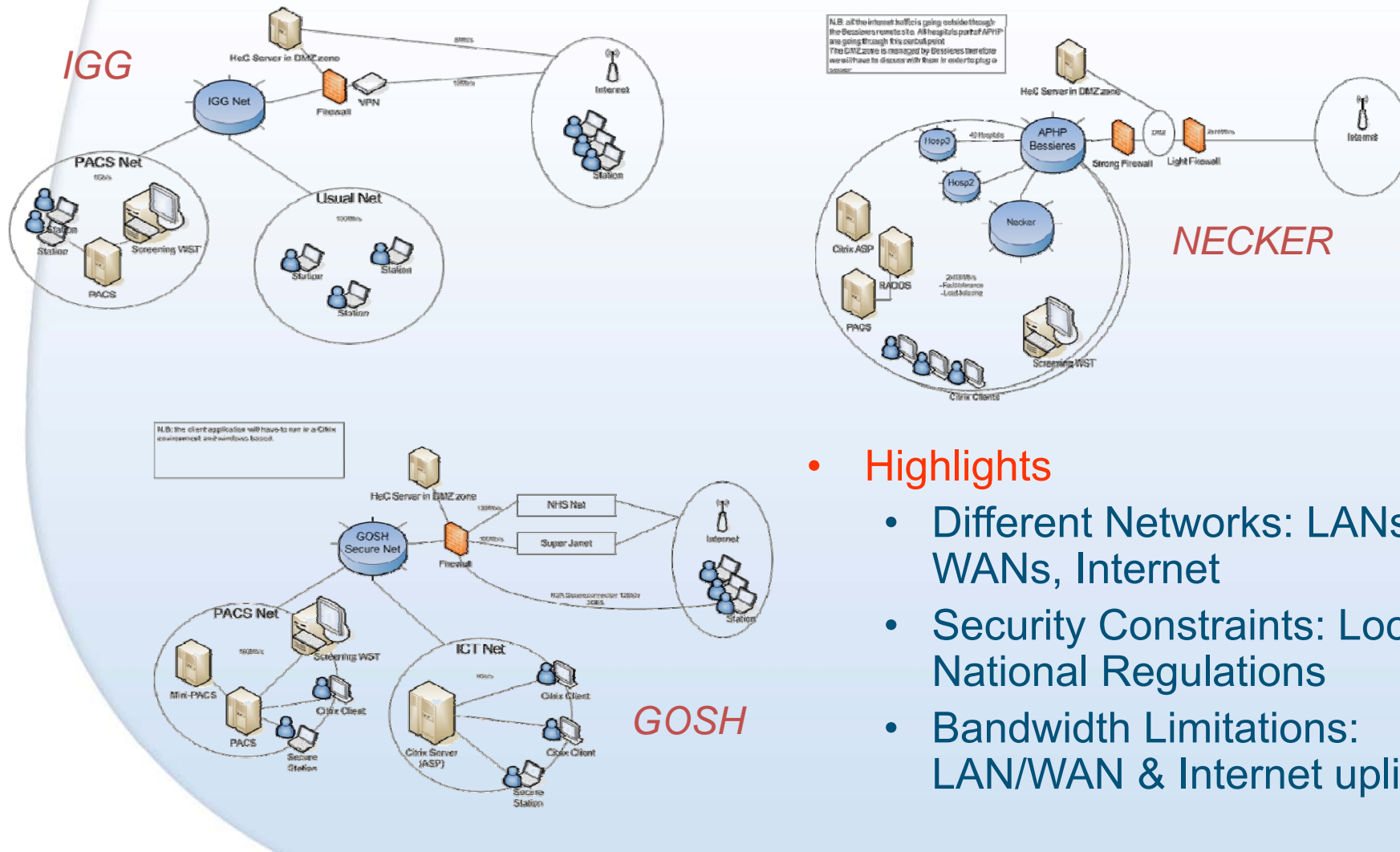


R&D Site





# Integration Challenge: Applications



## • Highlights

- Different Networks: LANs, WANs, Internet
- Security Constraints: Local & National Regulations
- Bandwidth Limitations: LAN/WAN & Internet uplinks



## HeC System Overview

*Heart Disease Applications*

*Inflammatory Diseases Applications*

*Brain Tumour Applications*

*Common Client Applications*  
user interface for authentication, viewing, editing, similarity search

*HeC Gateway*  
*HeC specific models and Grid services like query processing, security*

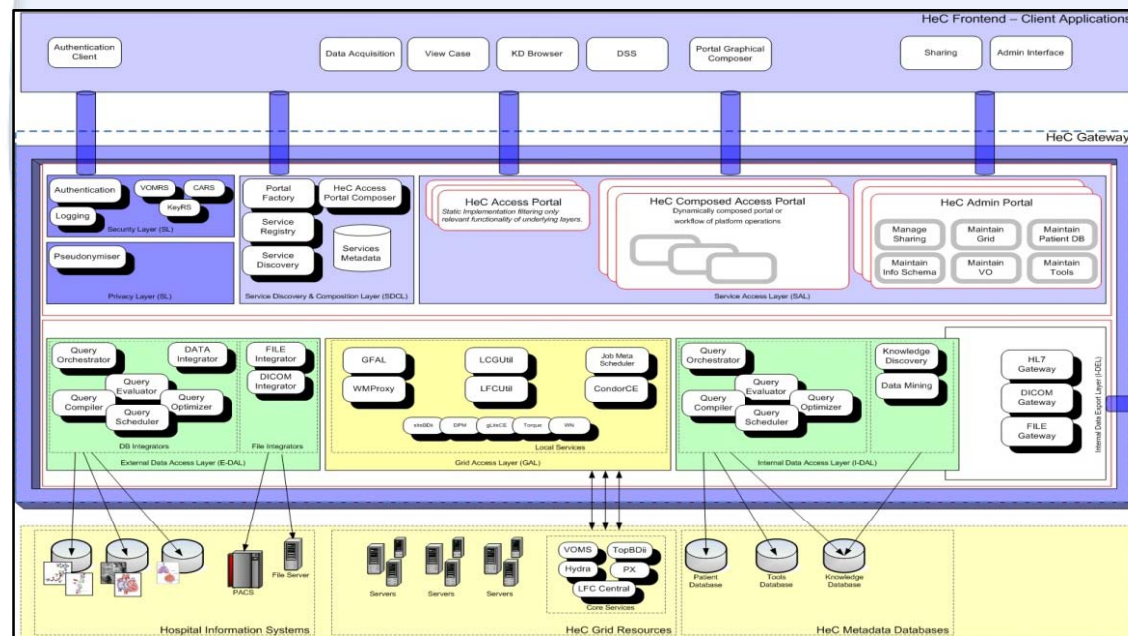
*Grid Infrastructure*  
databases, resource and user management, data security





## Health-e-Child gateway

- **The HeC Gateway**
  - An intermediary access layer to decouple client applications from the complexity of the grid
  - Towards a platform independent implementation
  - To add domain specific functionality not provided by the middleware



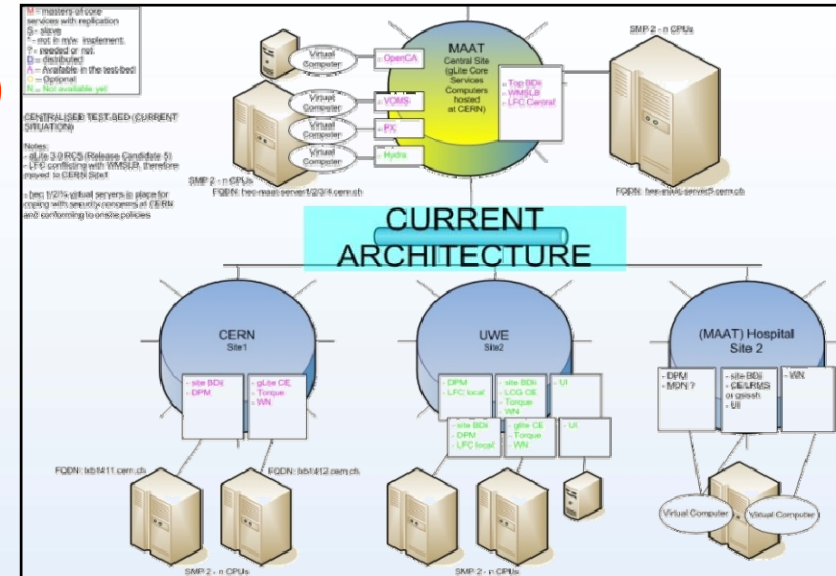
## Status

- ✓ SOA architecture and design
- ✓ implementation of privacy and security modules



# Architecture

- Grid technology (gLite 3.0) as the enabling infrastructure
  - A distributed platform for sharing storage and computing resources
- HeC Specific Requirements
  - Need support for medical (DICOM) images
  - Need high responsiveness for use in clinical routine
  - Need to guarantee patient data privacy:
    - access rights management
    - storage of anonymized patient data only



## Status

- ✓ Testbed installation since May 2006
- ✓ HeC Certificate Authority
- ✓ HeC Virtual Organisation
- ✓ Security Prototype (clients & services)
- ✓ Logging Portal & Appender



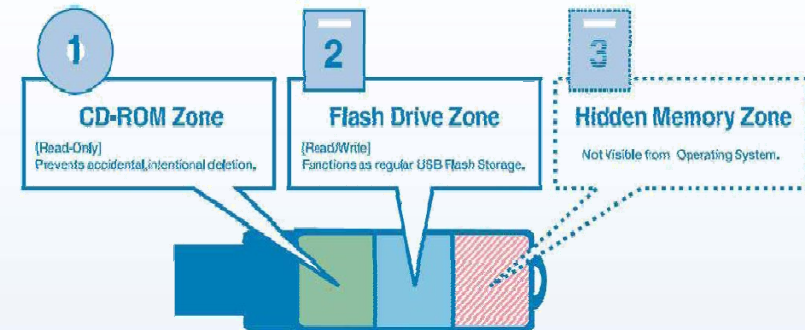
# Common Client Applications

## USB key solution

- authentication
- basic functionality + applications that do not require specific resources
- available from any PC supporting USB in the hospital without SW installation
- autorun from Windows XP

## Supports basic functionality

- browsing, viewing, editing patient data
- safety, security, privacy, anonymisation
- similarity search

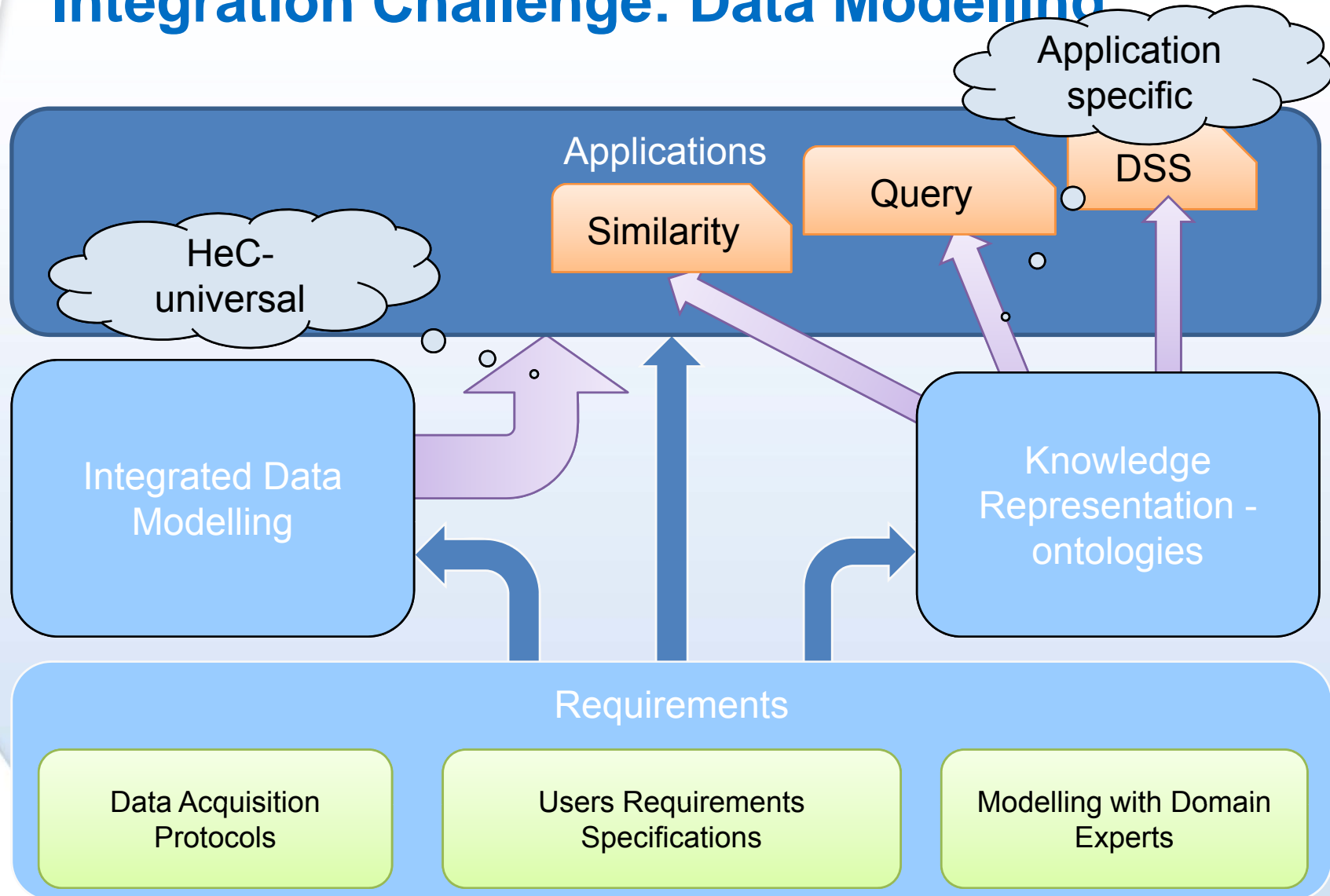


## Status

- ✓ authentication (certificate-based single sign-on)
- ✓ simple browsing and viewing



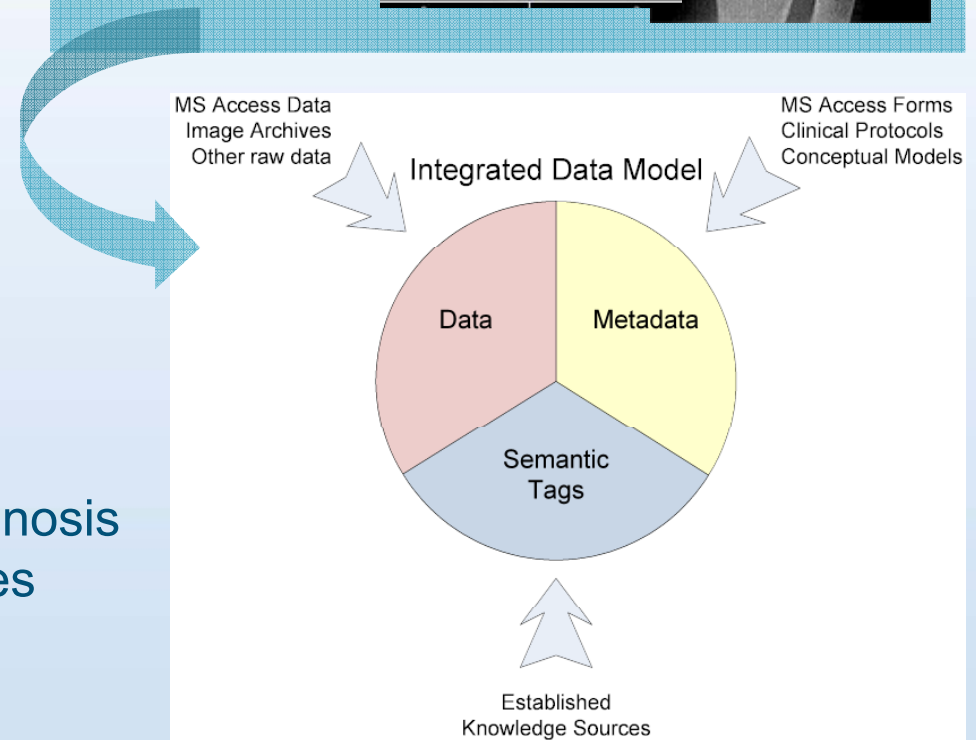
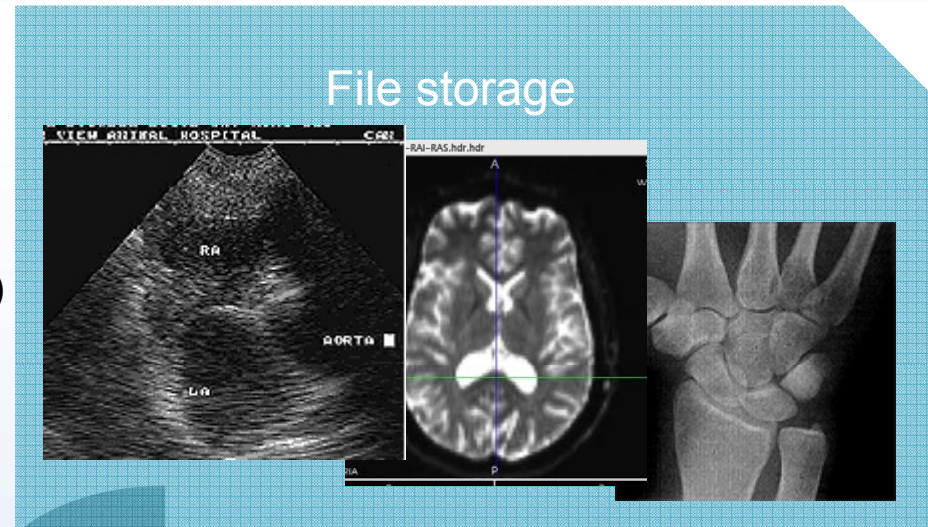
# Integration Challenge: Data Modelling





## Health-e-Child Data

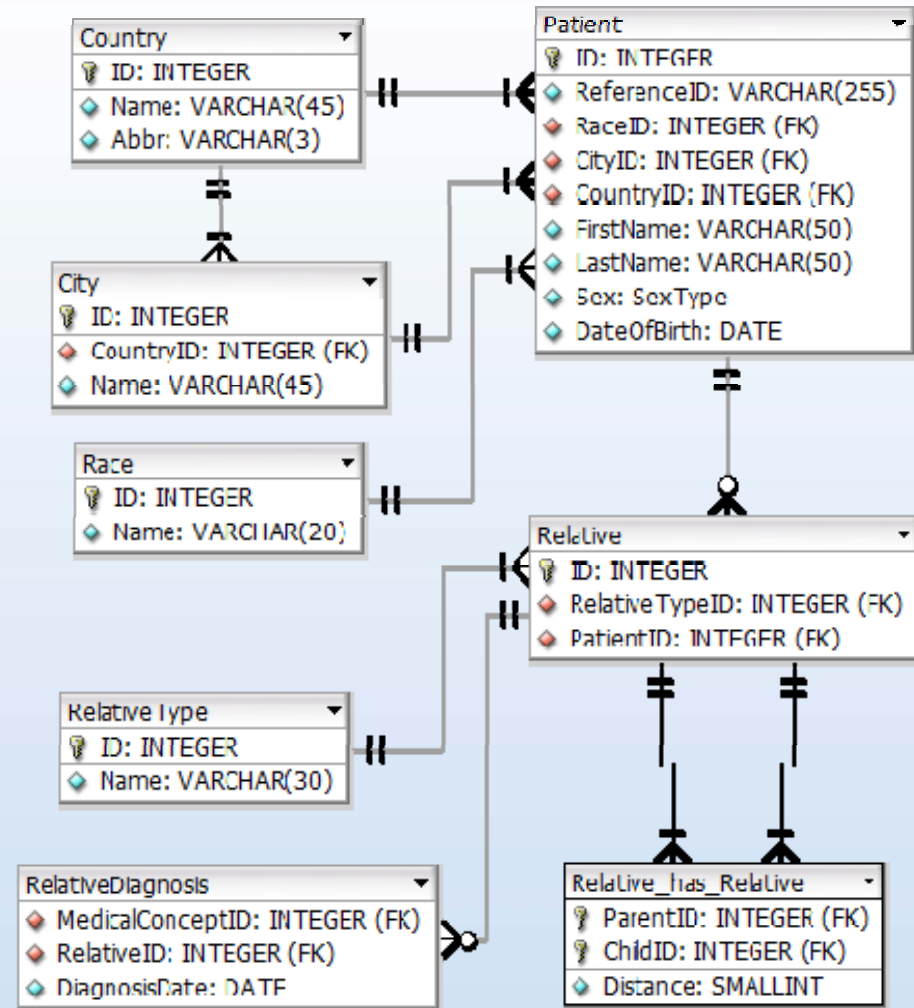
- **Unstructured (file-based)**
  - DICOM
    - Images (MRI, CT, x-ray)
    - Movies (US)
  - Molecular/Genetics data
- **Semi-structured**
  - Derived
  - Clinical data
  - Patient history
  - Diagnostics
  - Treatment
- **Semantic annotations**
  - Image annotations
  - Case annotations, Diagnosis
  - Links to external sources





# General Patient Information and Family History

- **Patient**
  - ReferenceID
- **Family History**
  - How to capture
    - Relative has/had a Disease
    - Disease in family
    - Pedigree up to 3 predecessors
  - Original vs Derived data
  - Incomplete, missing data





# Patient Data Hierarchy

## Clinical Variable

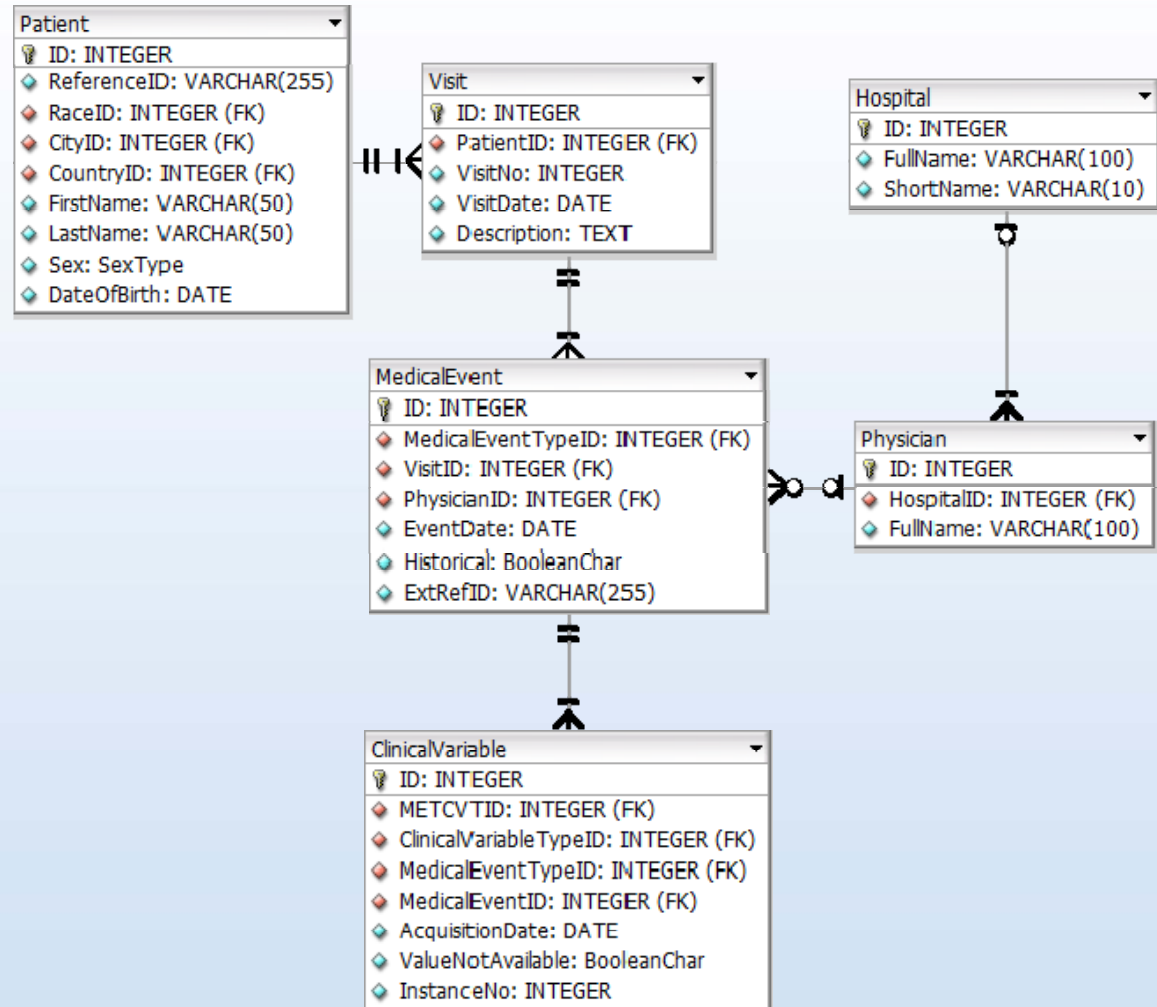
- Atomic piece of data
- e.g. Joe's weight measurement - 50 kg

## Medical Event

- Action on a patient
- ExtRefID
  - e.g. DICOM StudyInstanceUID
- E.g. Joe's physical examination

## Visit

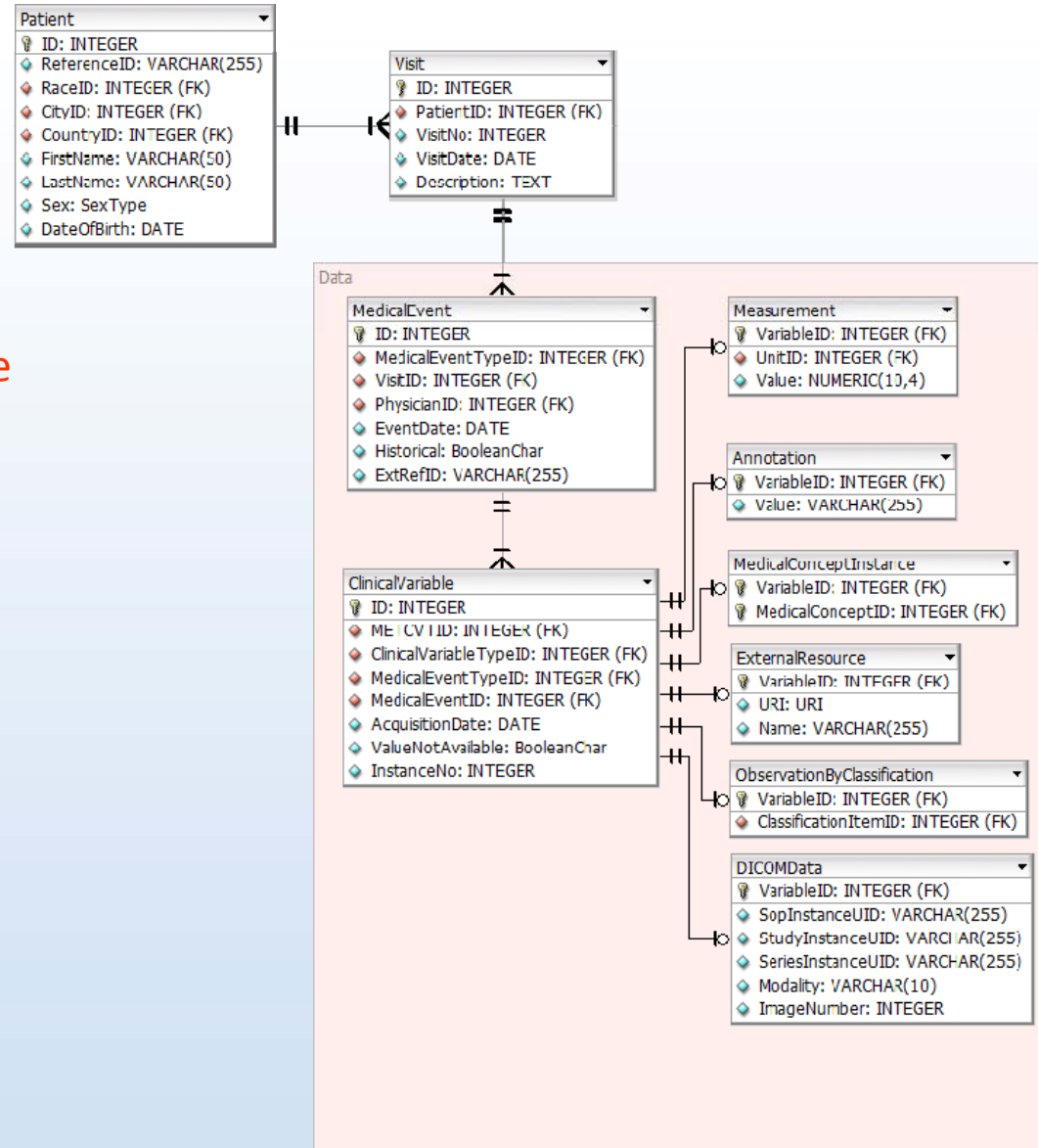
- Grouping/Context





# Clinical Variables

- Actual atomic clinical data from clinical protocols – instance base
- Attached to Medical Events
- Described by Clinical Variable Types
- Can be related to each other
- Specialization/Categories of clinical variables
  - Measurement
  - Annotation
  - DICOM Data
  - Observation By Classification
  - External Resource
  - Medical Concept







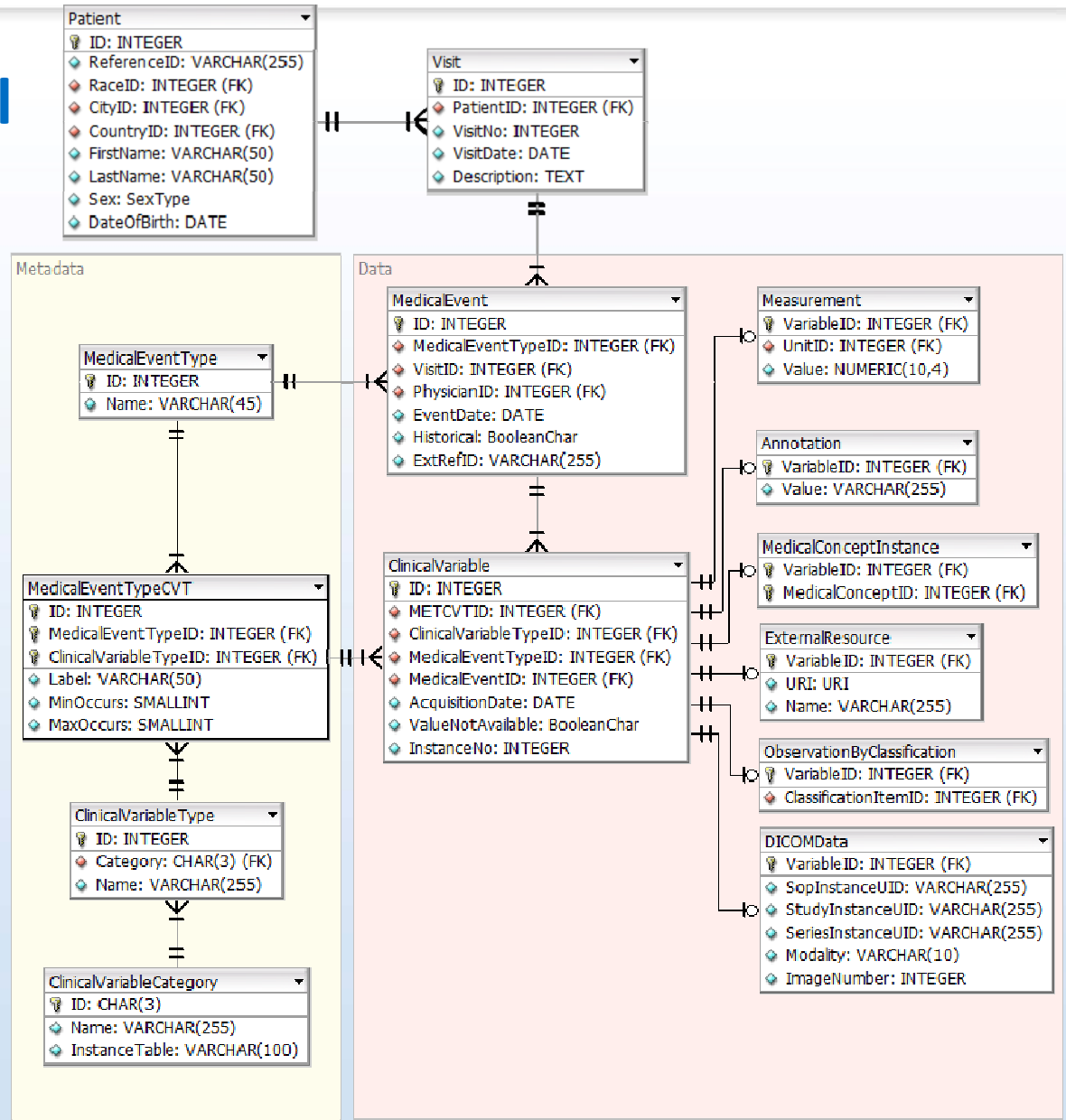
## Clinical Variables Categories

- **Measurement**
  - any estimation of the physical quantity (e.g. height, weight, heart rate, RV volume etc.).
  - a numeric value associated with a unit of measurement (e.g. 170cm, 50kg, 72 bpm etc.)
- **Annotation: any free text (e.g. comment, note, explanation etc.).**
- **Observation By Classification**
  - classification-based assessment
  - Selection from a list of predefined values
  - Example: severity of RV dilation : ("no", "moderate", "severe")
- **DICOM Data**
  - Specialized container to store the relevant image associated data (image meta-data)
  - Currently - unique DICOM identifiers (e.g. SOPInstanceUID, StudyInstanceUID etc.) + a few DICOM tags (e.g. Modality)
- **External Resource**
  - any source of the binary data and identified by URI
  - no assumption on the structure of the data in the resource
  - Example: a file on the Grid identified by its Logical File Name (LFN)
- **Medical Concept**
  - “tagging” any medical event / other clinical variable with medical concept from the knowledge base
  - Example: Joe’s diagnosis “Oligoarthritis” is stored as a reference to the knowledge base (as opposed to recording as a string)



# Metadata Model

- Describes the data model
  - Kinds of data that can be stored (Clinical Variable Types)
  - How data is organized/grouped (Medical Event Types)



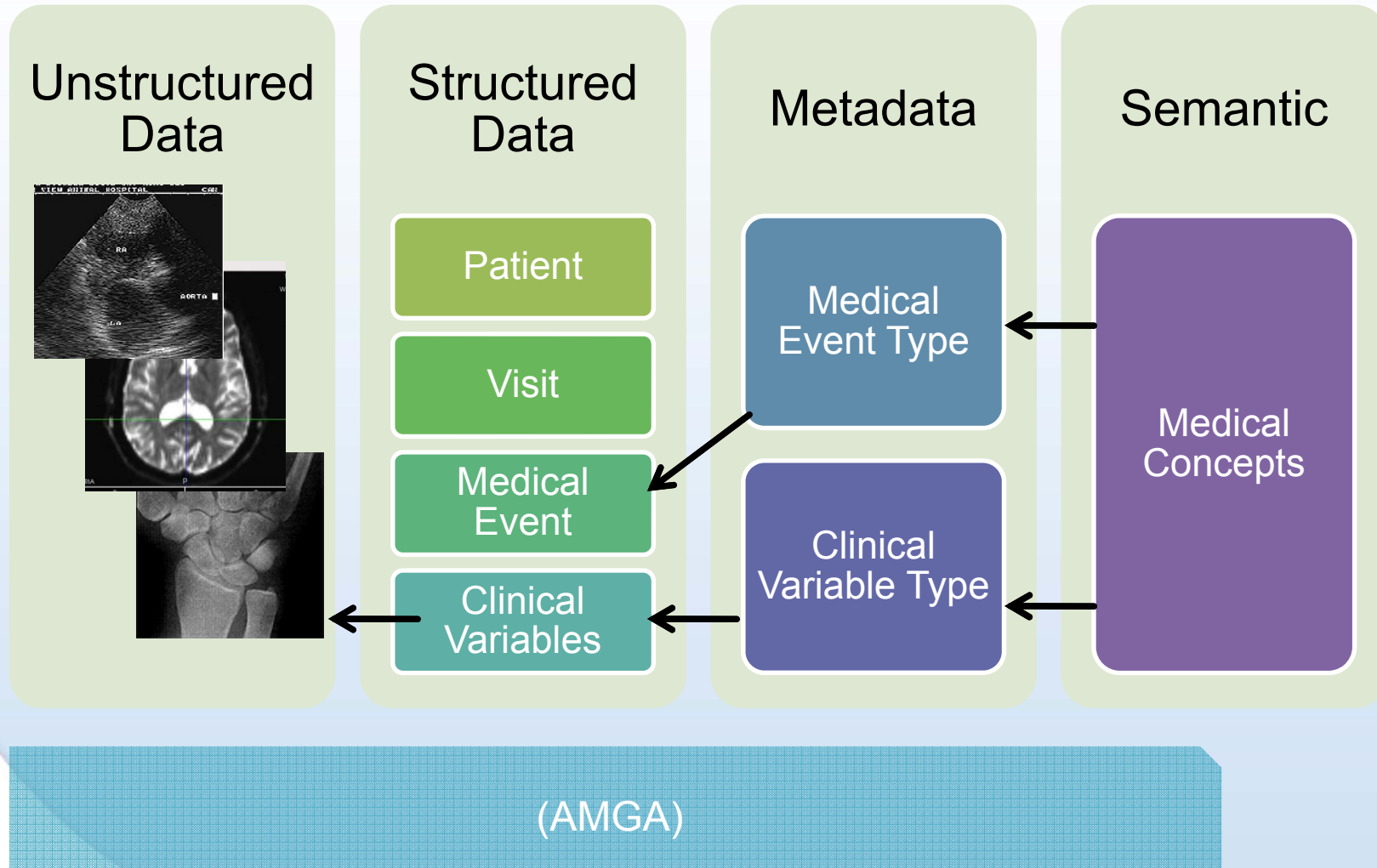


# Example: Measurement

Layer	Statement	Meaning
MetaData	<code>ClinicalVariableType( ID=1, Name="Systolic LV volume", Caterogy="MSR" )</code>	"Systolic LV Volume" <i>is a</i> <u>ClinicalVariableType</u> , the kind of which is "MEASUREMENT"
MetaData	<code>Unit( ID=2, Name="Milliliters per square meter", Abbr="mL/m2" )</code>	"Milliliters per square meter", abbreviated as "mL/m2" <i>is a</i> <u>Unit</u>
MetaData	<code>MeasurementUnit( VarTypeID=1, UnitID=2, UseByDefault=Y )</code>	The unit "mL/m2" defined above <i>is used to measure the</i> <u>Clinical Variable Type</u> "Systolic LV Volume"
Data	<code>ClinicalVariable( ID=3, VarTypeID=1, AcquisitionDate=???, ValueNotAvailable=N )</code>	The Clinical Variable (identified with ID=3) <i>is of</i> <u>ClinicalVariableType</u> "Systolic LV volume"
Data	<code>Measurement( VariableID=3, UnitID=2, VarTypeID=1, Value=30.5 )</code>	The above clinical variable, whose type is "Systolic LV volume" <i>was measured in</i> <u>units of mL/m2</u> to be 30.5



## Content of data model layers



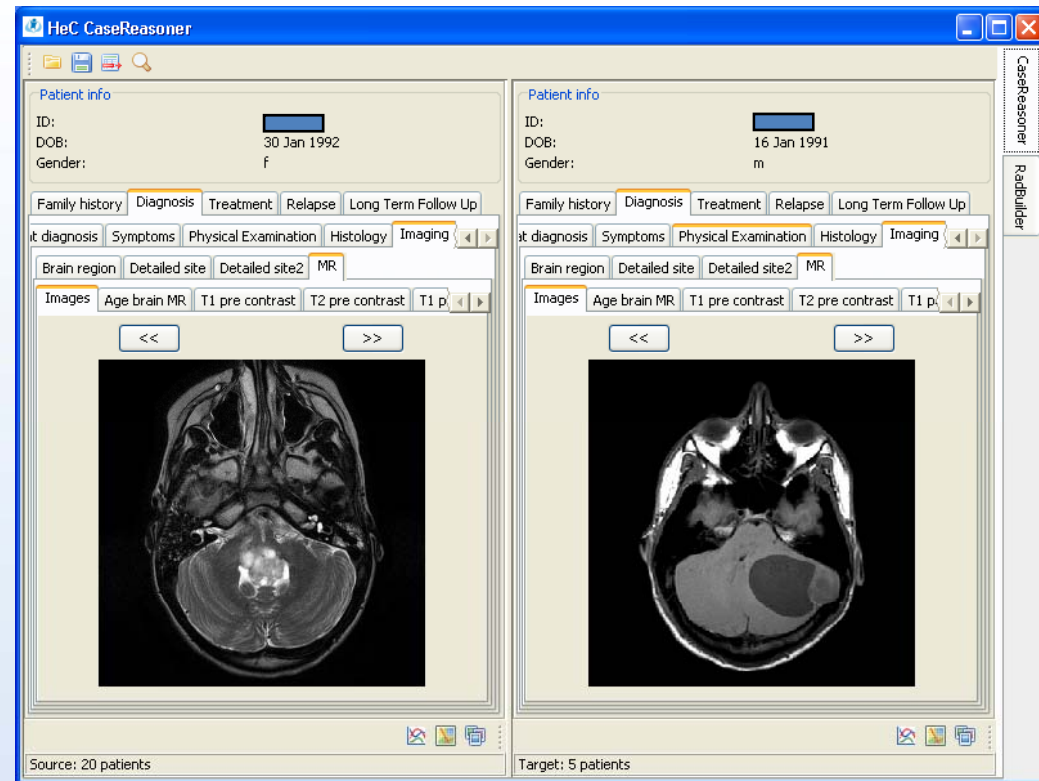
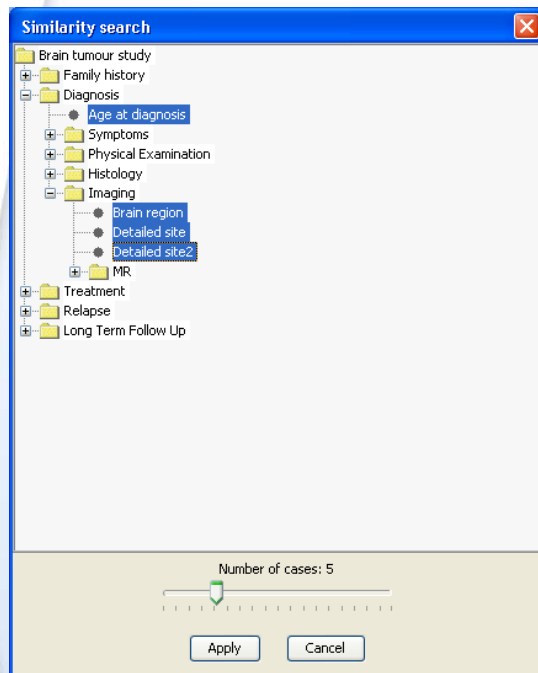


## Data Access – Medical Query Processing

- Queries specified by
  - end-users
  - client applications
- Common entry point: HeC gateway
- Query workflow elements:
  - Semantic query rewriting
  - Query planning and distribution
  - Special operators -> workflow planning
  - Querying the dynamic schema
  - Database queries
  - Catalogue query, gLite SE request



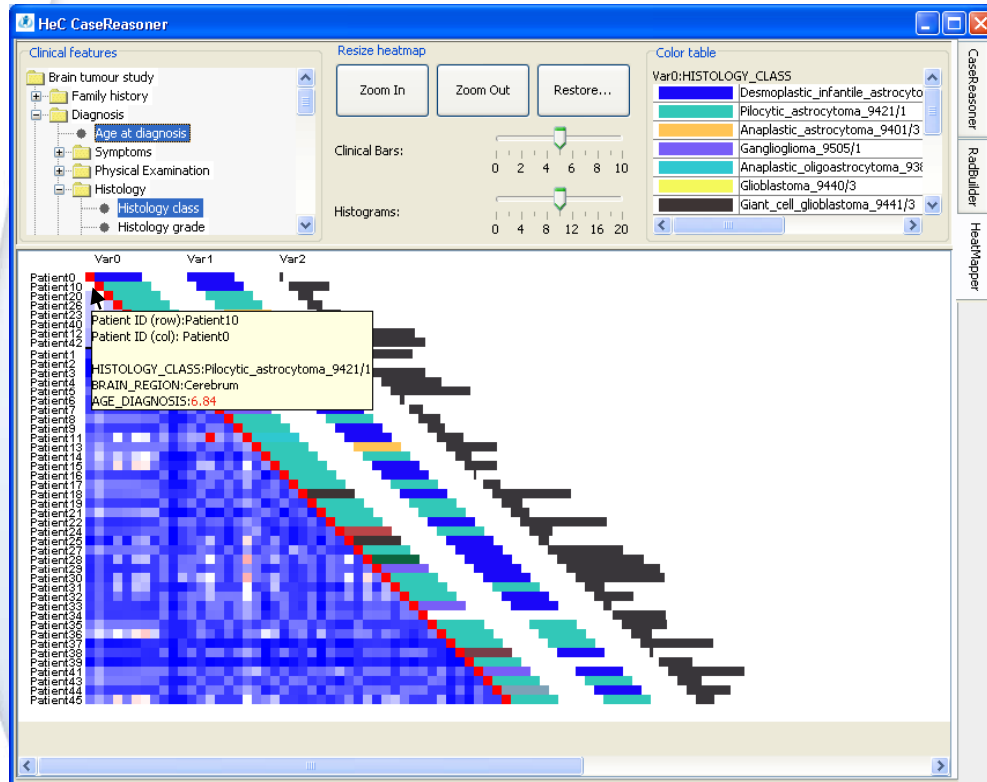
## Demonstrator: Similarity Search



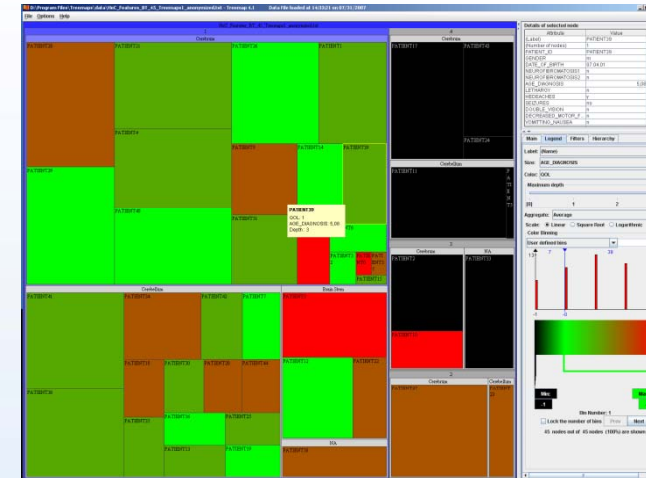
- search context is defined as a subset of (groups of) features of interest from the pre-defined feature hierarchy
- implementation in Java, Eclipse IDE, Window Builder Pro for GUI
- Weka open-source machine learning library for basic data management
- 2 initial domains: brain tumor and cardiology; extensible



# Demonstrator: Visualization



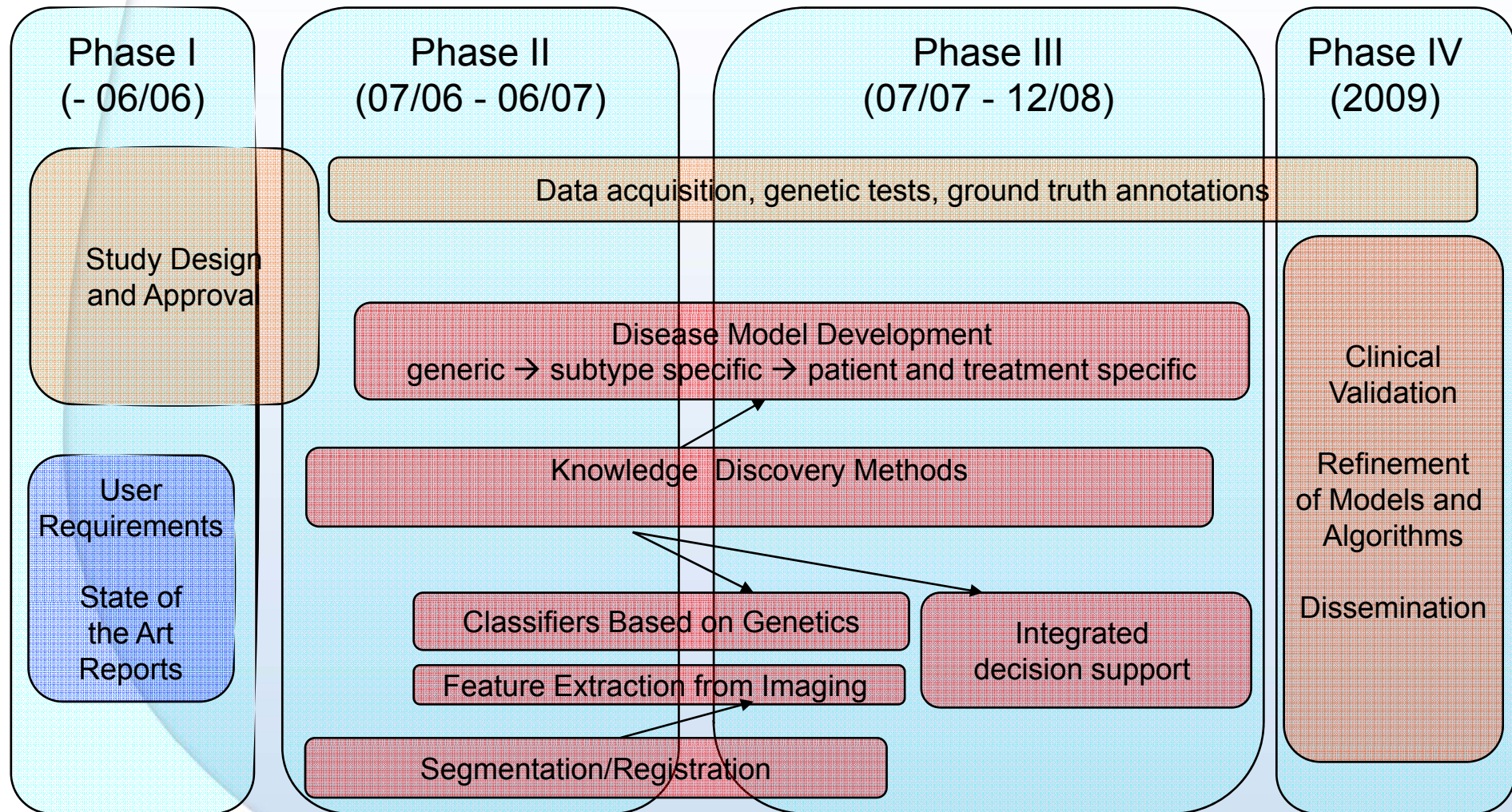
current prototype: distance maps and heatmaps are combined to visualise inter-patient distances, clinical, imaging and genetic features simultaneously



future work: treemaps and neighbour-hood graphs will be integrated for patient similarity visualization



# Clinical and Application Roadmap







**Thank you !**

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**<http://www.health-e-child.org>**