

# Using EHRs to extract information, query clinicians, and insert reports

Meghan Baker, MD, ScD

NIH HCS Collaboratory  
EHR working group webinar  
March 26, 2013



# ***E S P - V A E R S***

## **Electronic Support for Public Health Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System**

PI: Michael Klompas, MD, MPH, FRCPC

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute, Department of Population Medicine

David Kaelber, MD, PhD

MetroHealth System

Project Funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) SHEPheRD Program  
(*contract # 200-2011-42037*)

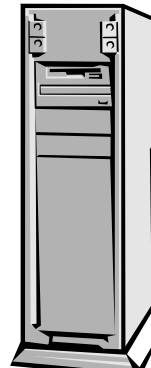
# Extracting information

# ESP: Automated disease detection and reporting for public health

Practice EMR's



ESP Server



Health Department



diagnoses



lab results



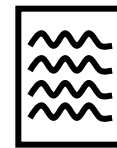
meds



vital signs

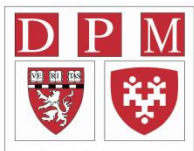


demographics



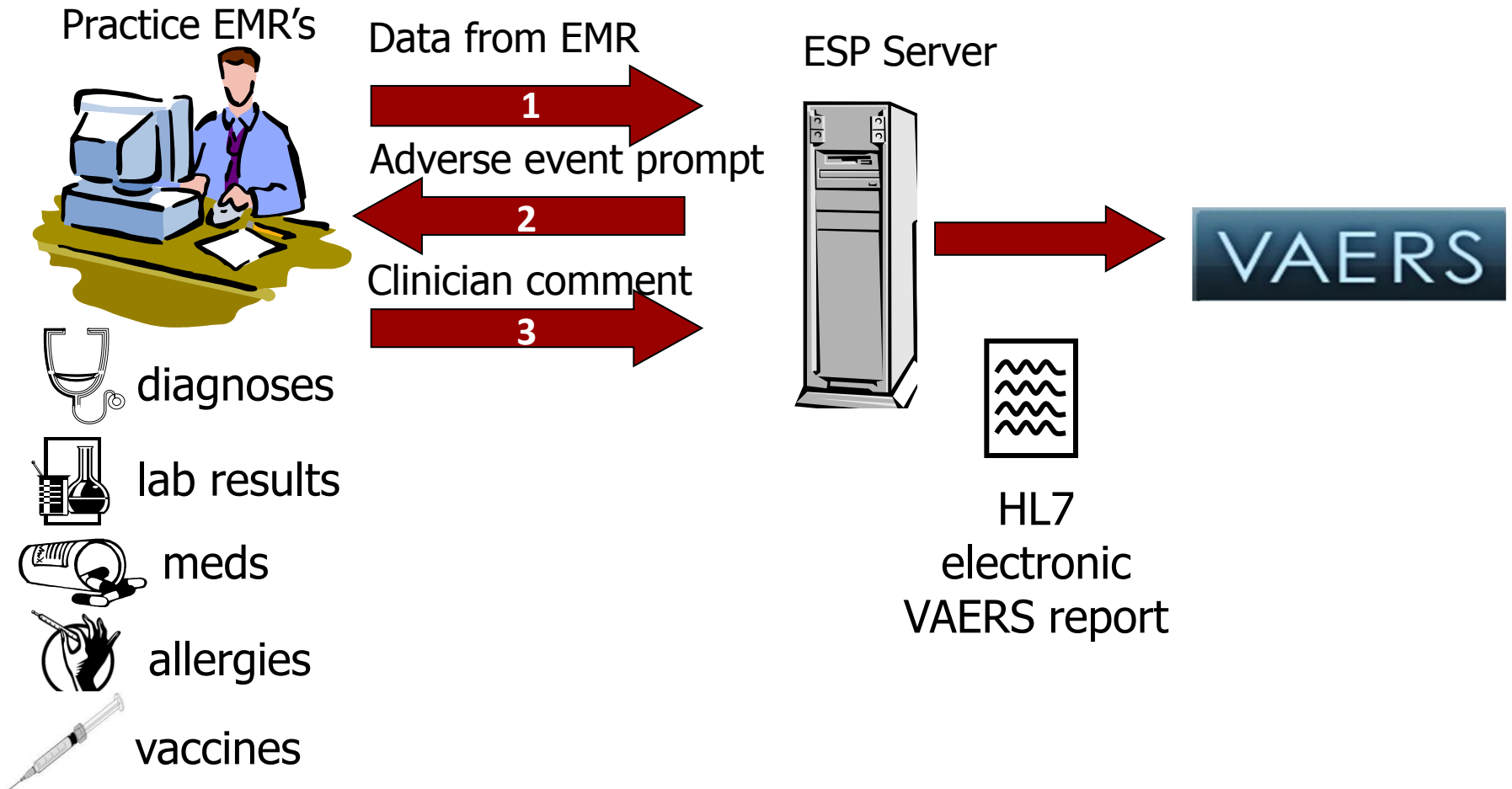
HL7

electronic  
case reports



# Using the EHR to Query Clinicians

# ESP: Automated detection and reporting with clinician input

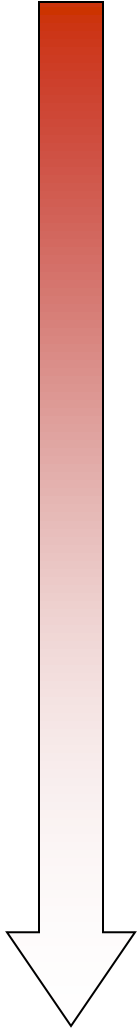


# Example ESP-VAERS Logic

Day 0 – measles vaccine administered

Day 6 – patient diagnosed with meningitis

1. Assess patient's past encounters → no ICD-9 for meningitis in the past year
2. Send message to patient's clinician  
"could this be related to recent vaccine?"



# Sending a message to the clinician's InBasket

- Message to the clinician is HL7 text message
  - Identifies patient, provider
  - Records information about the condition of interest
  - Saved to file system directory and database record
- Epic picks up text message
- Files and loads them via Transcription Interface
  - EMR
  - Message appears in provider InBasket





## ESP — ELECTRONIC SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

Patient name [MRN]	Xb, Klompas V [10]	Gender	Male
Date of birth [age]	27-Jan-1936 [76 years]	Telephone number	(555) 977-2727

Reviewing Clinician	Klompas, Michael
Primary Care Provider	McVetta, Jason

**Your patient received the following vaccination on Jan 21, 2010**

influenza, H5N1-1203

**We noted the following potentially concerning events after vaccination:**

Event Date	Days Since Vaccine(s) given	Encounter Type	Labs	Diagnosis	Prescription	Allergies
05-Feb-2010	15	Ambulatory		Meningitis 321.2		

### Possible Adverse Event?

- Yes, submit the adverse event report to CDC/FDA
- No

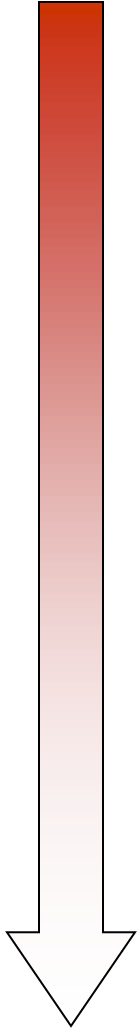
**Please provide details so that we can refine our adverse event detection algorithms:**

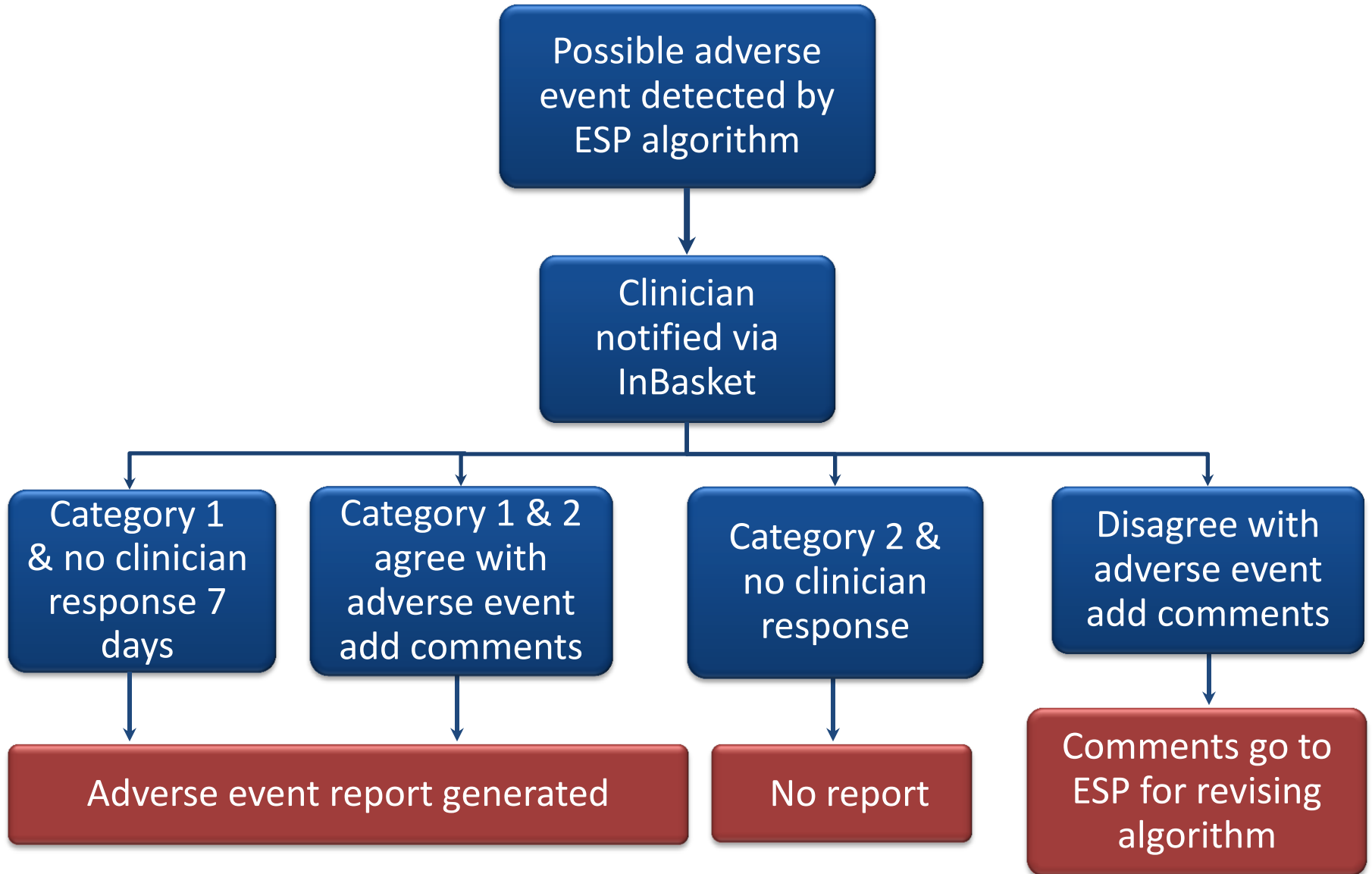
# Example ESP-VAERS Logic

Day 0 – measles vaccine administered

Day 6 – patient diagnosed with meningitis

1. Assess patient's past encounters → no ICD-9 for meningitis in the past year
2. Send message to patient's clinician  
"could this be related to recent vaccine?"
  - a. No → stop
  - b. Yes → clinician invited to add comments
3. Send HL7 report to VAERS





# Messages to VAERS

- HL7 message to CDC specifications
- Report includes
  - Patient name, gender, date of birth, contact
  - Reporting clinician name and contact
  - Vaccine name, lot number, date of administration
  - Adverse event, date, value
    - last known lab value if appropriate
  - Did adverse event require ER Visit/Hospitalization\*
  - Other vaccinations within 4 weeks prior to the date listed
  - Clinician comments

\* In April, 2013

# Inserting an updated report into the EHR

If HL7 message sent to CDC

- ESP generates VAERS report
- ESP generates new HL7 text message
  - Picked up by the Transcription Interface
  - New message updates patient's Epic EHR
    - Initial Epic report updated with new information that a VAERS report has been submitted

# Pros and cons of exporting/importing vs adding reporting functionality to the EHR

- **Pros**

- Allows fully customized algorithms and reporting formats
- Doesn't slow the EHR's response time
- No engagement with host IT department needed for modifications
- Doesn't increase EHR's code base and associated license fees
- New capabilities are readily portable to a wide array of EHRs
- Reports can be directed to appropriate person: primary care doctor, team manager, clinician who assigned a diagnosis, social worker, etc.

- **Cons**

- Doesn't operate in real time, e.g., during a patient encounter (sometimes this is desirable)

- **Neutral**

- Host organization retains complete control over its data

For more information:

<https://www.nihcollaboratory.org/Pages/ehr-data-faqs.aspx>

Recommendations, feedback,  
and questions:

Beth\_Syat@harvardpilgrim.org