

Agent Grids - The Future of EHR Exchange and Interoperability



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CHRISTUS Overview



CHRISTUS Health is a Catholic, faith-based, not for-profit health system

- More than **350 services and facilities**, including more than **50 hospitals** and **long-term care** facilities, **175 clinics** and **outpatient centers**, and dozens of other health ministries and ventures.
- CHRISTUS services can be found in **60 cities** in Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Georgia, and Utah in the United States and Chiapas, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, San Luis Potosi, and Tamaulipas in Mexico.
- CHRISTUS Health employs almost **28,000 Associates** and has almost **9,000 physicians** on medical staffs throughout our system. It's dimension, strength, and depth of service place **CHRISTUS** among the **top ten Catholic health systems** in the United States. We are also listed among the nation's Top 100 Integrated Healthcare Networks.

Needs for CHRISTUS Strategy

- Connectivity and interoperability
 - Physician adoption of EMRs
 - Paper/fax costs increasing
- Physician Alignment
- Community health
- Disaster preparedness

Strategy and Considerations

- Technology – In compliance with S.T.A.R.K. and Anti-kickback regulations
- Support – Standard ambulatory EMR, Practice Management and interoperability systems offered through ASP model. Support provided for these systems.
- Costs – Physician pays 15% of the cost of the software and implementation services
- Processes – automate the movement of hospital data to private practice clinical systems. Reduces costs for resources and provides for the timely consumption of patient data for the physician.

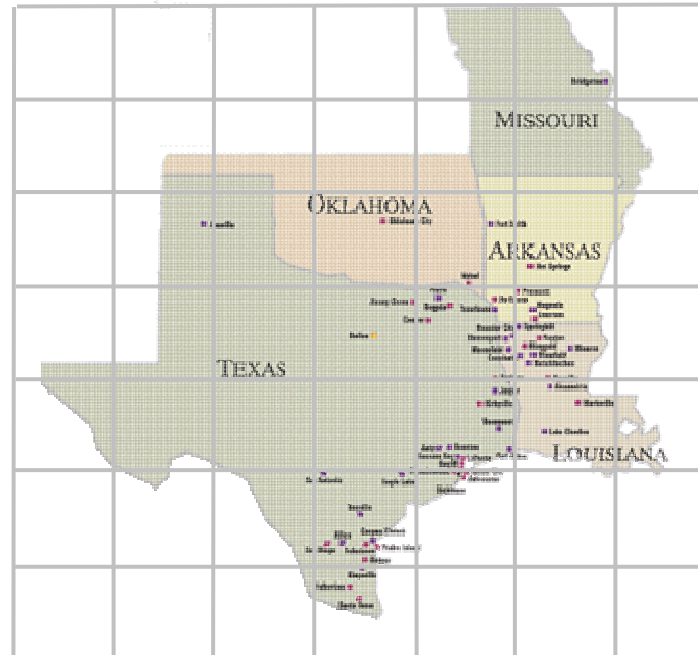
Decision

- **CHRISTUS Health TechSource**
- **Offering SW & Services to providers**
- **Pioneering a new approach**
 - Connectivity using an information grid
 - Interoperability using intelligent agents
 - EMR integration
 - Workflow automation



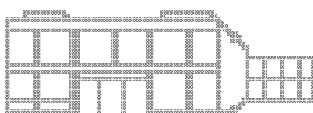
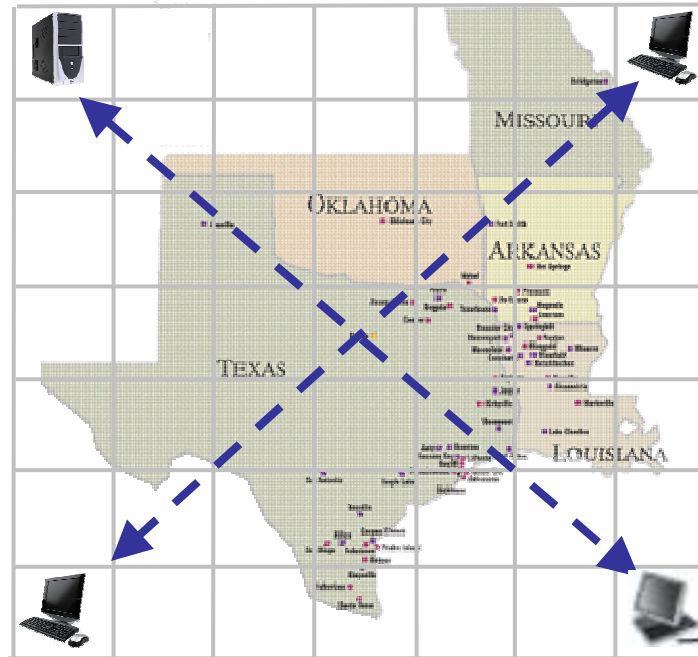
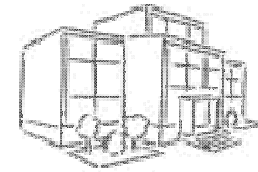
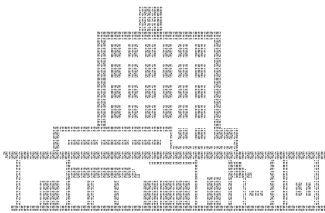
CHRISTUS

New approach and technology
Secure exchange via an information grid
Interoperability through distributed software agents



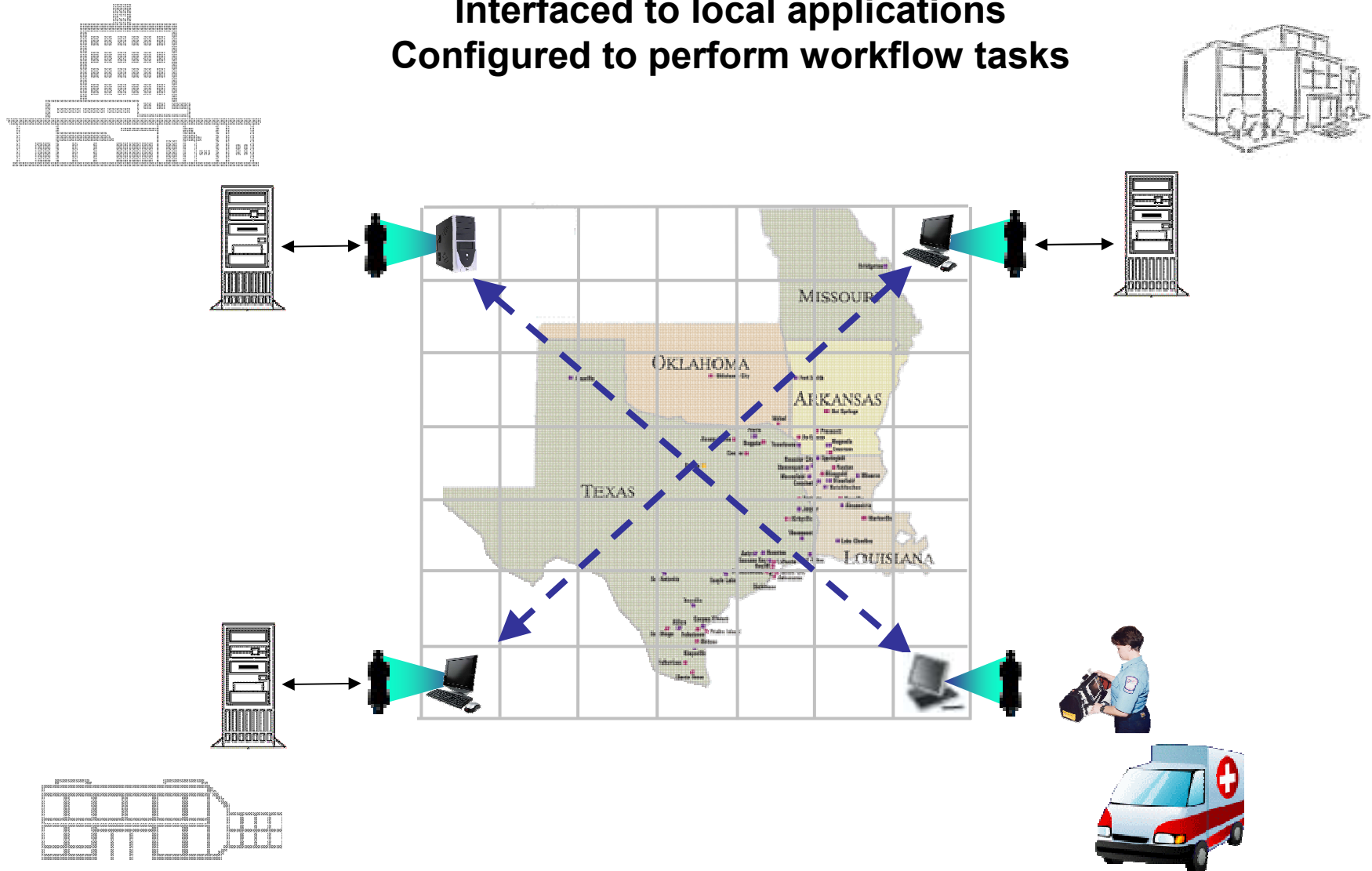
Healthcare Information Grid

Organizations run grid SW on a local computer
That computer becomes a node on the grid
Enabling information-sharing communities

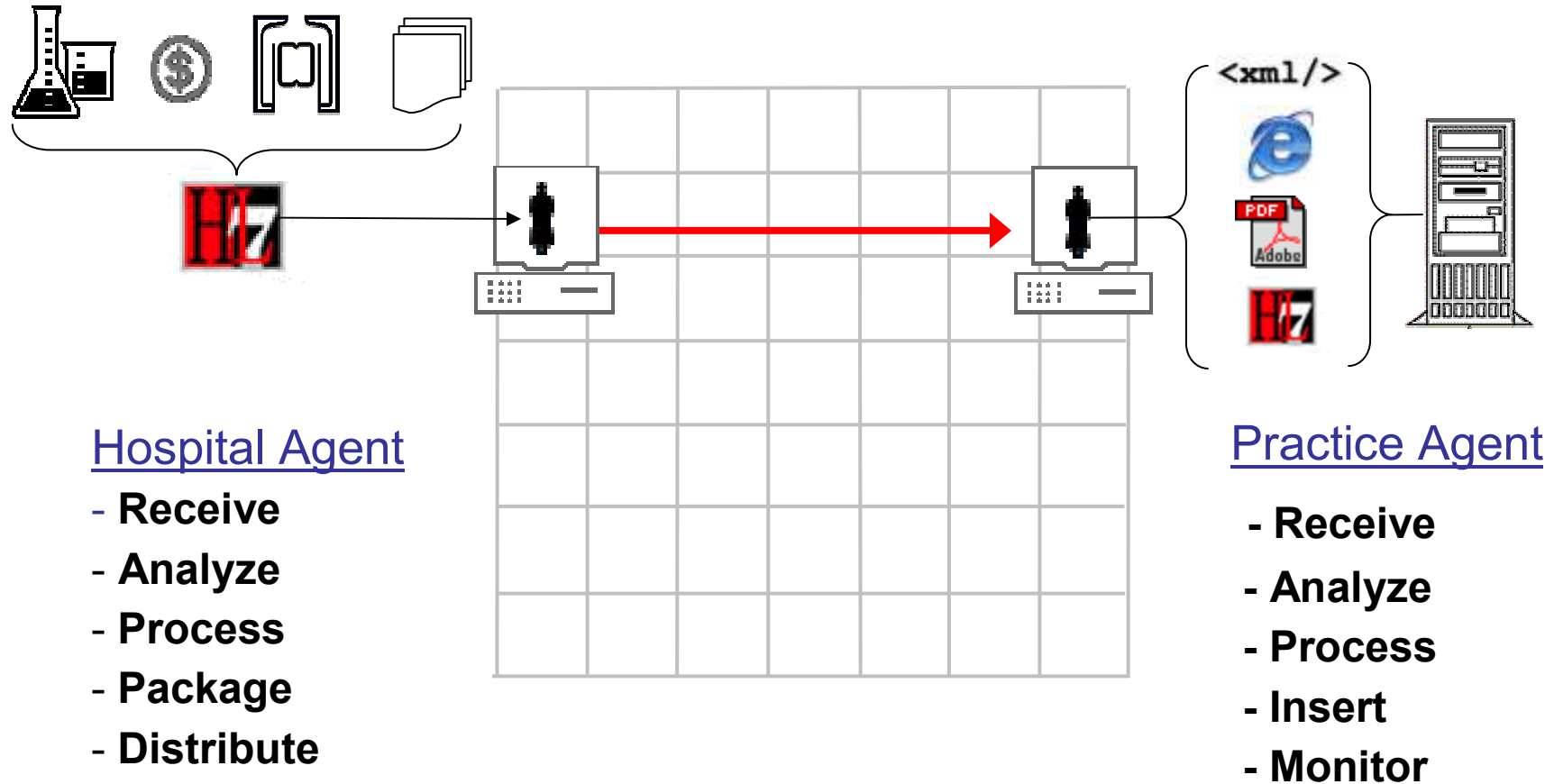


Healthcare Information Grid

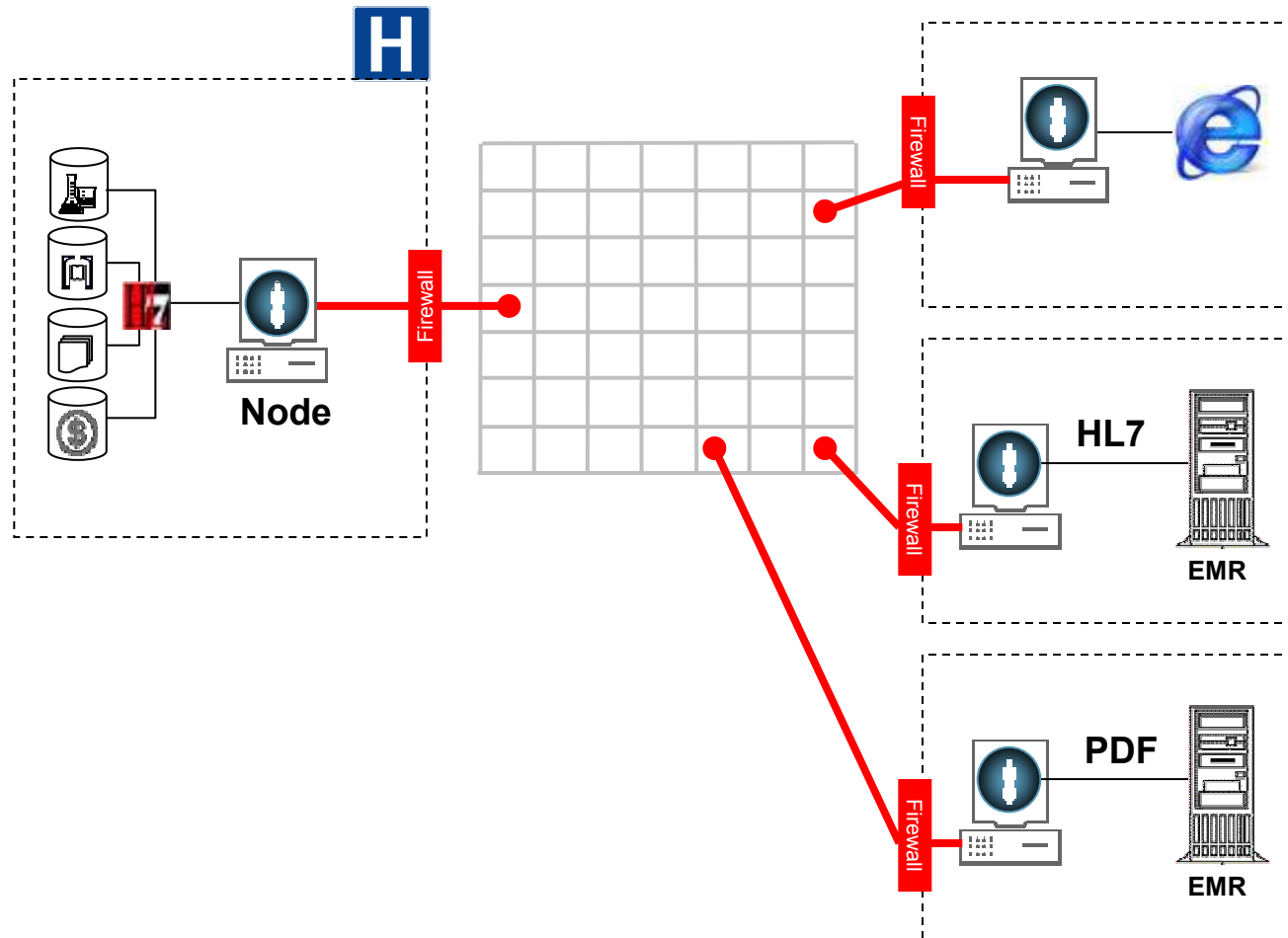
Software Agents are deployed to the nodes
Interfaced to local applications
Configured to perform workflow tasks



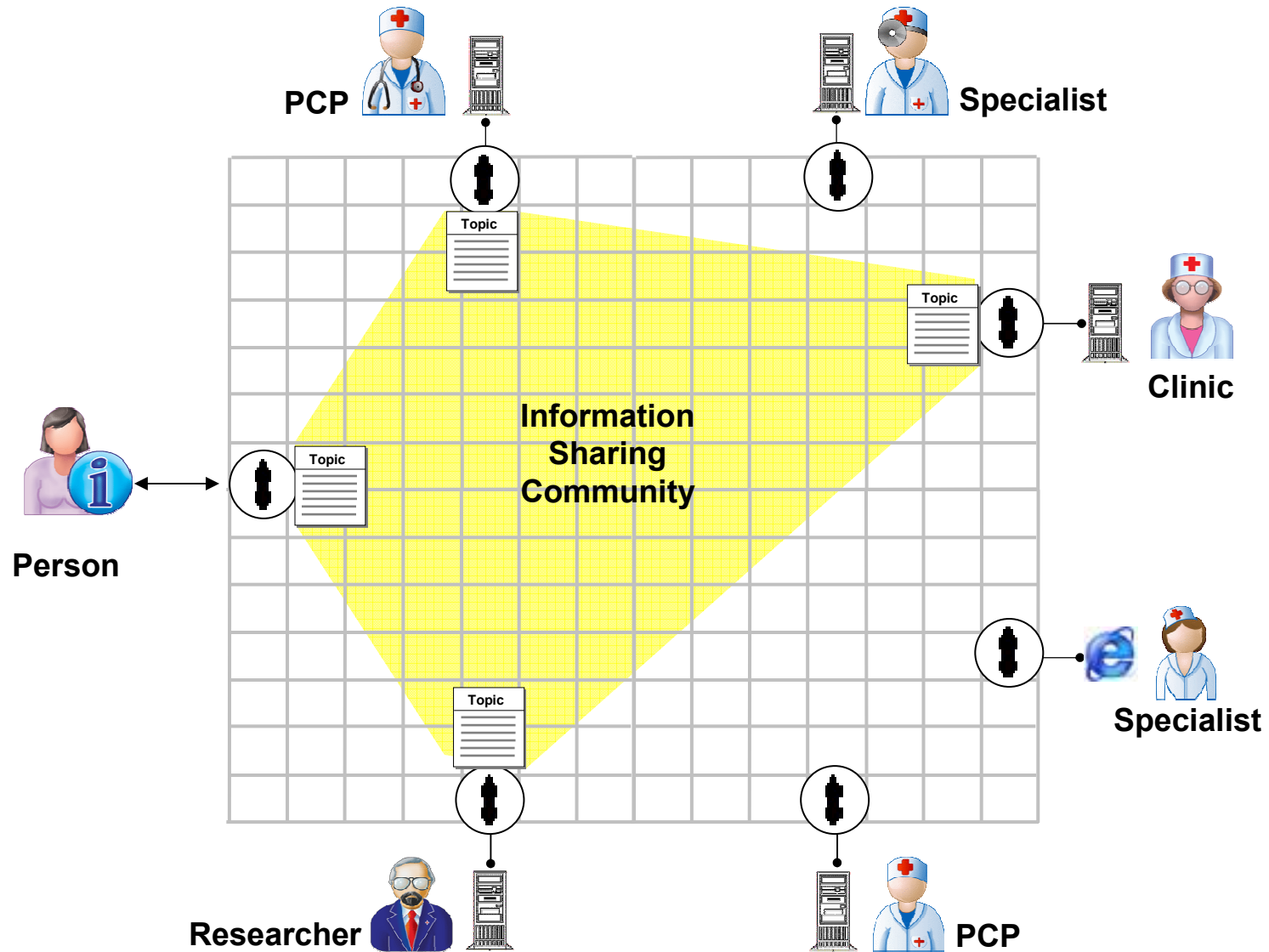
Agents Automate Workflow



Agents Adapt to Their Environment



Information Sharing Communities

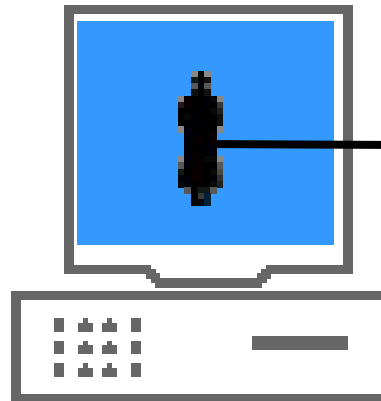


Personal Health Journal

Administrative, clinical, and emergency care information

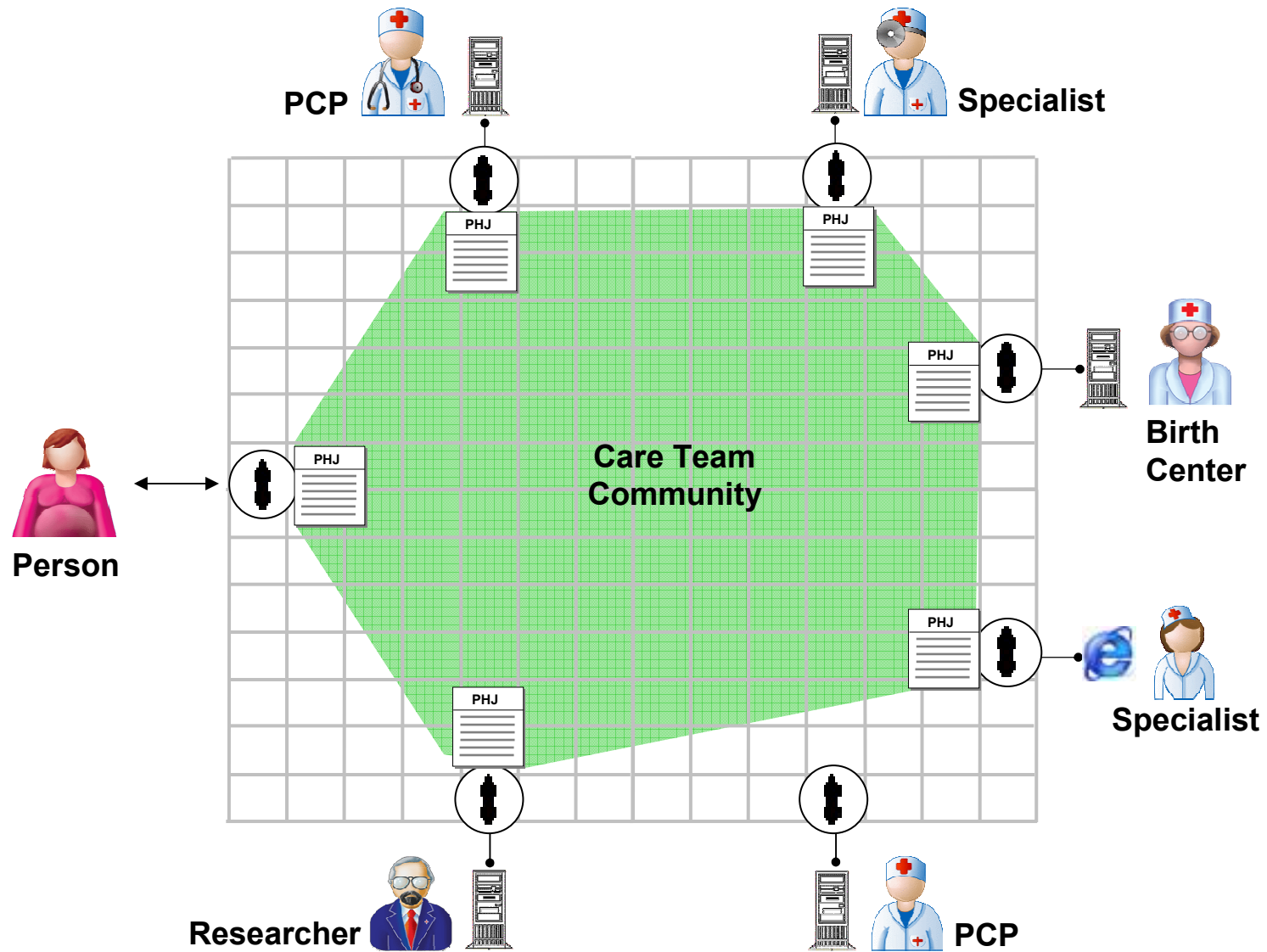
List of care team & IDs

Attachments, latest results, and other types of data



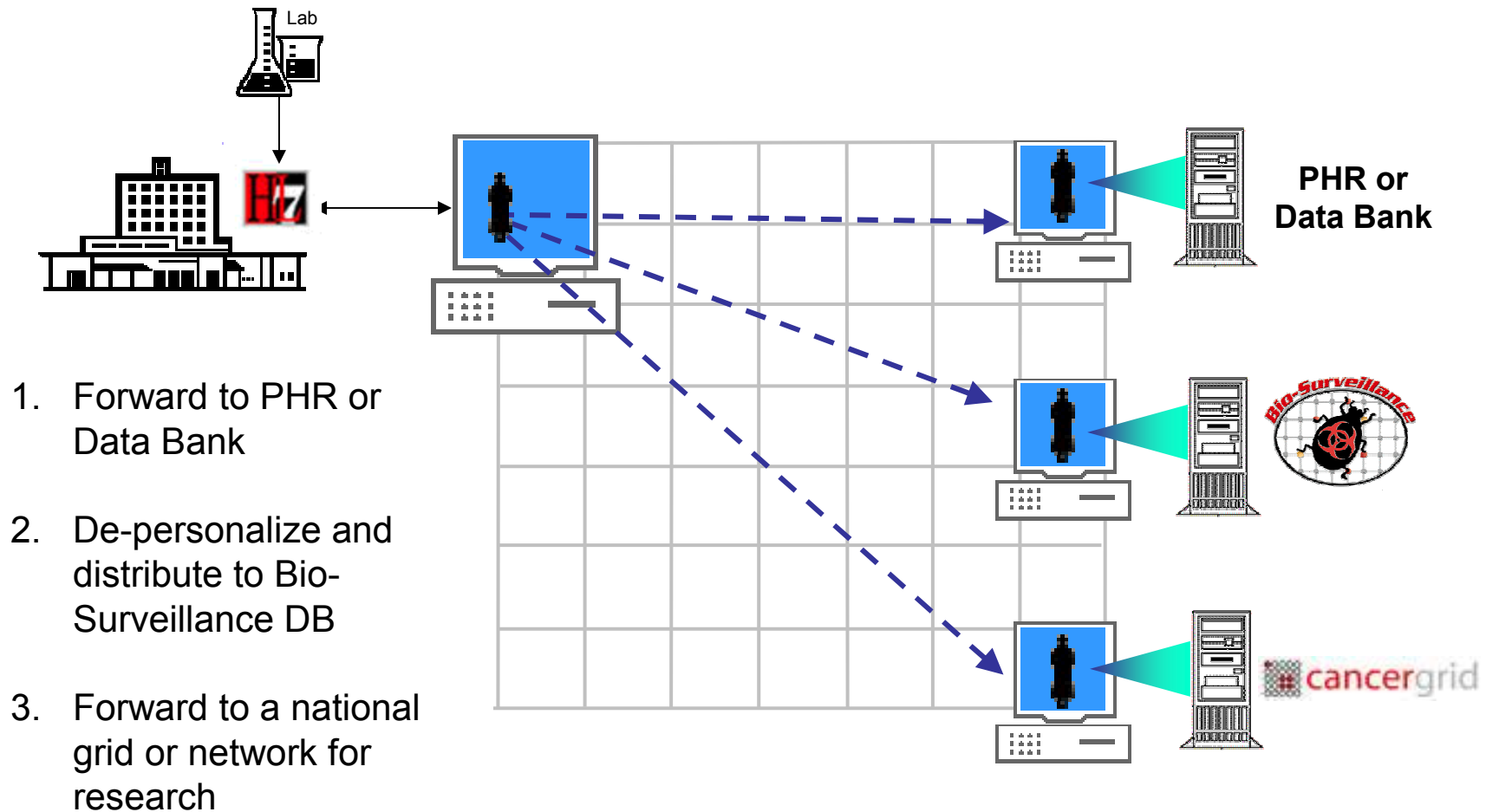
PHJ
General Information
Insurance/Financial Info.
Health Status Summary
Recent Results and Reports
Critical Documentation
Care Team
Other Information

My Community



Expanded Use of Grid

Agents enable exchange and interoperability



Summary

- Agent and grid technologies showing great promise
- They have proven themselves to be well suited for health information exchange
- And will continue to evolve into the future

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