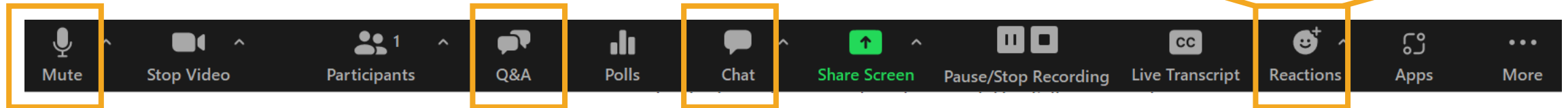
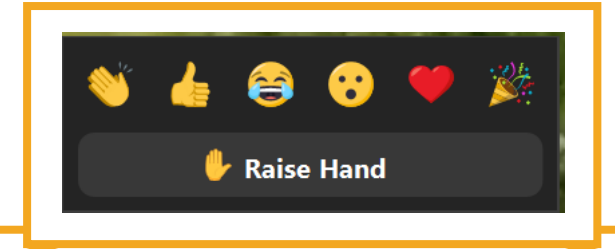


# Co-Designing an AI Decision Support tool with Alliance Members: The Journey So Far and Next Steps

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Alliance Lunch 'n' Learn Webinar | May 17, 2024

# Housekeeping



- Microphones are muted by default. Please keep yourself muted when not speaking.
- You may enter questions through the Q&A panel at any time. You can also upvote or comment on others' questions.
- If you wish to speak, please use the "raise hand" function.
- Please use the chat function for technical assistance.

# Acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories

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We recognize that the work of the Alliance for Healthier Communities and our members takes place across what is now called Ontario, on traditional territories of Indigenous people who have lived here since time immemorial and have deep connections to these lands. We further acknowledge that Ontario is covered by 46 treaties, agreements and land purchases, as well as unceded territories. We are grateful for the opportunity to live, meet and work on this territory.

Ontario continues to be home to vibrant, diverse Indigenous communities who have distinct and specific histories, needs, and assets as well as constitutionally protected and treaty rights. We honour this diversity and respect the knowledge, leadership and governance frameworks within Indigenous communities. In recognition of this, we commit to building allyship relationships with First Nation, Inuit and Métis peoples in order to enhance our knowledge and appreciation of the many histories and voices within Ontario. We also commit to sharing and upholding our responsibilities to all who now live on these lands, the land itself, and the resources that make our lives possible.

# Presenters

**Dr. Jacqueline (Jaky) Kueper**  
Senior Research Epidemiologist  
Scripps Research Translational Institute

**Sara Bhatti**  
Research & Evaluation Lead  
Alliance for Healthier Communities



# Outline

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This webinar is focused on co-development of a diabetes and mental health care decision support tool with and for CHCs.

1. Where we started
2. What we have done so far
3. Where we are going
4. What do you think
5. Questions and discussion

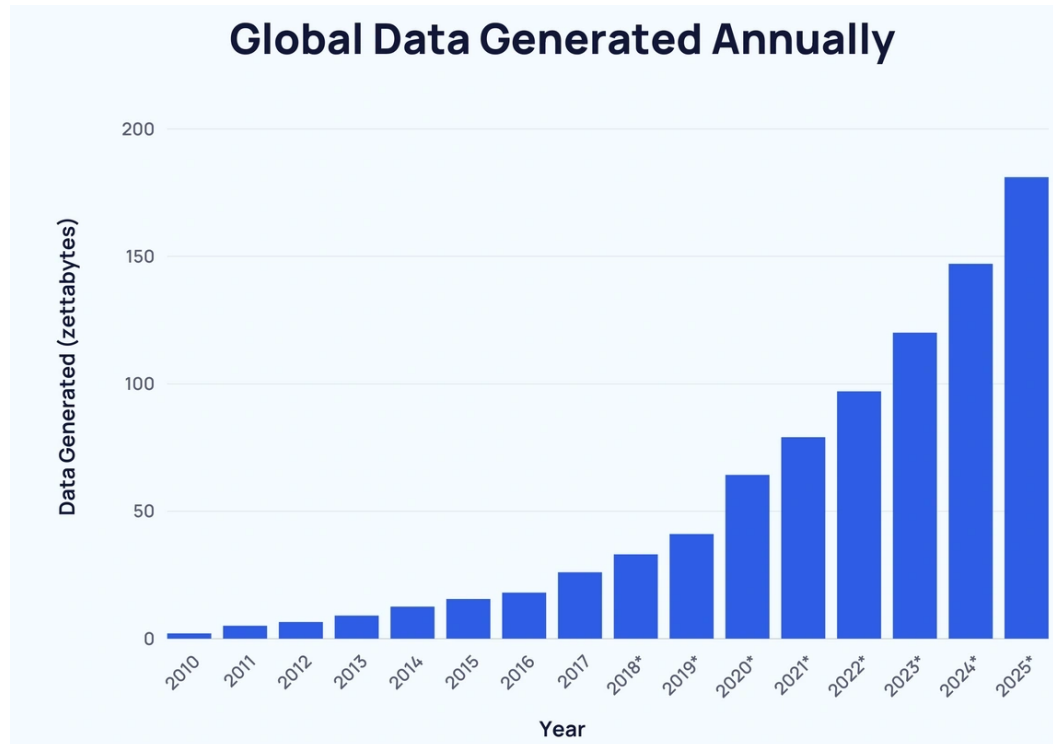
# Where We Started

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Introduction to EMR-based decision support tools

# Everyday Data

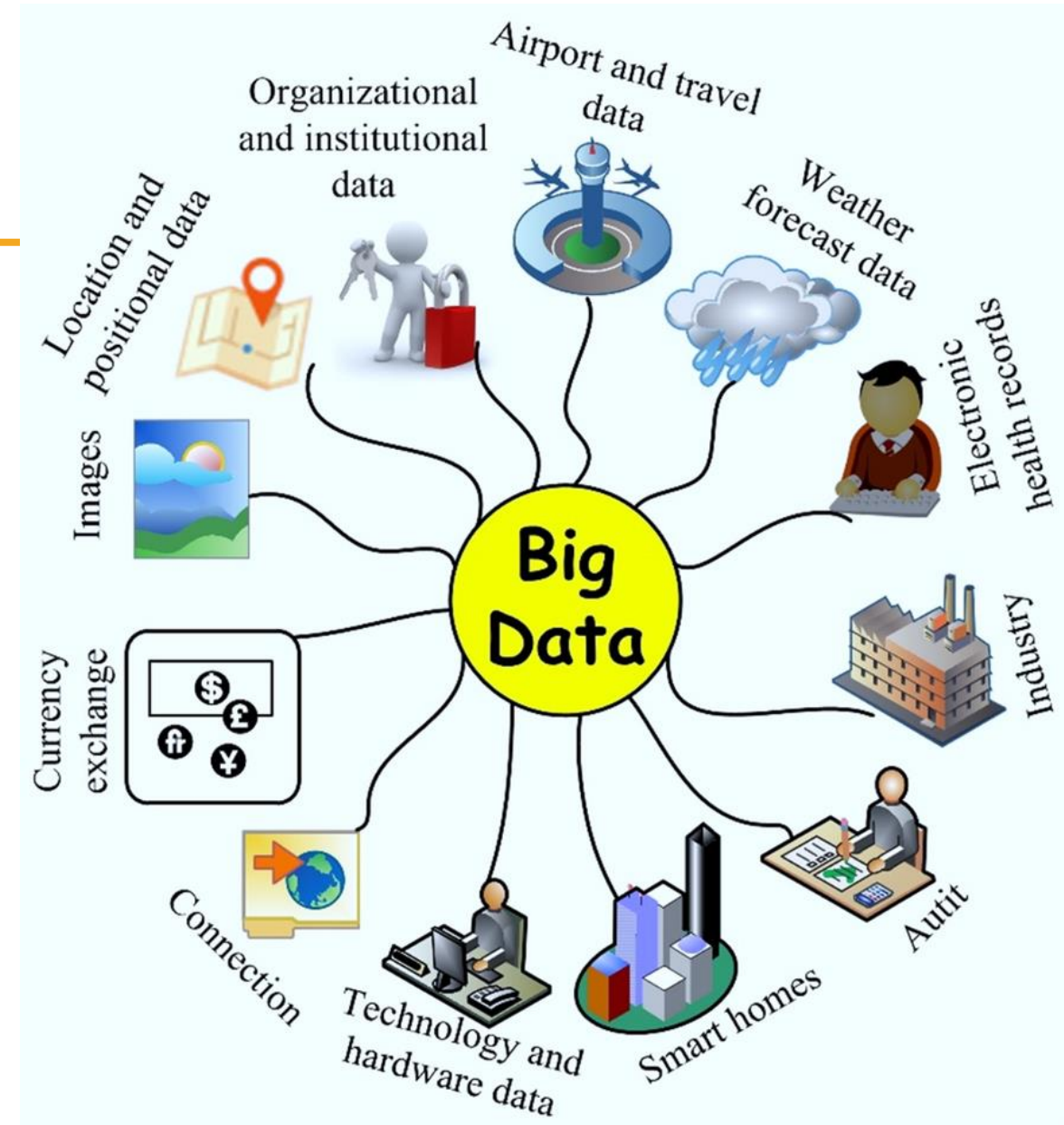
- Increases in “everyday data” and computing resources



<b>TERABYTE</b>	Will fit 200,000 photos or mp3 songs on a single 1 terabyte hard drive.	
<b>PETABYTE</b>	Will fit on 16 Backblaze storage pods racked in two datacenter cabinets.	
<b>EXABYTE</b>	Will fit in 2,000 cabinets and fill a 4 story datacenter that takes up a city block.	
<b>ZETTABYTE</b>	Will fill 1,000 datacenters or about 20% of Manhattan, New York.	
<b>YOTTABYTE</b>	Will fill the states of Delaware and Rhode Island with a million datacenters.	

# Everyday Data

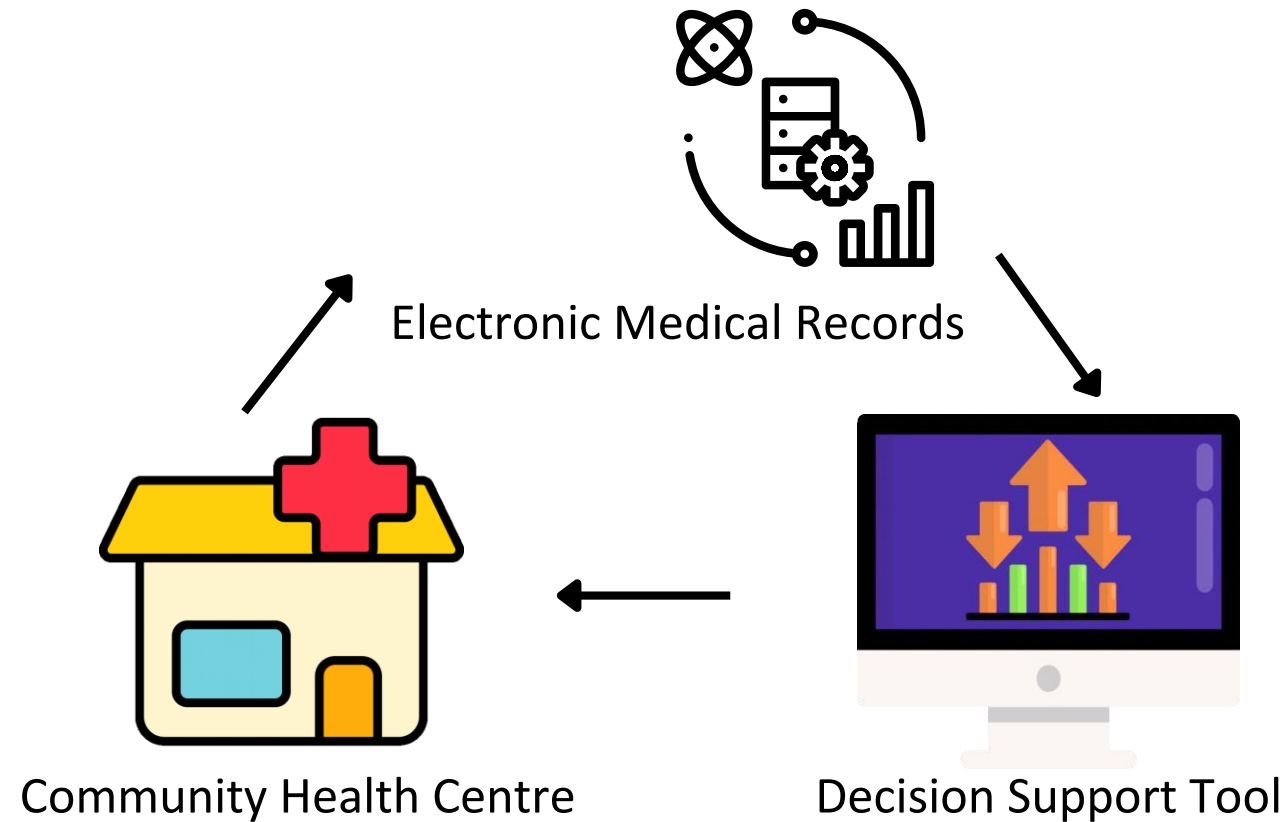
- Potential to use these data to support health care, e.g.,
  - Ask or answer questions to understand what has happened in the past
  - Build tools that can make predictions to help inform care prospectively



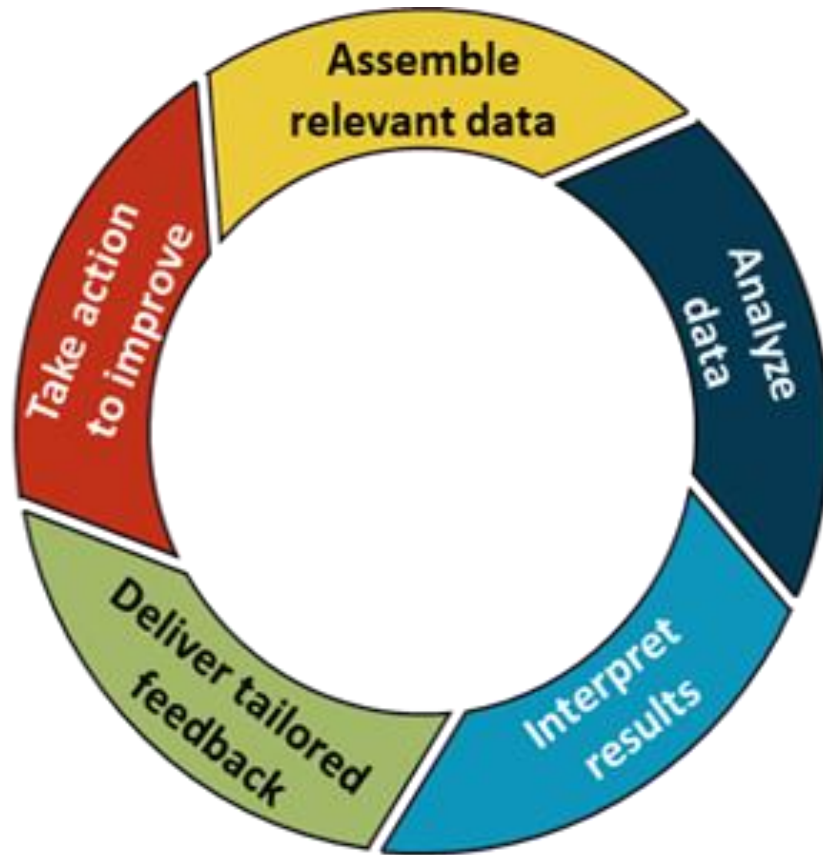


# Internal Data-Driven Decision Support Tool

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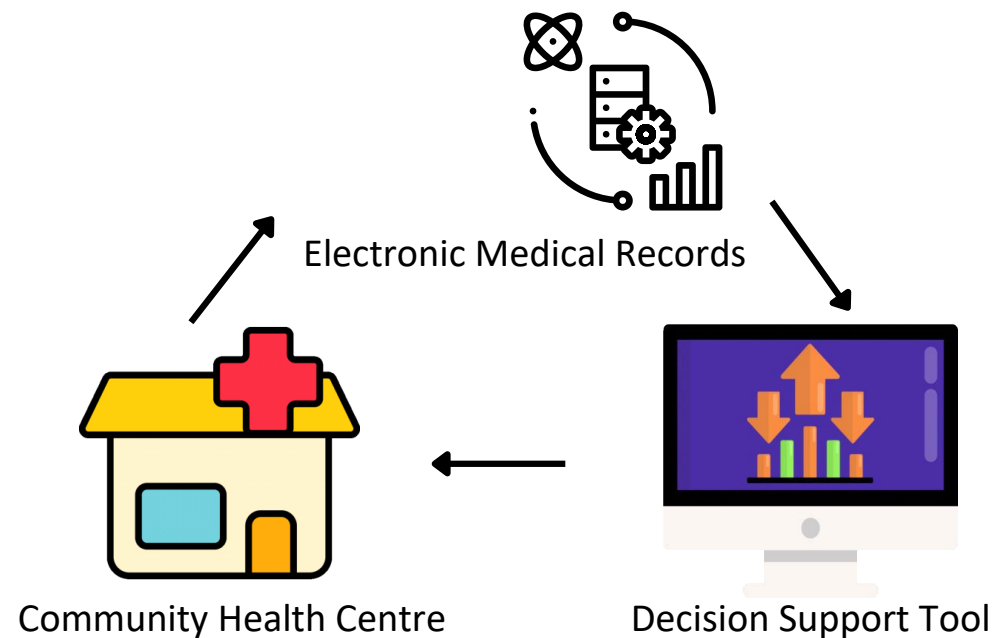
# Learning Health System



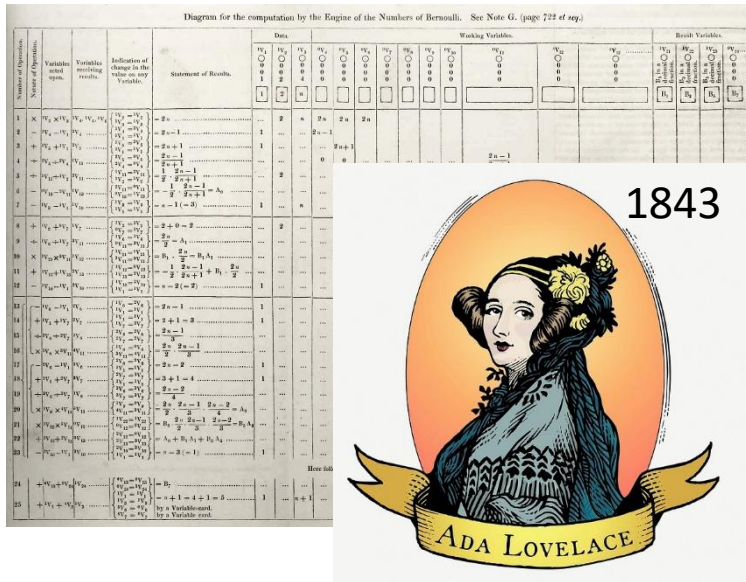
- Commitment to using data to inform or improve care delivery
  - Research studies
  - Quality improvement
  - Decision support tools & personalized insights

# AI-Enabled Decision Support Tool

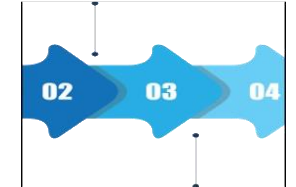
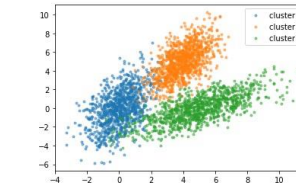
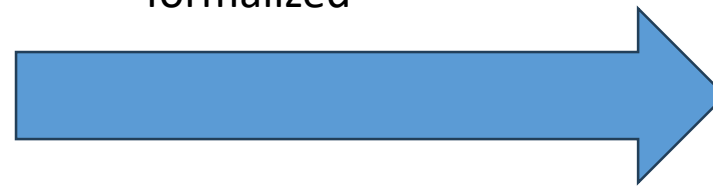
- Sometimes artificial intelligence (AI) techniques are useful to translate large, messy data into human-usable insights



# Brief Introduction to Artificial Intelligence



1956 – field of AI is formalized



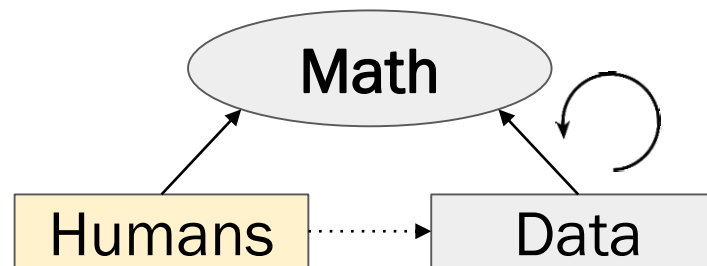
**Algorithm** – a process or set of instructions a computer can execute to complete a task or solve a problem.

**AI** - algorithms to get computers to perform “intelligent tasks”

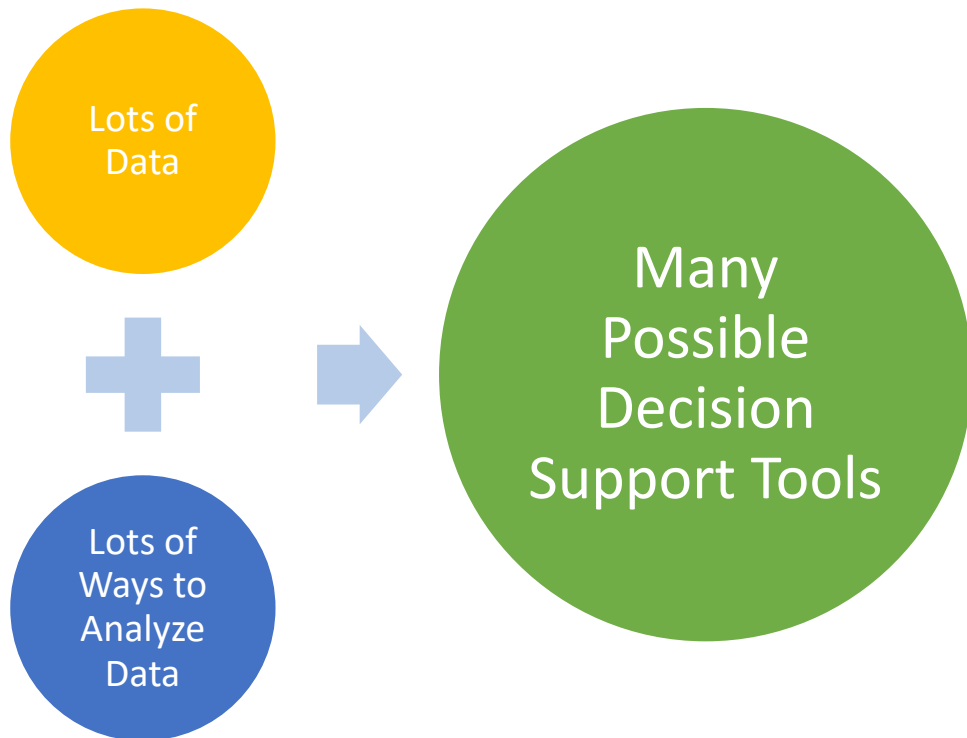
# Brief Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

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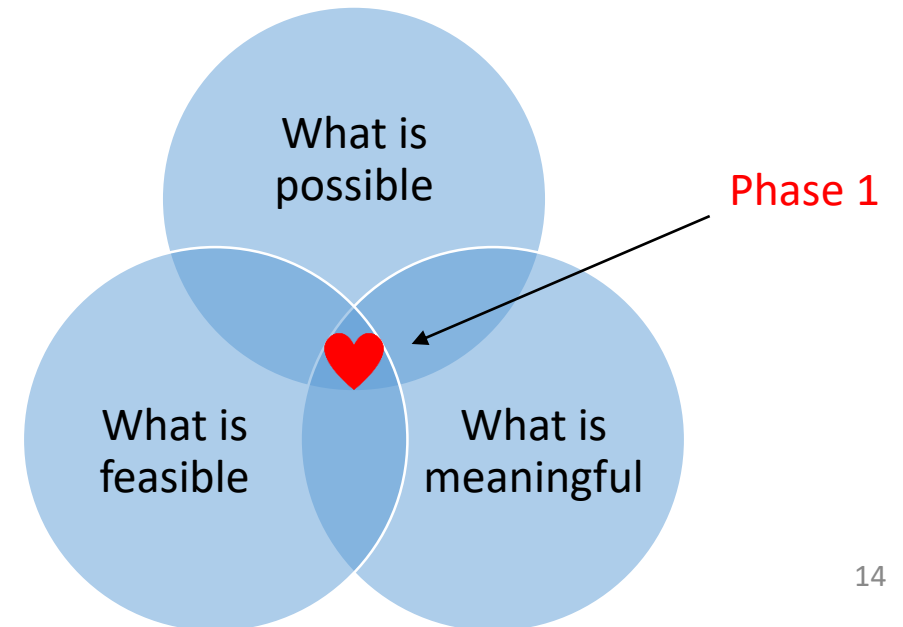
- Collection of techniques centered around computers performing “intelligent tasks”
  - Overlapping, interdisciplinary subfields
- Most common subfield is **machine learning**:



# Defining the Target Task to Support is Crucial



- Limited resources and capacity
- Not everything will work well
- Poorly designed tools may make things worse instead of better



# PBLN Co-Development Project

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# What We Have Done So Far

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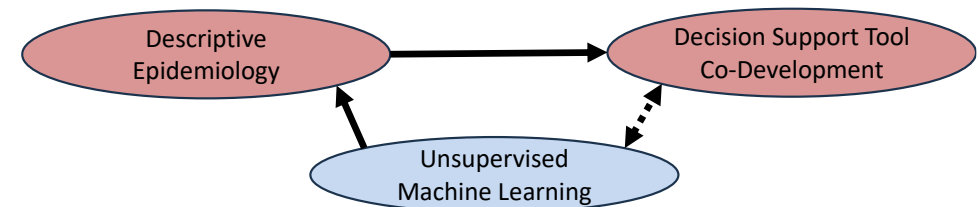
Phase 1: Six stages of work



# Step 1: Population-Level Descriptive-Exploratory Study

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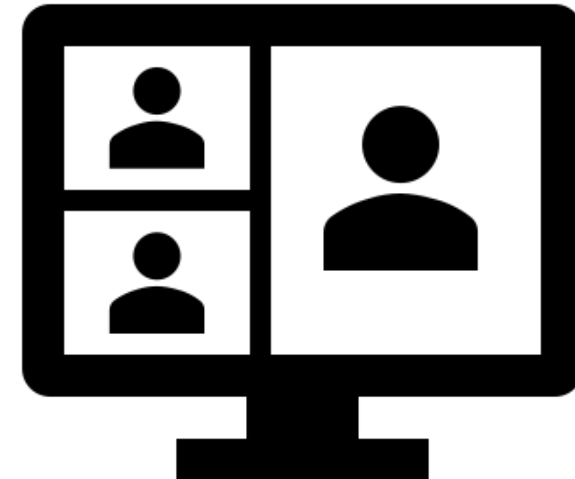
- **Objective:** To summarize sociodemographic, clinical, and health care use characteristics of ongoing primary care clients from 2009-2019.
- **Output:** Foundation for community engagement, and reference point to inform decision support tool problem selection and methodology.



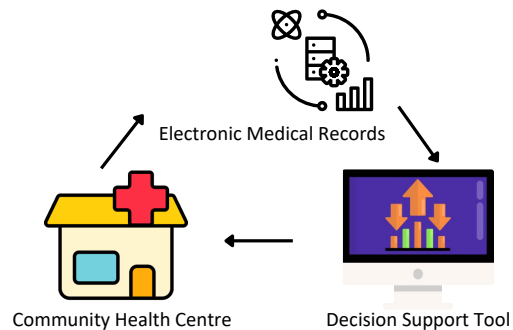
# Step 2: PBLN Team Engagement

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- **Lunch ‘n’ Learn Webinar:** Share Stage 1 findings and invite discussion on what does (not) match expectations.
- **Invite Additional Team Members:** Webinar and e-mail recruitment.
- **Output:** Initial target problem ideas and co-development team
  - Alliance research leaders
  - PBLN members
  - External academic researchers





# Step 3: Decision Support Tool Problem Selection




**Key Question:** What would be the best first decision support tool initiative to pursue?

- Longer-term vision to continue to build capacity & avoid fragmented approach as the number of tools increases




**Risk prediction / screening**

- Decision support tool would run in background of EMR system, with the option to alert when a client reaches a high-risk threshold
- Priority conditions: Diabetes and mental health



**Triaging specialized program needs**

- Decision support tool would support discussions around who may benefit most from any given program or care option
- Priority programs: case conferencing or social prescribing



**Identifying care access needs**

- Decision support tool would help to identify outstanding care needs
- Priority care aspects: missing continuity of care or provider type(s) to add to a client's care team

## Brainstorming criteria:

- Impactful
- Actionable
- Feasible

# Mental Health & Chronic Disease

About

50%

of Canadians will be affected by a **mental health problem** or **illness** in their lifetime.<sup>3</sup>

An estimated

25-50%

of individuals living with chronic disease will experience **depression**.<sup>4</sup>

## Per Diabetes Canada:

- Many psychiatric disorders are more prevalent in people with diabetes compared to the general population
- People with diabetes and depressive disorders at increased risk for earlier all-cause mortality compared to people with diabetes without history of depression

#### Sources:

- Mental Health Commission of Canada. Mental Health & Chronic Disease: Quick Facts. Retrieved online Aug 24, 2022
- Robinsn DJ, Coons M, Haensel H, Vallis M, Yale JF. *Diabetes Canada Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Prevention and Management of Diabetes in Canada: Diabetes and Mental Health. Can J Diabetes* 2023

# Target Problem: Predicting & Preventing Mental Health Decline after new Diabetes Diagnosis

---

- **Impactful?** High prevalence of diabetes and mental health challenges as a known comorbidity
- **Actionable?** Tools and services exist to support mental health care
- **Feasible?** Relevant care captured in EMR and large advancements in AI methods for risk prediction



1. Primary care client is diagnosed with diabetes.



2. Decision support tool automatically analyzes EHR data to estimate their risk of mental health decline within the next year.



3. Care provider and client discuss existing supports around mental health, and whether additional care (e.g., seeing counselor, joining a group program) would be beneficial.

Incident diabetes  
2009-2018

Risk of ENCODE-FM code  
indicating mental health decline

→ 365 days

# Step 4: Sandbox Case Study: Individual-Level Risk Predictions

---

**Goal:** Develop a model to predict early mental health decline within a year of incident diabetes indication.

**Results:** Predictive performance was not great, but further discussion:

- Identified additional data sources that may be useful inputs
- Refined strategies to better harness value from CHC EMR data
- Further interrogated the clinical problem

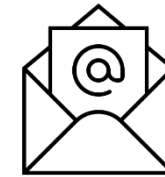
# Gather Additional Input

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## SR CHC Discussion

- Sandra Fitzpatrick led discussion about beneficial tool uses, predictors, outcomes, and data



## Invite Additional Input

- Alliance Bulletin
- Research poster presentation



Diabetes Action Canada

## Diabetes Action Canada

- Meeting to ensure work was complementary to other projects

# Step 4: Sandbox Case Study: Individual-Level Risk Predictions

Incident diabetes  
2009-2018

Risk of ENCODE-FM code  
indicating mental health decline

→ 365 days

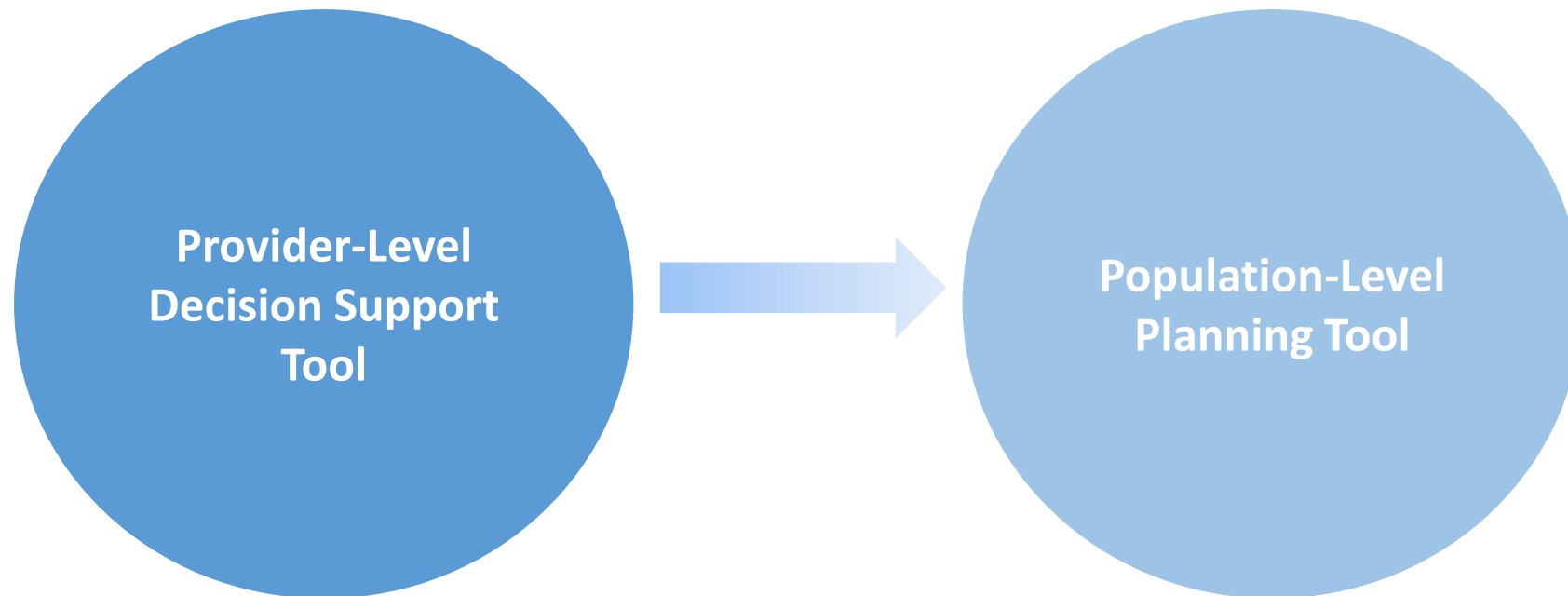
- **Goal:** Develop a model to predict early mental health decline within a year of incident diabetes indication.
- **Challenge identified:** If the tool works, it will identify more an/or earlier stage clients in need of mental health support, potentially pushing CHC mental health services past capacity
  - Risk that we make things worse instead of better
- **Potential Solution:** *What if we tackle the upstream planning and advocacy challenge instead?*



# A Diabetes & Mental Health Decision Support Tool – An Evolving Vision

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Can AI help to predict risk of mental health decline for people living with diabetes?



# Step 5: Sandbox Case Study: Population-Level Planning Predictions

Incident or prevalent  
diabetes 2016-2018

# clients with expected  
mental health care need

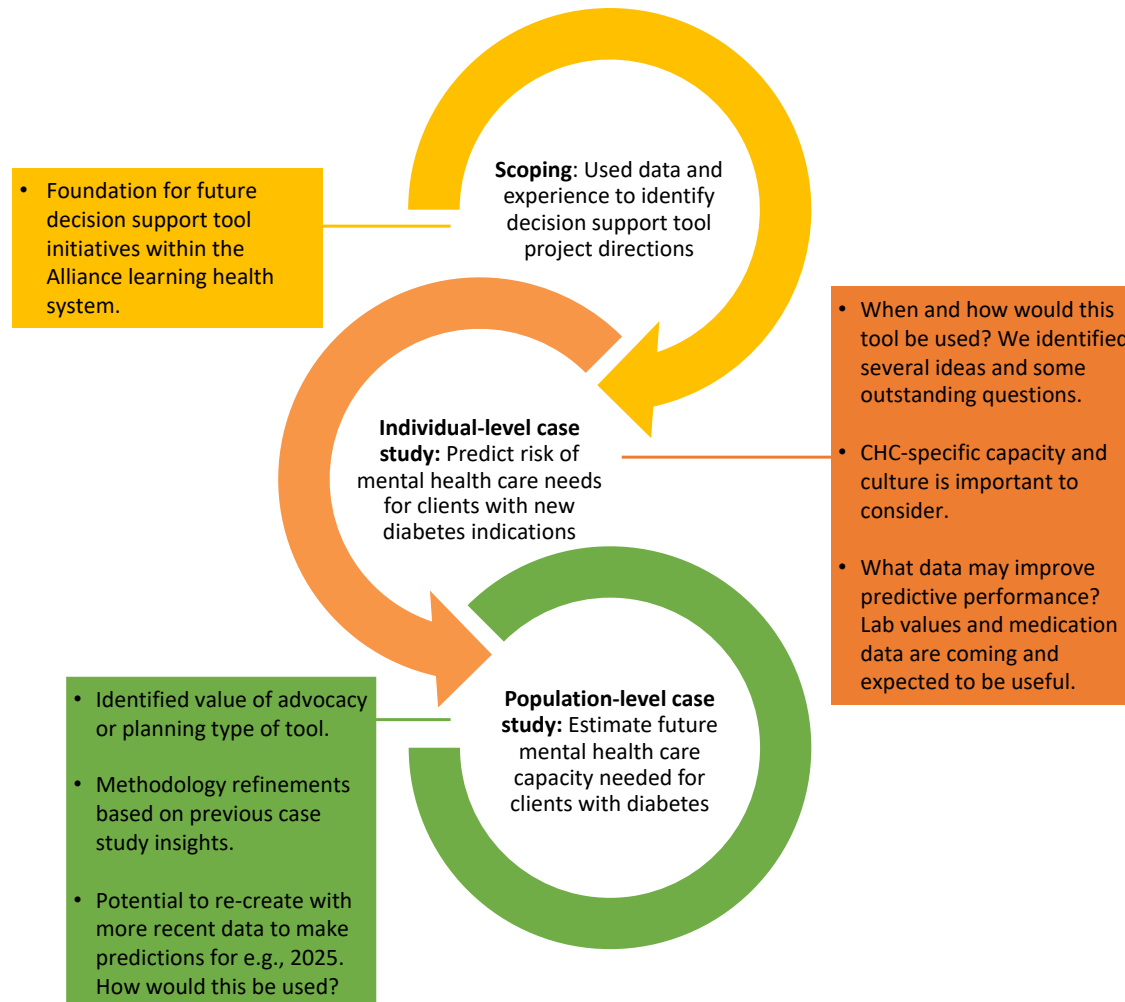
2019

**Goal:** Predict the number of ongoing primary care clients with diabetes indications that will have mental health care needs in the next year.

- **Output:** Predictive performance shows potential
  - Used what we learned from the first case study
  - Identified areas to gather additional input on
- **Intended use:** Mental health service capacity planning or advocacy tool to be used at the CHC level.

More  
about this  
soon!

# Step 6: Project Recap and Next Steps Decision



# Step 6: Reflections & Lessons Learned

Epidemiology as a foundation for innovation

Importance of an interdisciplinary team

Sandbox case studies supported deeper discussion sessions

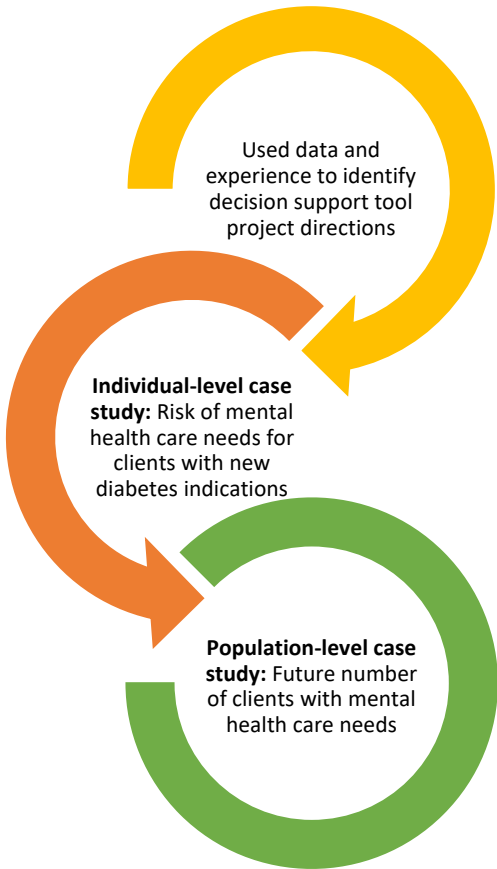
Problem scoping around data availability

Multiple engagement strategies are needed

Working towards a broader decision support tool initiative

Furthering The EPIC Learning Health System Work

# Step 6: Project Recap and Next Steps Decision



## 1) Pause & Share

- **Activity:** Document our processes and decisions to date, with a section on lessons learned for future initiatives
- **Data resources:** N/A
- **People resources:** Current team

## 2) Continue Individual-Level Tool

- **Activity:** Seek additional input towards use cases and data decisions
- **Activity:** Re-develop a prediction model with potentially large deviations from case study
- **Data resources:** New data extract with extra fields (medication and lab data) – wait time
- **People resources:** New research assistant and/or data analyst

## 3) Continue Population-Level Tool

- **Activity:** Seek input on how and when the tool would be used (reach out to more people)
- **Activity:** Refine second case study model and re-train using more recent data
- **Data resources:** Recent data extract (e.g., 2020-2024) so can make predictions for future; same elements
- **People resources:** Current team

# Summary & Next Steps Discussion

Done!

Used data experience to identify decision support tool project directions

## 1) Pause & Share

- **Activity:** Document our processes and decisions to date, with a section on lessons learned for future initiatives
- **Data resources:** N/A
- **People resources:** Current team

## 2) Continue Individual-Level Tool

- **Activity:** Seek additional input towards use cases and data decisions
- **Activity:** Re-develop a prediction model with potentially large deviations from case study
- **Data resources:** New data extract with extra fields (medication and lab data) – wait time
- **People resources:** New research assistant and/or data analyst

Individual-level case study: Risk of mental health care needs for clients with new diabetes indications

2-pager & EPIC Newsletter



Alliance for Healthier Communities  
Alliance pour des communautés en santé



EPIC  
Equity, Performance, Improvement, and Change

F1000Research

Research Publication



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CASE STUDY

**Data-Driven Decision Support Tool Co-Development with a Primary Health Care Practice Based Learning Network**  
[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

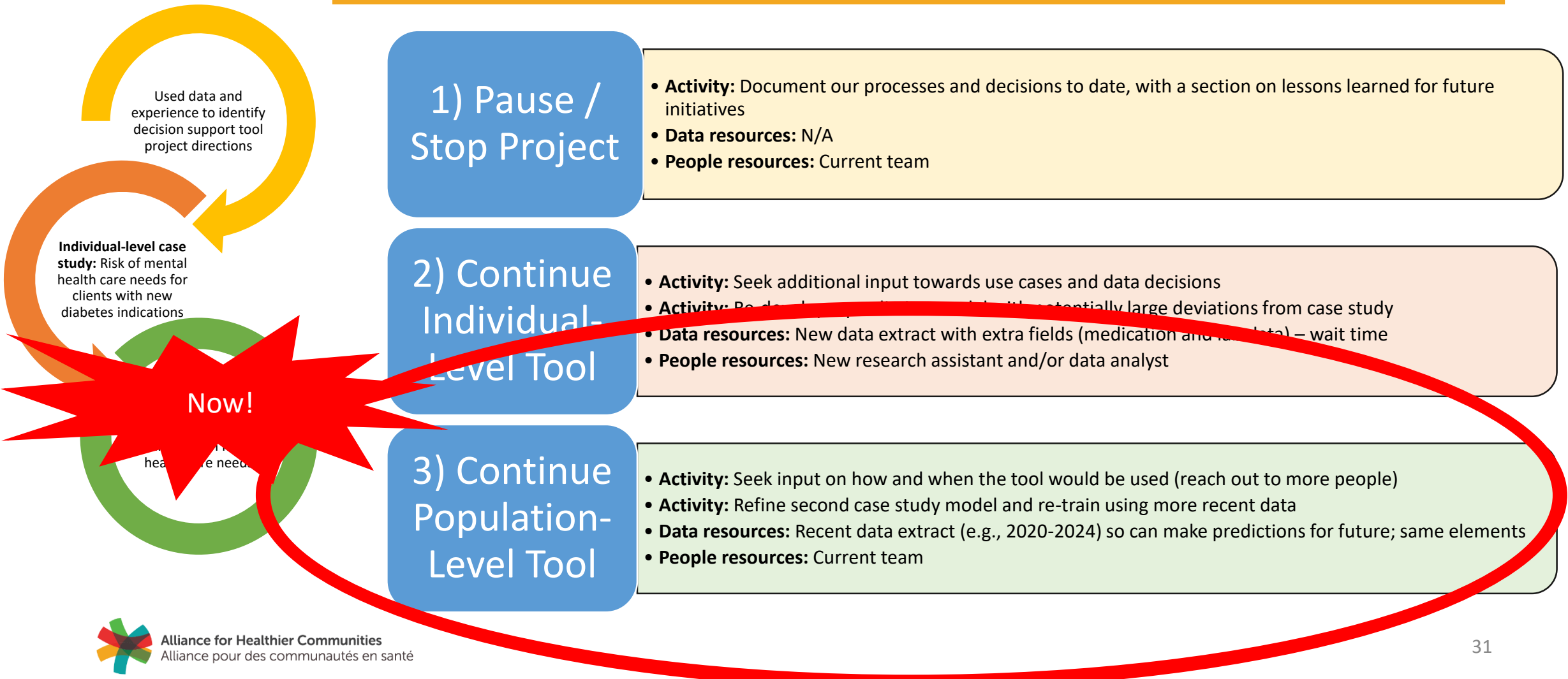
Jacqueline Kueper<sup>1,2</sup>, Jennifer Rayner<sup>3,4</sup>, Sara Bhatti<sup>3</sup>, Kelly Angevaare<sup>5</sup>, Sandra Fitzpatrick<sup>6,7</sup>, Paulino Lucamba<sup>8</sup>, Eric Sutherland<sup>9</sup>, Daniel Lizotte<sup>1,2</sup>

EPIC Practice Based Learning Network

Data-Driven Decision Support Tool Co-Development Project  
Phase 1: Problem Scoping

A rapid increase in the amount of health care data being generated and collected, coupled with advancements in data-analysis methods and technologies, is transforming healthcare. [Artificial intelligence \(AI\)](#) and related decision support tools show remarkable potential for using data to empower quality improvement and

# Summary & Next Steps Discussion





# Where We Are Going

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Next steps towards Advocacy & Planning Support  
for Diabetes and Mental Health Care Needs

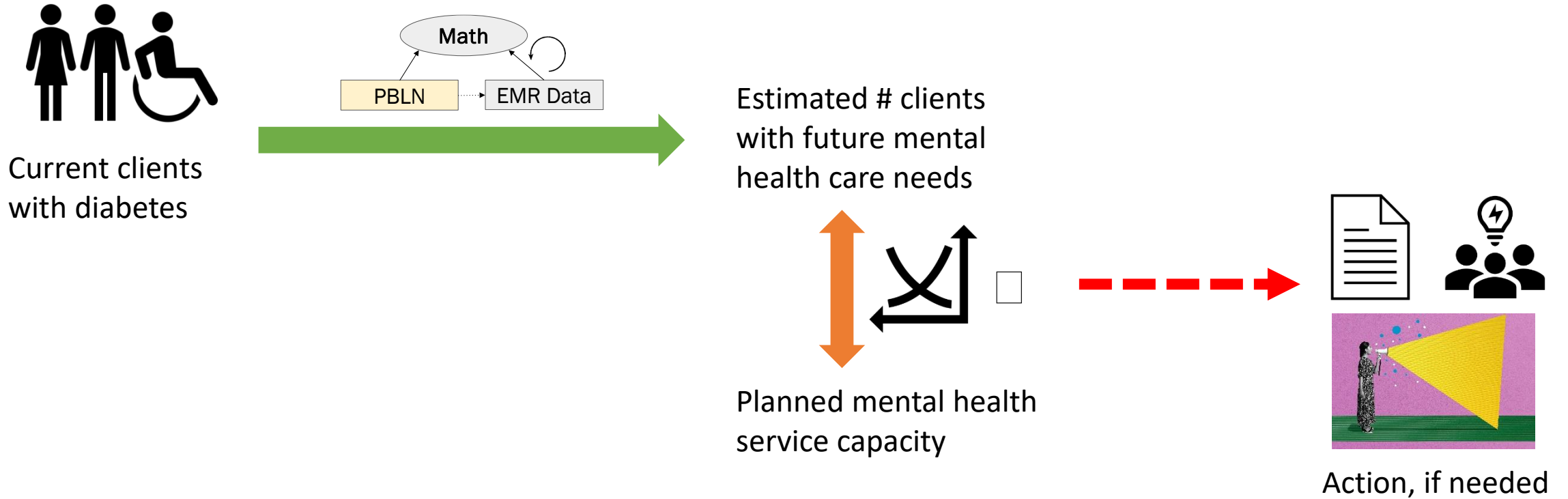


# Goals for Phase 2

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1. Refine the model to predict future mental health service needs for clients with diabetes.
  - Additional end-user input
  - Retraining on more recent data extract
2. Share the decision support tool with intended end-users.
  - Pilot test, e.g., 2025 predictions for a few CHCs
3. Identify avenues for future expansion of the decision support tool initiative

# Population-Level Prediction Tool Envisioned Use



# Sandbox Case Study Methods

Incident or prevalent diabetes 2016-2018

# clients with expected mental health care need

→ 2019

**Eligible Cohort:** 20,329 clients across 70 CHCs

- Ongoing primary care clients
- Incident or prevalent diabetes
- Received diabetes care 2016-2018

**Methods:** Compared three prediction models in a nested cross-validation procedure

- Logistic regression, Lasso Regression, CatBoost

**Outcome:** at least one ENCODE-FM code in 2019

- Emotional symptoms
- Symptoms involving appearance
- Suicidal ideation
- Affective disorder
- Anxiety

**Input Data:** sociodemographic, health care use, and care history information

- EMR data from BIRT

# Sandbox Case Study Results

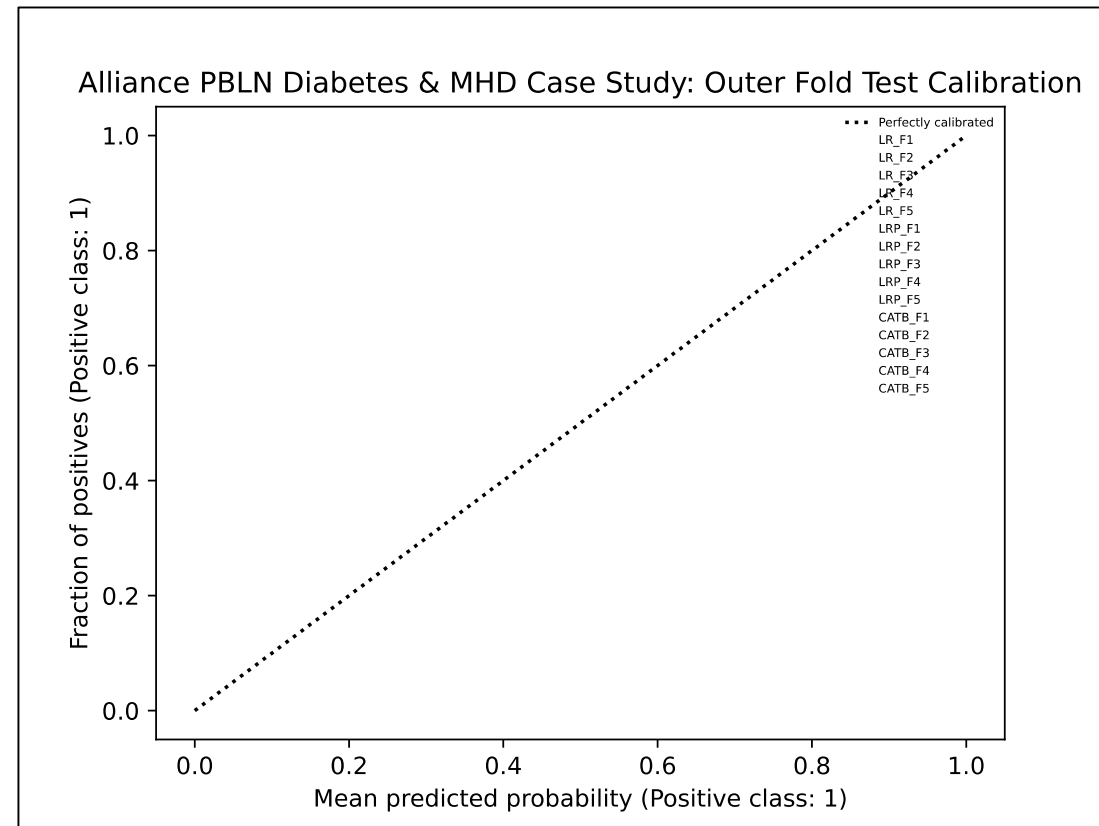
Incident or prevalent diabetes 2016-2018

# clients with expected mental health care need

→ 2019

## Overall Performance:

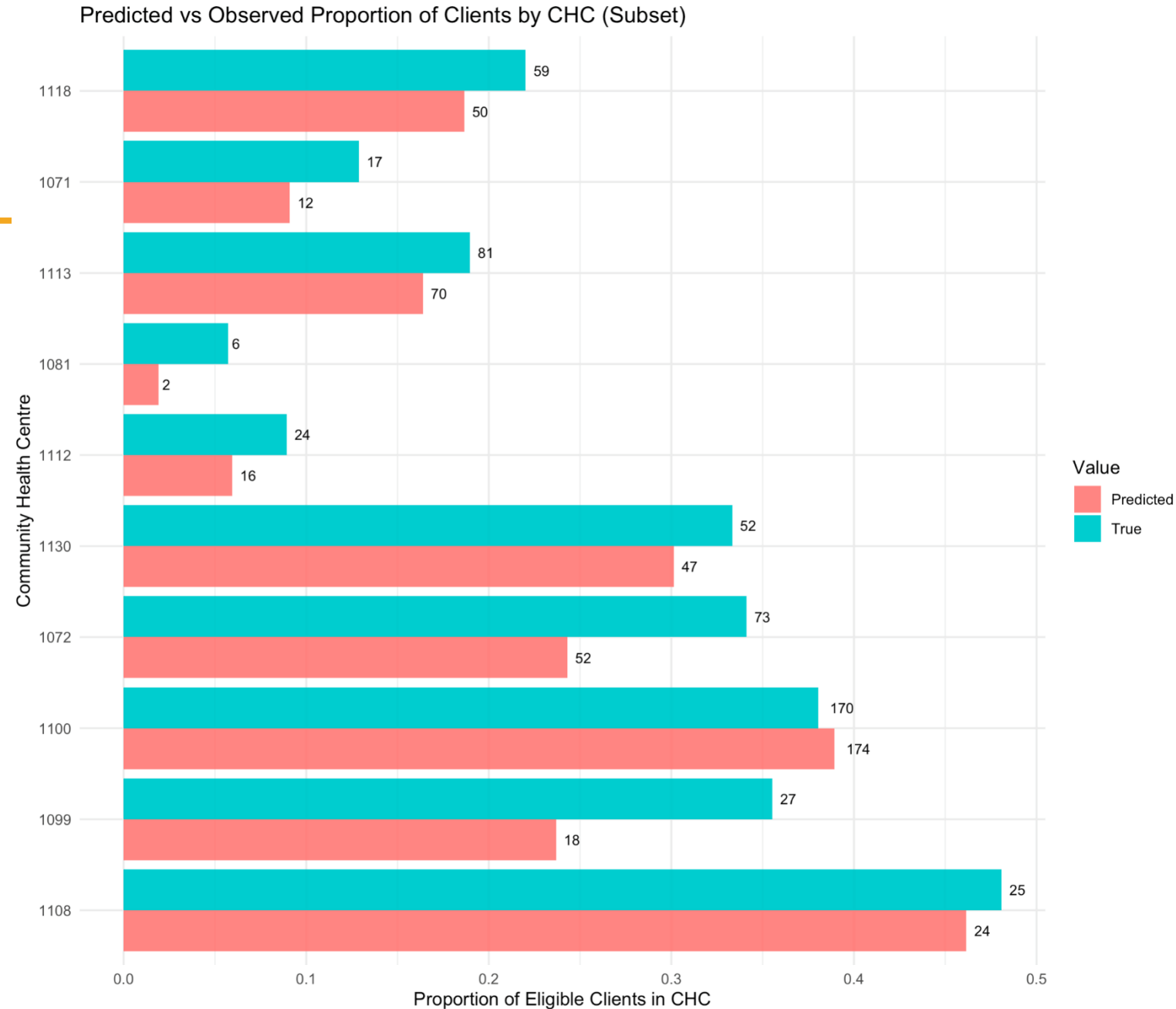
- Clients predicted to have mental health care indications: **3,116**
- Clients who actually received care indications: **4,521**
- Accuracy of 'best' prediction model: **86%**
  - Using 0.5 probability cut-off



# Sandbox Case Study Results

## CHC-Specific Performance

- Prediction model accuracy ranged from 97% to 64%.
- The proportion of clients with diabetes predicted to have mental health care needs ranged from 46% (actual 48%) to 1% (actual 13%).

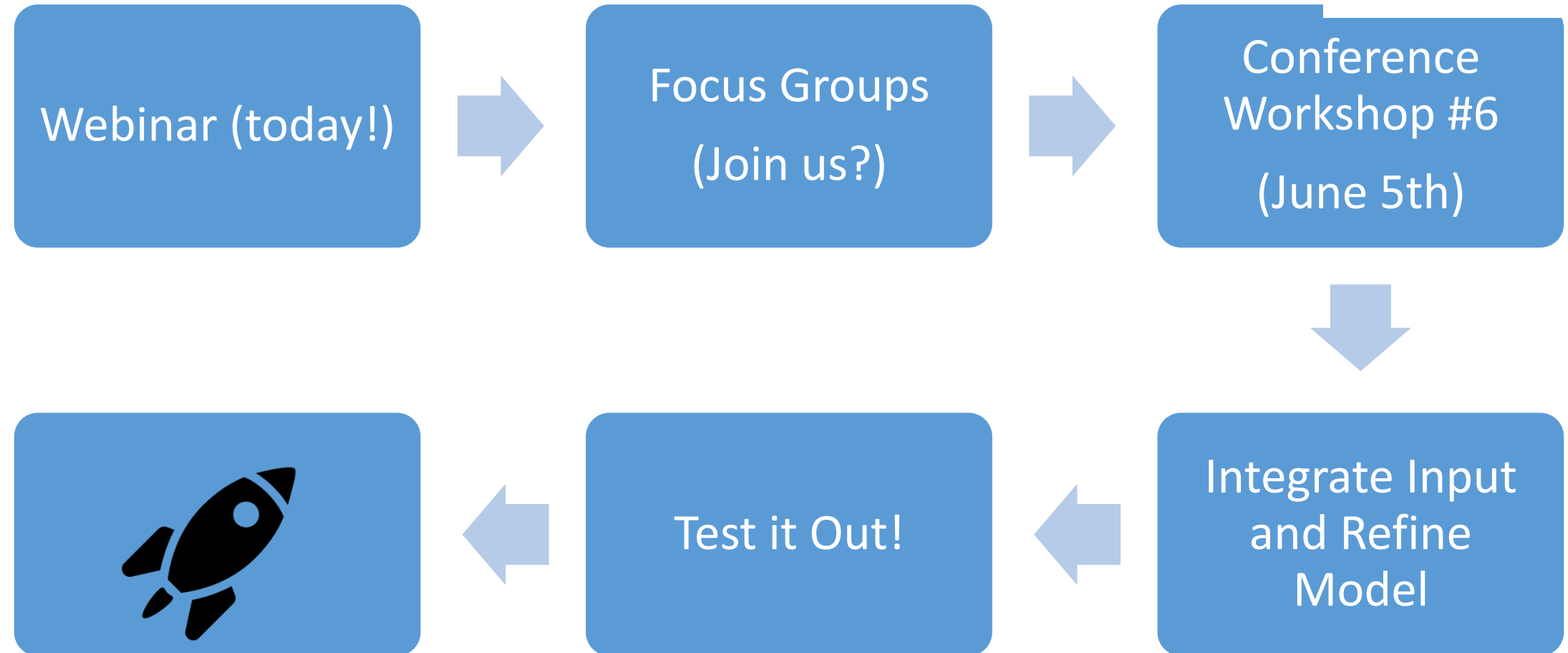


# Example PBLN Discussion Points

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- The predictive performance looks useful, and we think we can do even better
  - ACTION: gather additional input to further refine technical decisions
- There is a need to advocate for adequate mental health supports
  - ACTION: gather additional input on how this type of tool would be used by health system leaders or others, so that we can tailor set-up and outputs
- This is the first PBLN co-developed decision support tool initiative
  - ACTION: Learn and build on it within a broader vision and strategy

# Timeline of Next Steps





# What Do You Think?

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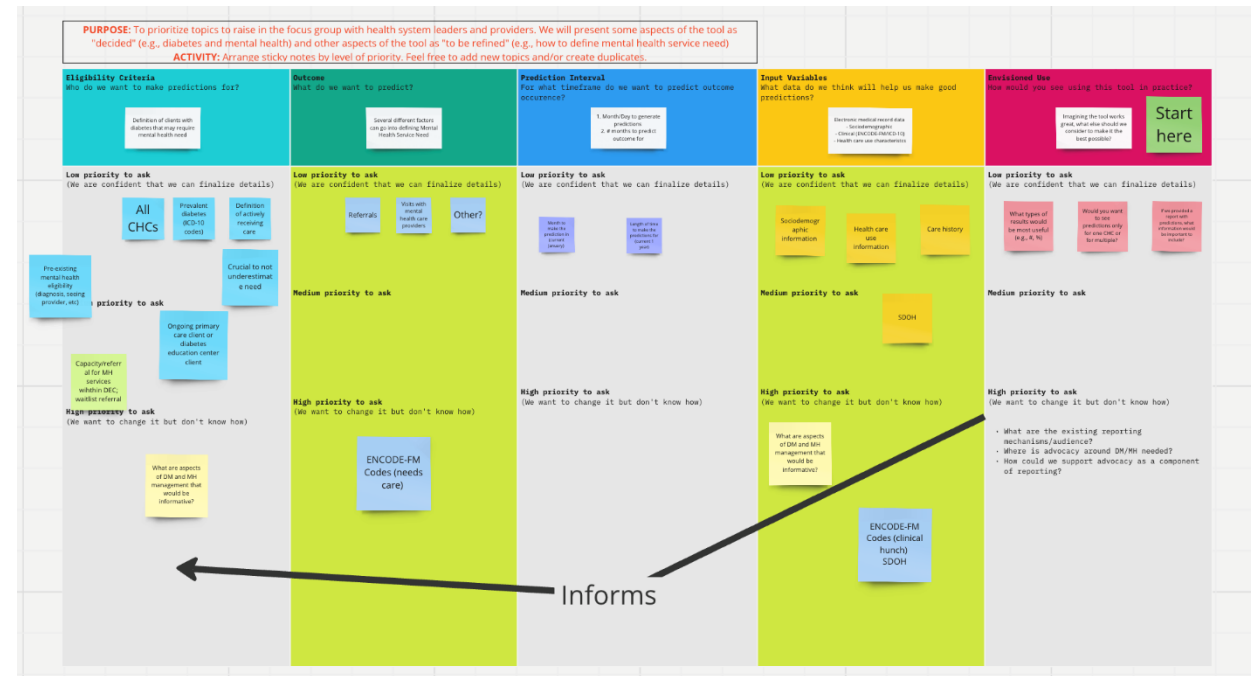
Next Steps Discussion



# PBLN Team Planning for Phase 2

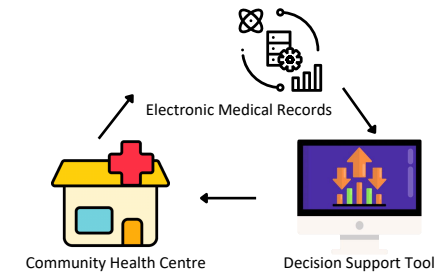
Example question domains:

1. How and when the tool would be used?
2. Who would use the tool?
3. Ideas about the problem set up and data definitions (e.g., outcome, eligibility)?

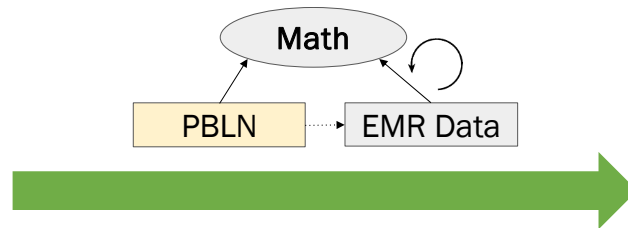


Example discussion document - Some details we are confident in, others we want to explore more for the final tool to maximize the chance of “real world” success.

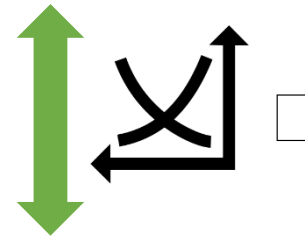
# We Would Love Your Input! (Zoom Poll Time)



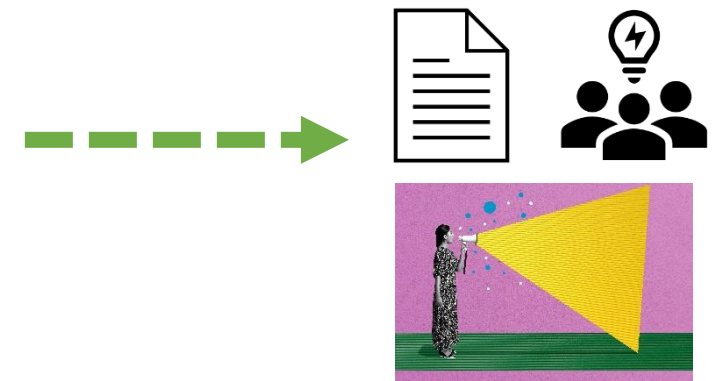
If you want to join a focus group please fill out the form in chat or email Sara: [sara.bhatti@allianceon.org](mailto:sara.bhatti@allianceon.org)



Estimated # clients with future mental health care needs



Planned mental health service capacity



Action, if needed

# Questions or Comments?

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- Immediate thoughts to share?
- Questions about the tool or the PBLN program?
- Other feedback or curiosities?

*If you want to join a focus group please fill out the form in chat or email Sara:  
[sara.bhatti@allianceon.org](mailto:sara.bhatti@allianceon.org)*

- Initial times: Friday May 31<sup>st</sup> 12-1 and Friday June 7<sup>th</sup> 12-1

# Thank You

[LHS@AllianceON.org](mailto:LHS@AllianceON.org)

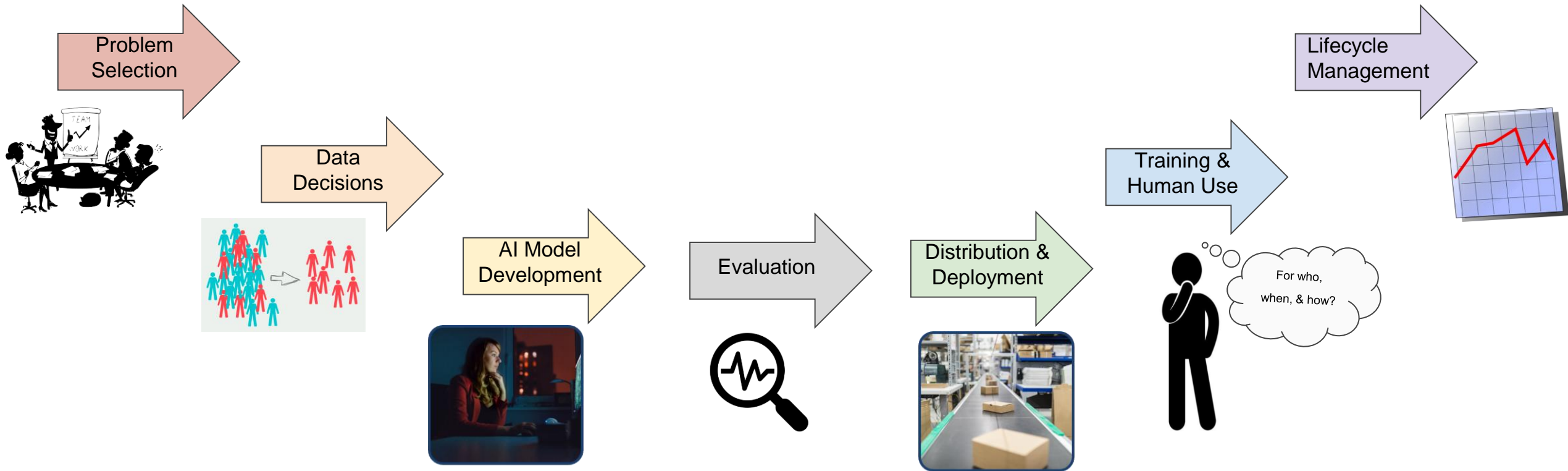
[Sara.Bhatti@AllianceON.org](mailto:Sara.Bhatti@AllianceON.org)

[jkueper@scripps.edu](mailto:jkueper@scripps.edu)

**Thanks for joining!**



# Necessities for Effective and Equitable Applications of AI for Healthcare



*\*Any given project may not move linearly through these stages.*

*\*Most do not make it through all the stages.*

Lots of skills and expertise needed!