

## **Panel Discussion**

# **Data Aggregator's Dilemma: Partnerships for Managing Data Quality in a Shared Database**

## **ABSTRACT**

---

The University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC) operates the most widely used clinical comparison and benchmarking database among the major academic (teaching) medical centers. One of the UHC Data Services functions performing data quality and validity checks on member data prior to the loading into the Clinical Data Base (CDB) system. Data Services has developed a sophisticated system of data logic checks and submission feedback tools to insure data is submitted according to data specifications and to insure the validity of the data to the maximum extent possible. Use of these feedback mechanisms by members is critical to the success of the data integrity program of the CDB.

Since UHC's business model depends on hospitals being able to compare with each other on key metrics, it is imperative that each hospital comply with minimum standard of data quality. To realize this goal, UHC has invested heavily in maintaining a data quality and compliance framework. UHC uses field level edits, statistical quality checking, hospital-specific historical data profiling, configurable rules engine, and a robust feedback mechanism to monitor and control data integrity.

Member collaboration commitment is critical to achieving compliance by responding to rigorous data quality checks. Periodic industry updates to data structures (e.g. ICD9/DRG/MSDRG/POA Flags/NUBC) respond to changes. Ensuring HIPAA compliance, incoming and outgoing is a regulatory requirement. The UHC strategy is to become an active hospital resource extension.

## **BIOGRAPHY**

---

### **Allen Juris**

Assistant Director for Data Services  
University HealthSystem Consortium

Allen Juris is Assistant Director for Data Services, Technology Services (TS) at UHC. In this role since June 1990 he is responsible for the automated patient data production system at UHC. He works closely with UHC members and the clinical experts at UHC to ensure the integrity of the data feeds and the application of the risk adjustment models and algorithms of the UHC Clinical Data Products. Mr. Juris assists members in extracting data from their various systems and interpreting their data quality reports. He also maintains the documentation of file specifications and editing algorithms.



Prior to UHC, Mr. Juris was the data management specialist at the Renal Network of Illinois. He was solely responsible for management of a federally mandated patient tracking system of End Stage Renal Disease patients receiving dialysis and/or kidney transplants in the state of Illinois. Duties included monthly reports of patient activity for transmission to the federal government. Additionally, he maintained the patient database that was used for quality assurance of patient care by the organization and participated on the governing council.

**Martha Radford**

Chief Quality Officer and Professor of Medicine  
New York University Langone Medical Center



Dr. Martha Radford is the Chief Quality Officer and Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) at New York University Langone Medical Center. Dr. Radford received her Bachelor of Science in genetics from University of California, Berkeley in 1970, her Master of Arts in molecular biology from University of California, Berkeley in 1973, and her MD degree from Harvard Medical School in 1978. She trained in internal medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and cardiovascular disease at Duke University Medical Center. Between 1984 and 1998, she was a member of the cardiology faculty at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine.

Dr. Radford first became involved with quality improvement and quality related research in 1993, when she became associated with the Connecticut Peer Review Organization and the Health Care Financing Administration (later the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services) through its innovative Cooperative Cardiovascular Project. She has actively collaborated with the Cardiovascular Outcomes Research Group with Dr. Harlan Krumholz at Yale University School of Medicine, the Atrial Fibrillation Outcomes Research Group with Dr. Brian Gage at Washington University (St. Louis) School of Medicine, and other outcomes research groups.

Since 1998, Dr. Radford has devoted her professional life to quality and outcomes of care as Director of Clinical Quality for the Yale New Haven Health System (1998-2005) and Chief Quality Officer for NYU Langone Medical Center (since 2005). She has demonstrated leadership in understanding and improving quality of care for all disciplines in two large, complex academic health systems.

**Allison Sabel**

Director of Biostatistics and Clinical Data Warehousing  
Denver Health Medical Center



Dr. Allison Sabel is the Director of Biostatistics and Clinical Data Warehousing at Denver Health Medical Center, Colorado’s primary safety-net institution. Dr. Sabel completed a Masters in Public Health in Epidemiology, PhD in Biostatistics, and MD at Tulane University. She is a Board Certified Preventive Medicine physician and certified in Medical Quality by the American Board of Medical Quality. She is a fellow of the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (NAPH) and spent a year focusing on the development and support of quality improvement in public hospitals. Dr. Sabel was the Medical

Director of Clinical Data and Informatics for University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC), an alliance of 103 academic medical centers and their affiliated hospitals. She led clinical efforts in risk adjustment and analytics for UHC's clinical tools, including the Clinical Data Base, Clinical Resource Manager, and Core Measures Data Base. Dr. Sabel is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biostatistics and Informatics at the University of Colorado Denver. Dr. Sabel serves on many regional and national advisory boards addressing issues of health care quality, accessibility, and disparities, including the Colorado Health Facility Acquired Infections Advisory Committee, Denver Drug Strategy Commission, Denver Epidemiology Work Group, and NAPH Quality Advisory Committee.


**Eric Hixson**

Director, Data Resources Management  
Cleveland Clinic Foundation



Eric Hixson is the Director, EBI Quality Data in the Business Intelligence Medical Operations Division at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. He received his PhD from Case Western Reserve University in Epidemiology and Biostatistics and MBA from Cleveland State University in Healthcare Administration. He has more than 10 years experience in the development and implementation of quality measurement and reporting initiatives, infrastructure development, and registry implementation and operations.

Currently, he manages quality data infrastructure planning and development; provides operational management of Core Measures, NSQIP surgical quality, adult, pediatric and neonatal intensive care clinical registries, and the NRCPR registry; integrates business intelligence tools into quality improvement and reporting initiatives; and collaborates in a number of health services, outcomes, and clinical research related activities.



## **Data Aggregator's Dilemma: Partnership for Managing Data Quality in a Shared Database**

Allen L. Juris  
Assistant Director, UHC Data Services  
July 14, 2011

THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

©2011 University HealthSystem Consortium

## **About UHC**

**The University HealthSystem Consortium is a non-profit, member-owned alliance of academic medical centers *and their networks*.**

**As a membership organization, UHC provides its 113 AMC members, 254 affiliated hospitals, and nearly 80 faculty practice plan members with resources aimed at improving performance levels in clinical, operational, and financial areas.**

©2011 University HealthSystem Consortium

## **Comparative Data Informatics (CDI) Provides a Suite of Products & Services**

- **UHC Clinical Data Base (CDB)**
- **Line item Detail resource utilization**
- **Regulatory reporting to JC & CMS**
- **Select State level reporting**
- **Suite of Performance reports released quarterly to Senior leaders and managers**
- **UHC Quality & Accountability Score card**
- **Custom Analyses**

## **The Clinical Data Base Provides Comparative Data on Peer Academic Medical Centers**

- **CDB pools clinical and financial data using discharge abstract summaries and UB-04 data**
- **CDB provides cost values estimated from charges**
- **Calculate mortality rates, observed and expected**
- **Calculate related and unrelated readmission statistics**
- **Readily identify HACs and AHRQ quality and safety measures**
- **Robust physician profiling**

## Scope and Scale

- **Receive administrative data submissions from ~200 participant hospitals**
  - Patient demographics
  - Clinical & financial components
- **Receive data from partners – Thomson Reuters, Press Ganey – operational, satisfaction**
- **Soon to acquire data from outside sources**
  - National Death File (30 day mortality)
  - Lab results
  - CDC's NHSN Infection data
- 

## Data Processing Overview

- **Collection occurs from all institutions on a monthly basis 2 - 6 weeks after the close of a month**
- **Editing routines are performed to determine data integrity and scores are calculated based on quality indicators**
- **Data may be accepted and passed to the next processing step, or rejected upon which the institution must resubmit information**
- **Once accepted, data is risk adjusted and cost estimates are calculated**
- **Populate UHC data warehouse – Single version of truth near real-time**

## Data Quality Principles

- **Standardize the thresholds for data quality for all hospitals**
- **Provide near real-time user friendly feedback on quality of data**
- **Allow for multiple submissions from hospitals to improve quality**
- **Employ a data quality rule set that is adaptable to new information**
- **Err towards caution; when in doubt have human review**

## Data Quality Checks

- **Field Level Checks**
  - Volume of missing or invalid
- **Relational Checks**
  - Interdependencies; sex to procedure, age to diagnosis
  - Total ICU LOS not  $\leq$  Total LOS
- **Profile Checks**
  - Z Score check vs. Current Population
- **Domain Checks**
  - Validate against known code sets; ICD9, PoO, Revenue codes, etc.
- **Leverage 3<sup>rd</sup> Party software intelligence**
  - 3M's MSDRG & APR Groupers, AHRQ Quality & Safety, HAC, POA, etc.

## Devil's in the Details

- **It's not a Set it and Forget it**
- **Establishing a working partnership with the participants is crucial**
- **Passing UHC's rule sets does not mean it's correct**
- **Hospital commitment to ongoing quality monitoring is a challenge**
- **Introducing changes and/or new data points to the feed can be chaotic but necessary to keep current**
- **Constant monitoring and tweaking of rule sets is necessary**

©2011 University HealthSystem Consortium

## Hospital Administrative Data Quality

Martha J. Radford, MD  
Chief Quality Officer

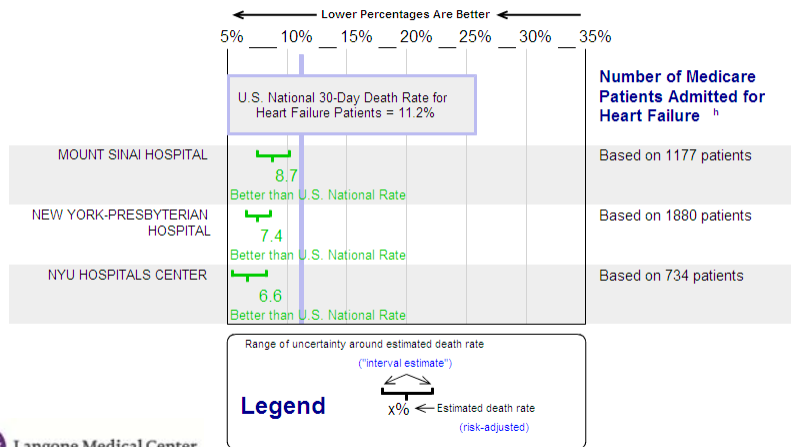


New York, NY  
July 2011



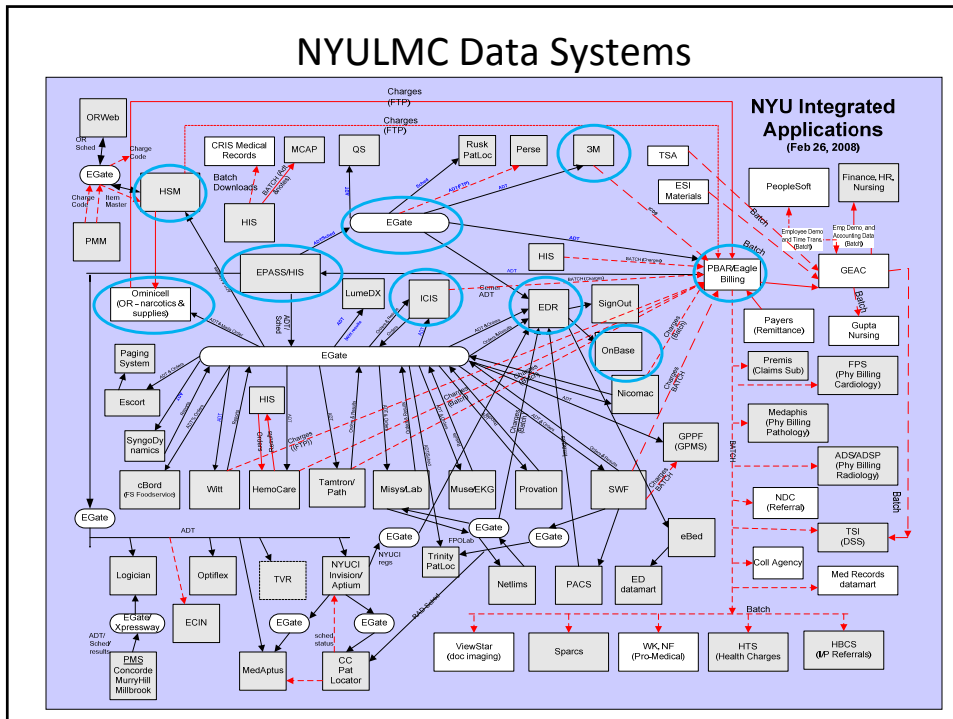
# Hospital Administrative Data Hospitals' "Face to the World"

## Death Rate for Heart Failure Patients



c

## NYULMC Data Systems



## What's In the Hospital Bill?

- Patient identification information
  - Patient demographic information
  - Where the patient came from
  - Where the patient went after discharge
  - Diagnoses
  - Procedure codes
- } Matrix to DRG



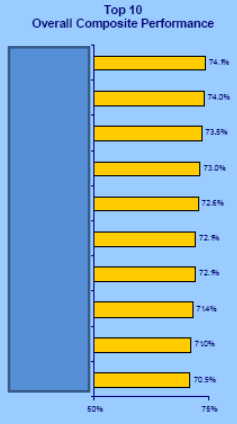
### UHC University HealthSystem Consortium 2008 Quality and Accountability Performance Scorecard

#### NYU Langone Medical Center (19)

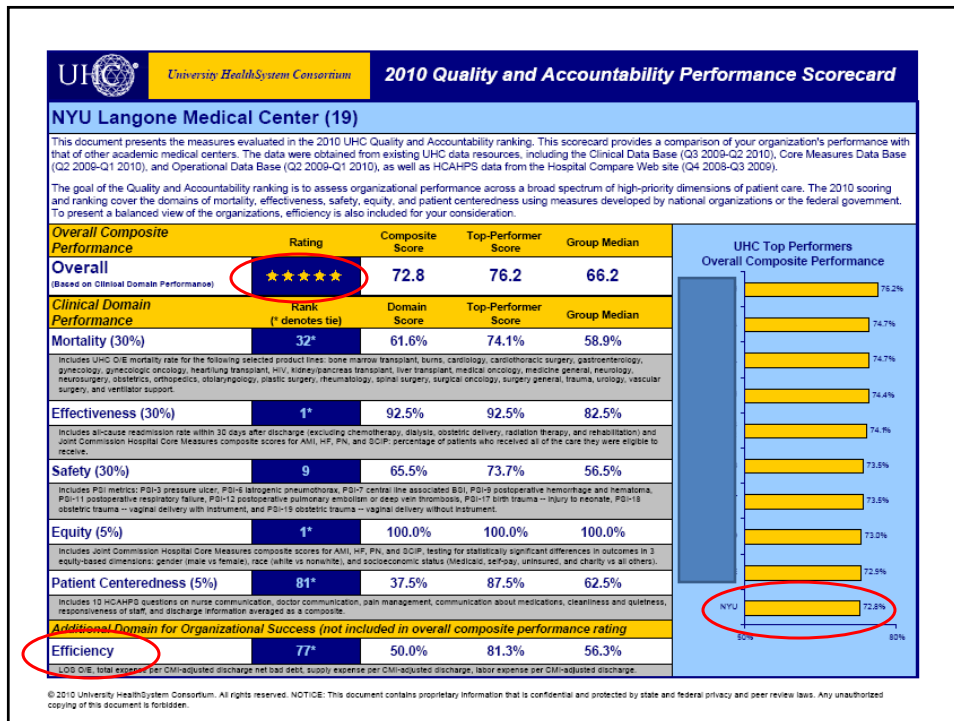
This document presents the measures evaluated in the 2008 UHC Quality and Accountability ranking. This scorecard provides a comparison of your organization's performance with that of other academic medical centers. The data were obtained from existing UHC data resources, including the Clinical Data Base (Q3 2007 - Q2 2008), Core Measures Data Base (Q2 2007 - Q1 2008), Operational Data Base (Q2 2007 - Q1 2008), and HCAHPS data from the Hospital Compare website (Q4 2008 - Q3 2007).

The goal of the Quality and Accountability ranking is to assess organizational performance across a broad spectrum of high-priority dimensions of patient care. The 2008 scoring and ranking covers the domains of mortality, effectiveness, safety, equity, and patient centeredness using measures developed by national organizations or the federal government. To obtain a balanced view of the organizations, efficiency is also included for your consideration.

Overall Composite Performance	Rating	Composite Score	Top Performer Score	Group Median
<b>Overall</b> (Based on Clinical Domain Performance)	★★	59.5	74.1	64.2
Clinical Domain Performance	Rank (* denotes tie)	Domain Score	Top Performer Score	Group Median
<b>Mortality (30%)</b>	76*	42.0%	74.1%	54.9%
<small>Includes UHC D/E mortality rate for the following selected product lines: bone marrow transplant, burns, cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery, gastroenterology, gynecology, heart/lung transplant, HIV, kidney/pancreas transplant, liver transplant, medical oncology, medicine general, neonatology, neurology, neurosurgery, obstetrics, orthopedics, otolaryngology, pediatrics, plastic surgery, rheumatology, surgical oncology, surgery general, trauma, urology, vascular surgery, ventilator support, spine surgery.</small>				
<b>Effectiveness (30%)</b>	67*	62.5%	90.0%	70.0%
<small>Readmission rate within 30 days of discharge. TJC Hospital Core Measures composite scores for AMI, HF, PN, and SCIP; percentage of patients receiving all of the care they were eligible to receive.</small>				
<b>Safety (25%)</b>	8	65.3%	77.1%	56.3%
<small>Includes PSI metrics: iatrogenic pneumothorax, selected infections due to medical care, postoperative hemorrhage and hematoma, postoperative respiratory failure, accidental puncture or laceration, birth trauma, obstetric trauma—vaginal with instrument, obstetric trauma—vaginal without instrument.</small>				
<b>Equity (10%)</b>	1*	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
<small>TJC Hospital Core Measures composite scores for AMI, HF, PN, and SCIP, testing for statistically significant difference in outcomes based on 3 equity-based dimensions: gender (male vs. female), race (white vs. nonwhite), and socioeconomic status (Medicaid, self-pay, uninsured, and charity vs. all others).</small>				
<b>Patient Centeredness (5%)</b>	79*	37.5%	100.0%	50.0%
<small>HCAHPS question 21; percentage of respondents that give an overall hospital rating of 8 or 10. Domain score represents the percentage of points awarded (4 of the 8-point scale); it does not reflect the actual metric value. "N/A" for domain score denotes that HCAHPS data was not available from the Hospital Compare website and the median score of 50% was imputed.</small>				
<b>Additional Domain for Organizational Success (not included in overall composite performance rating)</b>				
<b>Efficiency</b>	74*	46.9%	75.0%	56.3%
<small>LOS D/E, total expense per CMI-adjusted discharge net bad debt, supply expense per CMI-adjusted discharge, labor expense per CMI-adjusted discharge.</small>				



© 2008 University HealthSystem Consortium. All rights reserved. NOTICE: This document contains proprietary information that is confidential and protected by state and federal privacy and peer review laws. Any unauthorized copying of this document is forbidden.



**NYU LANGONE MEDICAL CENTER**  
 (MDCR PROVIDER # - 330214)  
 FOR PERIOD 10/01/2010 - 12/31/2010 VERSION : C  
 REPORT PRODUCED ON: 03/15/2011

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

FAILURE LIST

REASONS FOR FAILURE - Too Many Exceptions


Field Name	Exception Message	Rejection Level (%)	Number of Exceptions	% of Exceptions
Individual Soft Scoring	Too many exceptions at field level.	--	--	--
			0	

WATCH LIST

MESSAGES WITH FREQUENCIES EXCEEDING UHC EXCEPTIONS TOLERANCE GUIDELINES

Field Name	Exception Message	Tolerance Level (%)	Number of Exceptions	% of Exceptions
PT OF ORIGIN (Admit Src)	ICD9 DX1+NEWBORN, POINT OF ORIGIN REASSIGNED NEWBORN	0.10	290	2.76
PT OF ORIGIN (Admit Src)	ICD9 DX1+NEWBORN, POINT OF ORIGIN NOT NEWBORN	0.10	127	1.21
PT OF ORIGIN (Admit Src)	INVALID, DEFAULT ASSIGNED	0.10	11	0.10
ADMIT STATUS	ICD9 DX1+NEWBORN, ADMIT STATUS NOT NEWBORN	0.10	127	1.21
			555	



## Charge: "Solve the Data Quality Problem"

January 2011

- Co-chairs: Quality and Finance
- Information technology
- Health information management
- Patient registration
- Care management – discharge planning

## Principles

- Fix data quality at the source.
- Assign clear responsibility for acquiring high quality data at the source.
- Standardize data management routines.



Welcome Martha Radford Tuesday, April 26, 2011

**CDP Data Quality Reports**

NYU Langone Medical Center

Select Period: 2011 Quarter 1

Period	Submission Version	Report Received On	Status	Source
2011 Quarter 1	A	4/7/2011 8:52:00 PM	PASS	FTP

**FAILURE LIST**

REASONS FOR FAILURE - Too Many Exceptions

Field Name	Exception Message	Rejection Level (%)	Number of Exceptions	% of Exceptions
			0	

**WATCH LIST**

MESSAGES WITH FREQUENCIES EXCEEDING UHC EXCEPTIONS TOLERANCE GUIDELINES

Field Name	Exception Message	Tolerance Level (%)	Number of Exceptions	% of Exceptions
			0	


NYU Langone Medical Center

## Our Work Continues

- Attention to data quality coincides with new enterprise-wide information system implementation
  - Just in time to effect data workflow redesign for new financial systems
- Not to mention: MEANINGFUL USE!

## What We Learned

- Importance of data workflow assessment and change management that includes all who touch the data, present and future.
- Importance of collaboration.
- Importance of data quality governance.

 **Cleveland Clinic**

# Enterprise Business Intelligence at the Cleveland Clinic

**Eric D. Hixson PhD, MBA**  
**Director, EBI Quality Data**  
**Medical Operations, Business Intelligence**



## EBI Definition

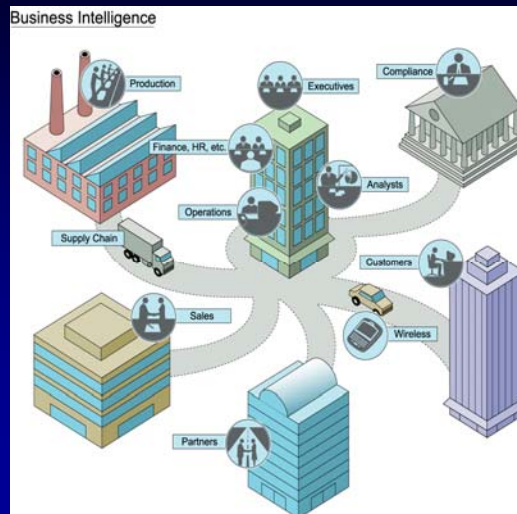
**Business Intelligence is an interrelated set of processes...**



Enterprise Business Intelligence (EBI) is an *umbrella* term to describe a set of concepts and methods to improve business decision-making by using information in fact-based analytics

## How EBI is used in Healthcare

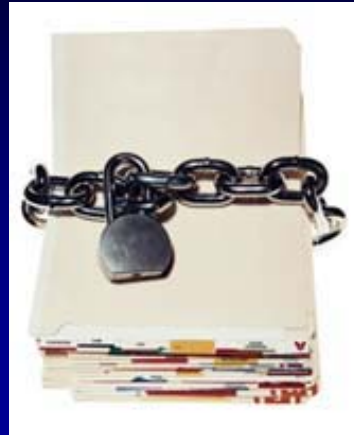
- Align departmental goals and objectives with strategic priorities
- Realize expense reductions goals by providing accurate and timely information
- Improve quality of care through monitoring & trending
- Document quality for consumer and provider use
- “If you can’t measure it, you can’t manage it” – Peter Drucker



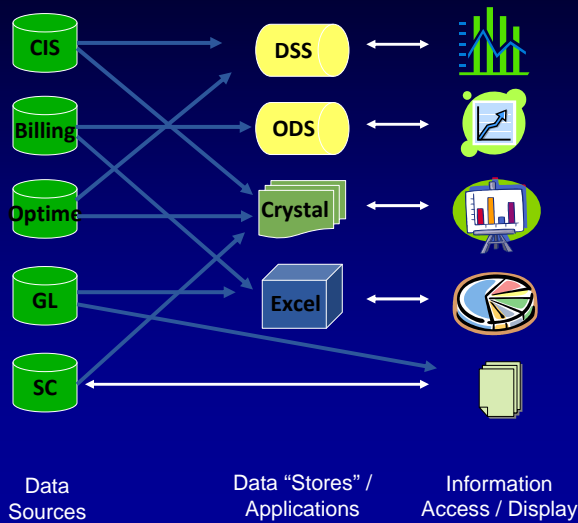


## Operating Problems and Barriers

- Executive Sponsorship and Funding
- No Single Version of the Truth
- No Timely reporting of Information
- Difficulty managing Data Quality
- Multiple Clinical Systems, Patient Accounting Systems, Logistics, HR systems
- Increased Demand for Consumer Level Information
- Revenue cycle management
- Contract compliance with Managed Care payers and GPOs

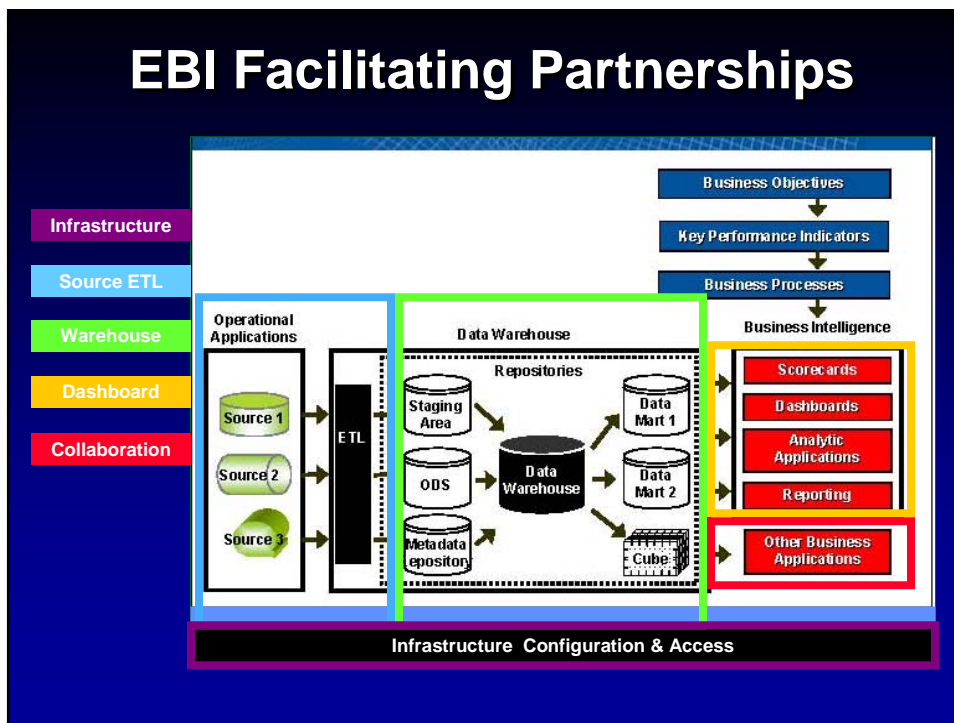
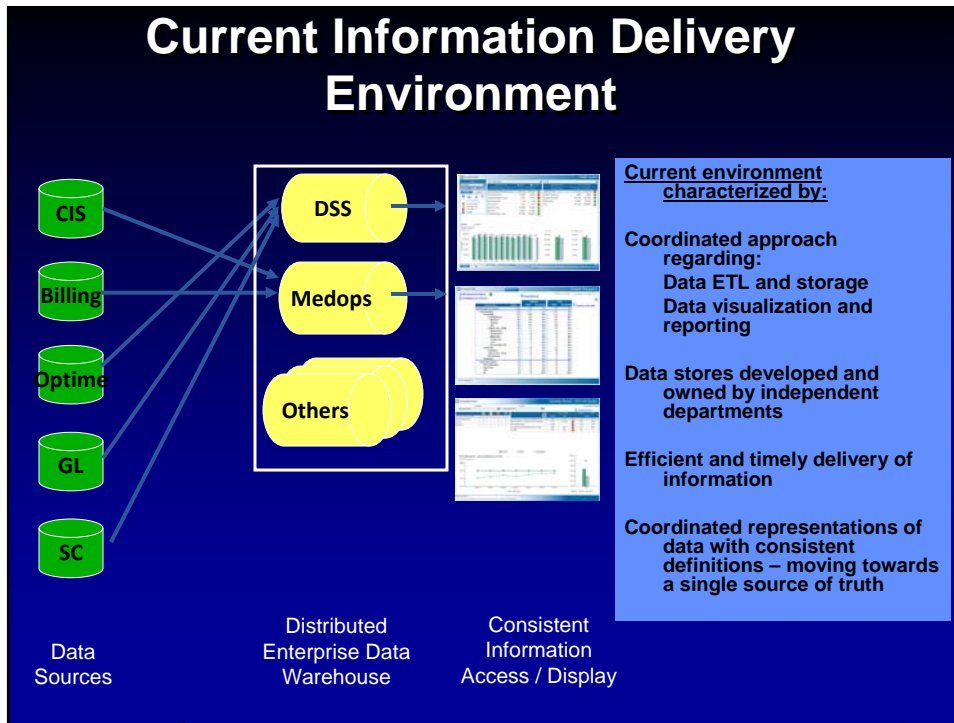


## Information Delivery Environment Before EBI



### Previous environment characterized by:

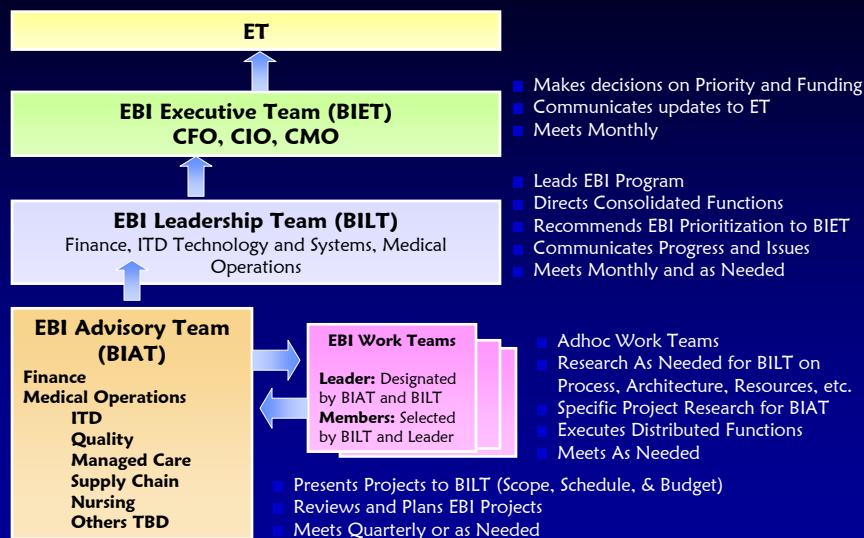
- Heavy reliance on packaged technology solutions with limited integration
- Data stores developed and owned by independent departments – duplicative and expensive
- Inefficient and untimely delivery of information
- Disjointed approach to information access & display (reports, online tools, excel, crystal, etc.)
- Multiple representations of data with inconsistent definitions – no single source of truth



## Current EBI Infrastructure

- Phase I implemented 2007
- SQL Server platform
- Business Objects presentation layer
- 18 TB data
- 40 FTEs
- 93% data load frequency  $\leq$  weekly
- 6,000 total users, ~1k/week

## Governance Structure



# The Role of Executive Sponsor

- Responsibilities include:
  - Drive Strategic Priorities
  - Embrace Key Performance Indicators Utilized
  - Provide Decision Making as Needed for Issue Resolution
  - Secure Funding and Resources
  - Espouse Operational Changes Based on Fact-based Findings
  - Executive 'Champion' of EBI

# Project Management

Enterprise Business Intelligence

Enterprise Business Intelligence > EBI Project Summary

EBI Project Summary

Title	Status	Phase	Estimated Complete Date	Priority	Area	Complexity
<b>Phase : 1 - In Queue (18)</b>						
<b>Phase : 2 - Requirements &amp; Design (6)</b>						
HEDS data conversion and reporting	🔄	2 - Requirements & Design		2-Medium	BI/Quality	1-High
LHC-CH Data Mart and Reporting	✅	2 - Requirements & Design	6/30/2011	1-High	BI/Quality	2-Medium
Short-cycle Verbal Orders	✅	2 - Requirements & Design	5/31/2011	2-Medium	BI/Quality	1-High
Quality Initiative Dashboard - Phase II	✅	2 - Requirements & Design	6/3/2011	1-High	BI/Quality	1-High

# Project Management

The screenshot shows a SharePoint interface for project management. The browser title is 'EBI Project Summary - UHC-CM Data Mart and Reporting - Windows Internet Explorer provided by Cleveland Clinic'. The URL is 'http://sharepoint.ccf.org/ebi/Lists/EBI%20Project%20Summary/DispForm.aspx?ID=489&Source=http%3A%2F%2Fsharepoint%2Eccf%2Eorg%2F...'. The page is titled 'EBI Project Summary: UHC-CM Data Mart and Reporting' and shows a 'New Item' form with the following details:

Title	UHC-CM Data Mart and Reporting
Phase	2 - Requirements & Design
Status	✓
Current Activity	<p><b>05/10/2011 (PT):</b> Updates from today's project review:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Quarterly Review impacted getting together to design out the CDB database. Eric will reschedule.</li><li>2. UHC needs to complete the 'business associate' document. Has to be resolved before Isaac can proceed. Eric will follow-up.</li><li>3. Need a Statement of Work from UHC for the CM XML development. Pat will follow-up w/Susan Bradshaw.</li><li>4. Victor &amp; Isaac to determine if the XML version of the CM has all of the same data as contained in the Excel version.</li><li>5. Re-estimating the Estimated Completion Date for the R&amp;D phase to be 6/30, due to having to finalize the SOW with UHC, which will need to be completed in order to complete the design for thr UHC CM ETL and to develop the project plan. ECD changed from 5/27 to 6/30.</li></ol> <p><b>05/03/2011 (PT):</b> Updates from today's project review:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Eric will schedule an R&amp;D meeting w/Sudha &amp; Elise for the design of the</li></ol>

## EBI Operational Principles

- 'Global', Enterprise Perspective
- Blend Consolidated and Distributed Services
- Resource Prioritization Based on Strategic Plan
- Maintain flexibility and adaptability
- Progress Measured by Business Impact
- Align Initiatives with *Customers* of Information
- Utilize Guidelines, Frameworks, and Metrics to Support Division-driven Projects
- Develop Culture and Community Around Information Sharing and Delivery
- Operational Model Includes Plan for Staff, Architecture, Life-Cycle Processes, and Governance

## EBI & Performance Management

- **Executive Team**
  - Dashboard Reporting
  - Market Analysis
  - Competitor Information
  - High Level Service Line Profitability
  - Summarized Operational Performance
  - Patient Satisfaction
- **Physician/Clinical Management**
  - MD-specific utilization & profitability
  - Peer Comparisons
  - Development of Critical Paths
  - Cost of Clinical Alternatives
- **Operations**
  - Patient level profitability
  - Average Daily Census
  - Staffing and scheduling information
  - Variable cost analytics
  - Department variance reports
  - Spend analytics
- **Quality Management**
  - Outcome Analysis
  - Severity of Illness Integration
  - Case Screening
  - Clinical outcomes
- **Finance / Accounting**
  - Budgeting Variance
  - Productivity Monitoring
  - Departmental Performance
  - Contract Compliance
  - Spend Analytics
  - Revenue Cycle Analytics
- **Managed Care**
  - Contract Negotiation/Pricing
  - Claims Management Support
  - Contract Management
  - Pay-for-Performance

