

eBook

# INTEROPERABILITY AND PATIENT ACCESS- THE CMS FINAL RULE



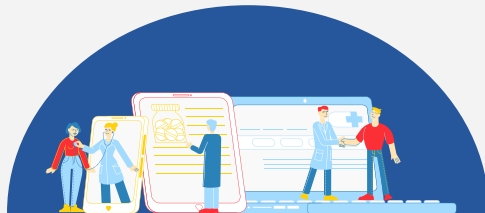
White paper



## Interoperability and Patient Access

The CMS final rule: what it is, who gets impacted, and how to plan for the future

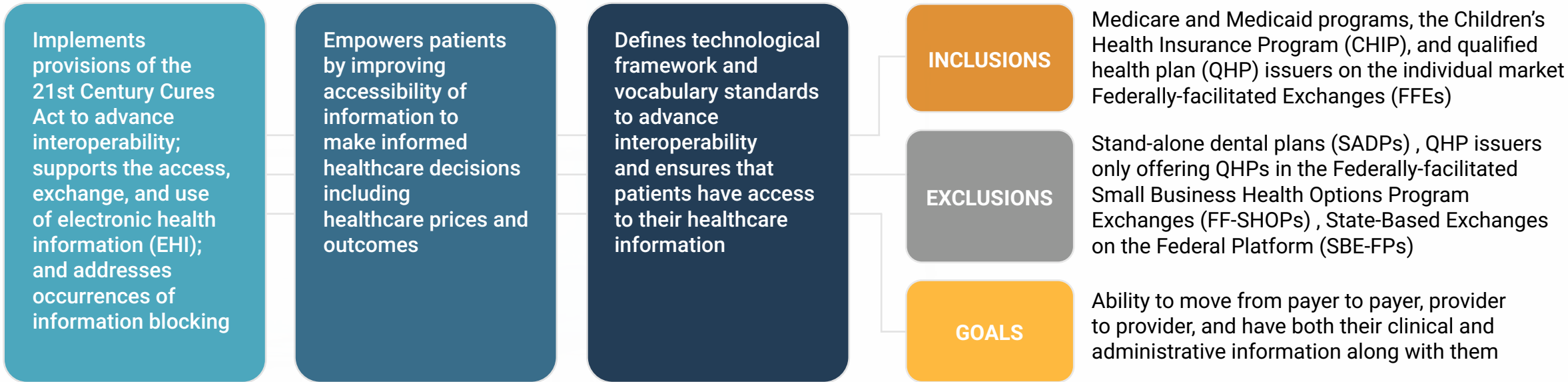
This paper contains a detailed summary of the final Interoperability and Patient Access Rule and the 21st Century Cures Act, along with technical and implementation standards. The paper explains how the ruling impacts healthcare enterprises and technology firms and provides a planning guide for implementation of the requirements.



This ebook is a snapshot of the more detailed white paper *Interoperability and Patient Access: what it is, who gets impacted, and how to plan for the future.*

[Download the complete paper](#)

# Interoperability & Patient Access - Highlights



## MyHealthEData Initiative

- Executive Order 13813 to Promote Healthcare Choice and Competition
- Will improve access to healthcare and information related to prices and outcomes needed to make informed health care decisions,
- Will minimize reporting burdens on impacted providers, and payers subject to this rule

Standards based Interoperability and Information exchange has the potential to facilitate efficient, safe and quality care for individuals and populations.

# 21st Century Cures Act and Blue Button API - Overview

## 21st Century Cures Act

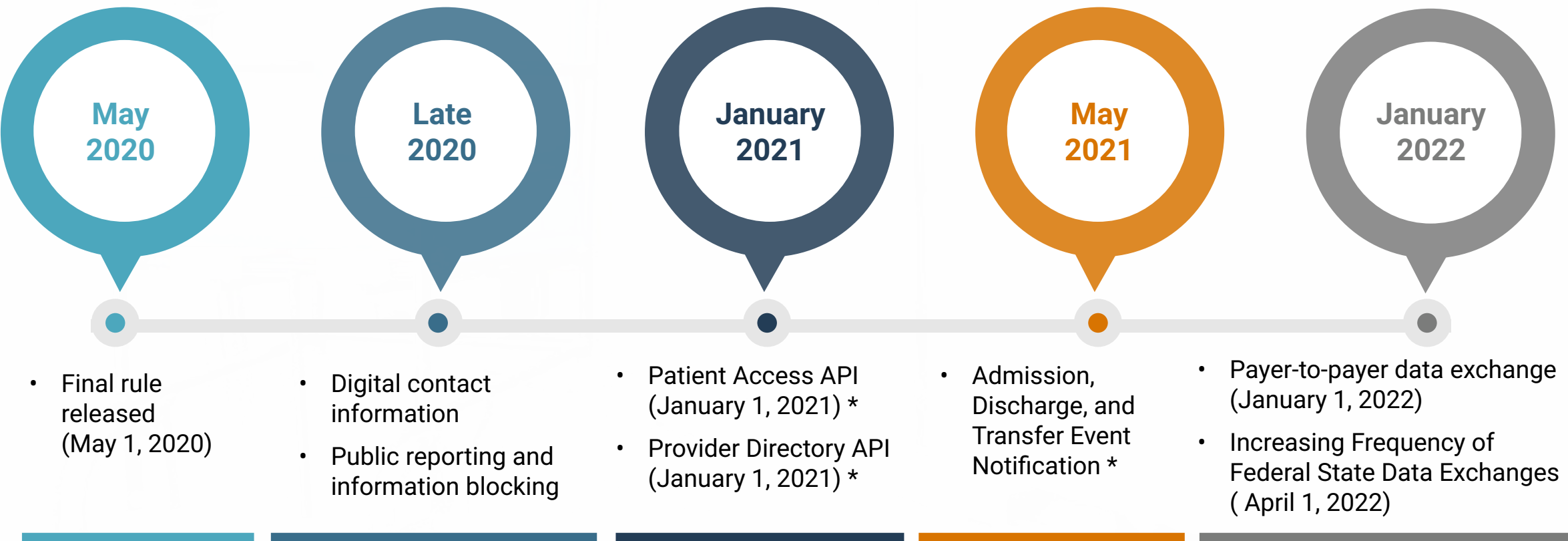
- Provisions for standardized APIs to allow individuals to securely access healthcare information
- Discourages information blocking by provider organizations and health IT developers
- Updates to the ONC health IT certification criteria
- Deregulatory actions on some certification criteria
- Adoption of USCDI as a terminology standard
- A certified health IT product to support electronic health information export

## Blue Button API

- Developed by CMS
- Standards-based FHIR API that enables beneficiaries to connect their claims data to the applications they trust
- Uses the OAuth 2.0 standard for beneficiary authorization
- Contains four years of Medicare Part A, B, and D data for 53 million Medicare beneficiaries
- Allows developers to integrate with the Blue Button API

# Interoperability and Patient Access - Timelines

The Interoperability and Patient Access final rule empowers patients by giving them access to their health information when they need it and, on any device or application of their choice and in a way they can best use it.



\* In-view of the COVID-19 crisis, CMS has extended the implementation timelines for these proposals by six months

# What It Means For Patients, Providers, and Payers



## Patients

- Access their own data – no additional cost
- Share and decide how their data will be used
- Access health information from any device or application of their choice
- Ensure security and privacy of the data



## Providers

- Digital contact information on NPPES portal
- Public reporting of information blocking
- ADT electronic patient event notifications



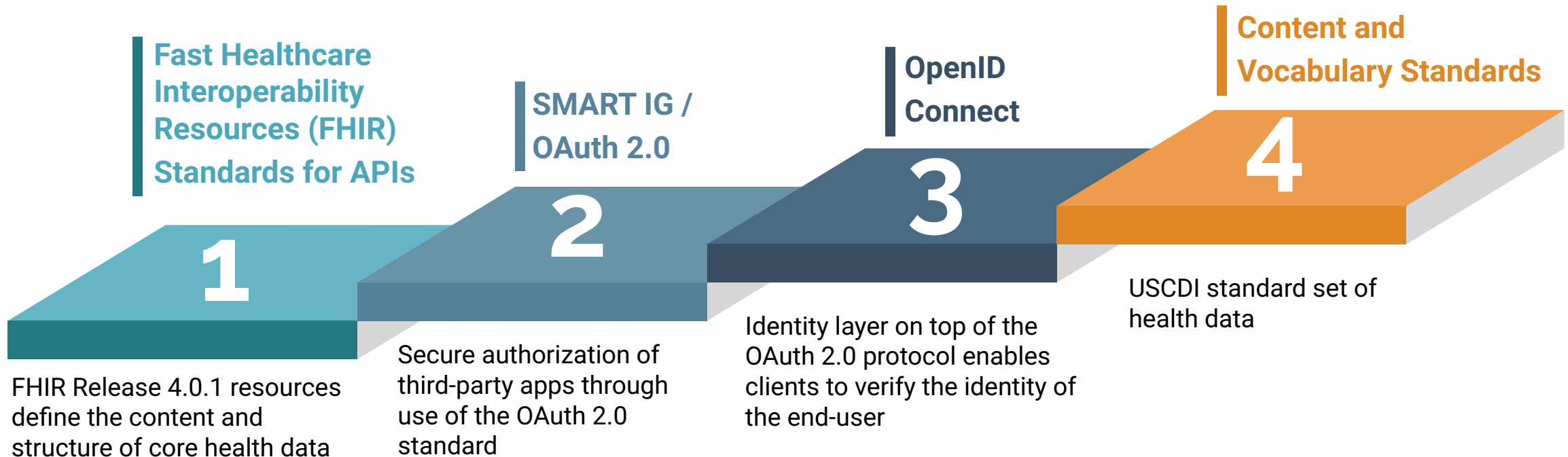
## Payers

- Publish Patient Access API
- Publish Provider Directory API
- Exchange data set to another plan or to recipient as identified by the enrollee
- Participate in a trusted exchange network
- Increase the frequency of federal-state data exchange to submit data to CMS daily

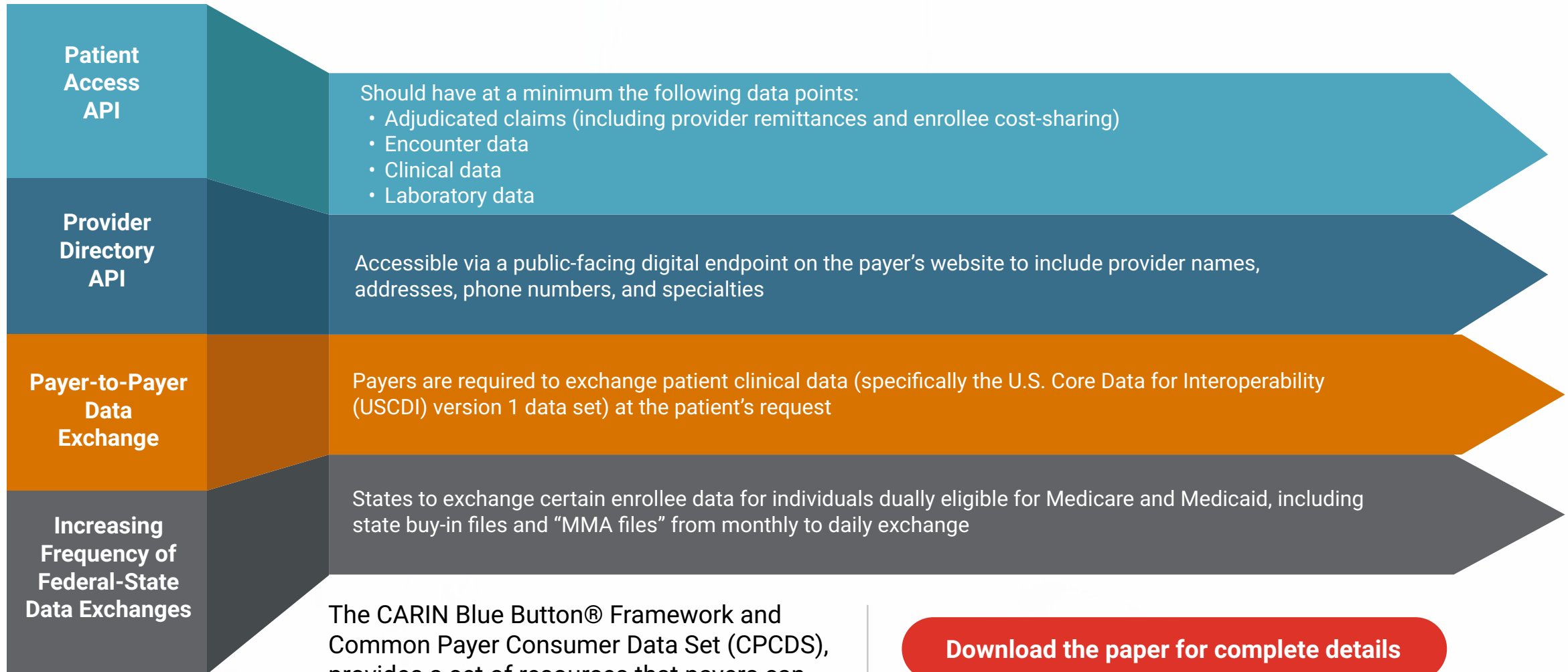
The new ruling empowers patients. The major onus of updating technology infrastructure to publish the APIs is on the payers. Providers will have to attest to “not blocking information” and updating their digital contact information. The update to ADT electronic patient event notifications will be facilitated by the EMR vendors.

# Overview of Technical Standards

HHS has finalized technical standards in the ONC's 21st Century Cures Act final rule for payers and developers to use:



# Implementation Standards Overview (Payers)



The CARIN Blue Button® Framework and Common Payer Consumer Data Set (CPCDS), provides a set of resources that payers can display to consumers via a FHIR API.

[Download the paper for complete details](#)



# Implementation Standards Overview (Providers)

## Public Reporting and Blocking Information

- CMS will publicly report eligible clinicians, hospitals, and critical access hospitals (CAHs) that may be blocking information based on how they attested to certain Promoting Interoperability Program requirements
- Will help patients choose providers who have attested to Promoting Interoperability

## Digital Contact Information

- Providers to update their digital contact information as a Direct Address and /or FHIR API endpoint
- CMS will publicly report those who have not updated their information in the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES)

## Admission, Discharge, and Transfer Event Notifications

- Hospitals and CAHs to send electronic patient event notifications of a patient's admission, discharge, and/or transfer to another healthcare facility or to another community provider or practitioner

# Applicable for Payers

The following proposals are applicable to payers

## Patient Access API

- Open APIs for claims and encounter data
- Maintaining security functionalities of APIs
- Initial design development, testing and long-term support

## Provider Directory API

- Most payers have the data available but would need to provide this through a FHIR API accessible on the payer's website

## Payer to Payer Coordination

- Support beneficiary information to a new plan when requested
- At a minimum, data elements in the United States Core Data for Interoperability (USCDI) standard be included

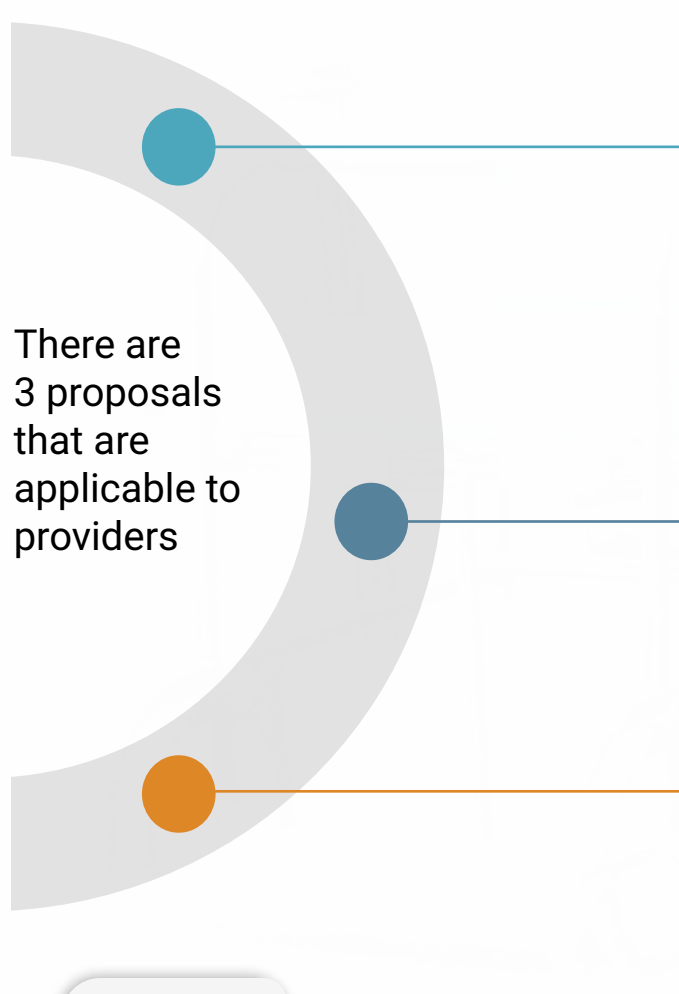
## Participate In Trusted Exchange Network

- Framework to exchange PHI connecting inpatient and ambulatory EHRs, and secure messaging between patients, providers, and payers

## Federal-state Data Exchange

- Updates to systems to be able to submit data daily to CMS

# Applicable for Providers



## Information Blocking Public Reporting

- Three statements that require a “yes” attestation response to successfully report for the CMS programs
- CMS proposes to publicly report negative attestations for eligible clinicians and eligible hospitals

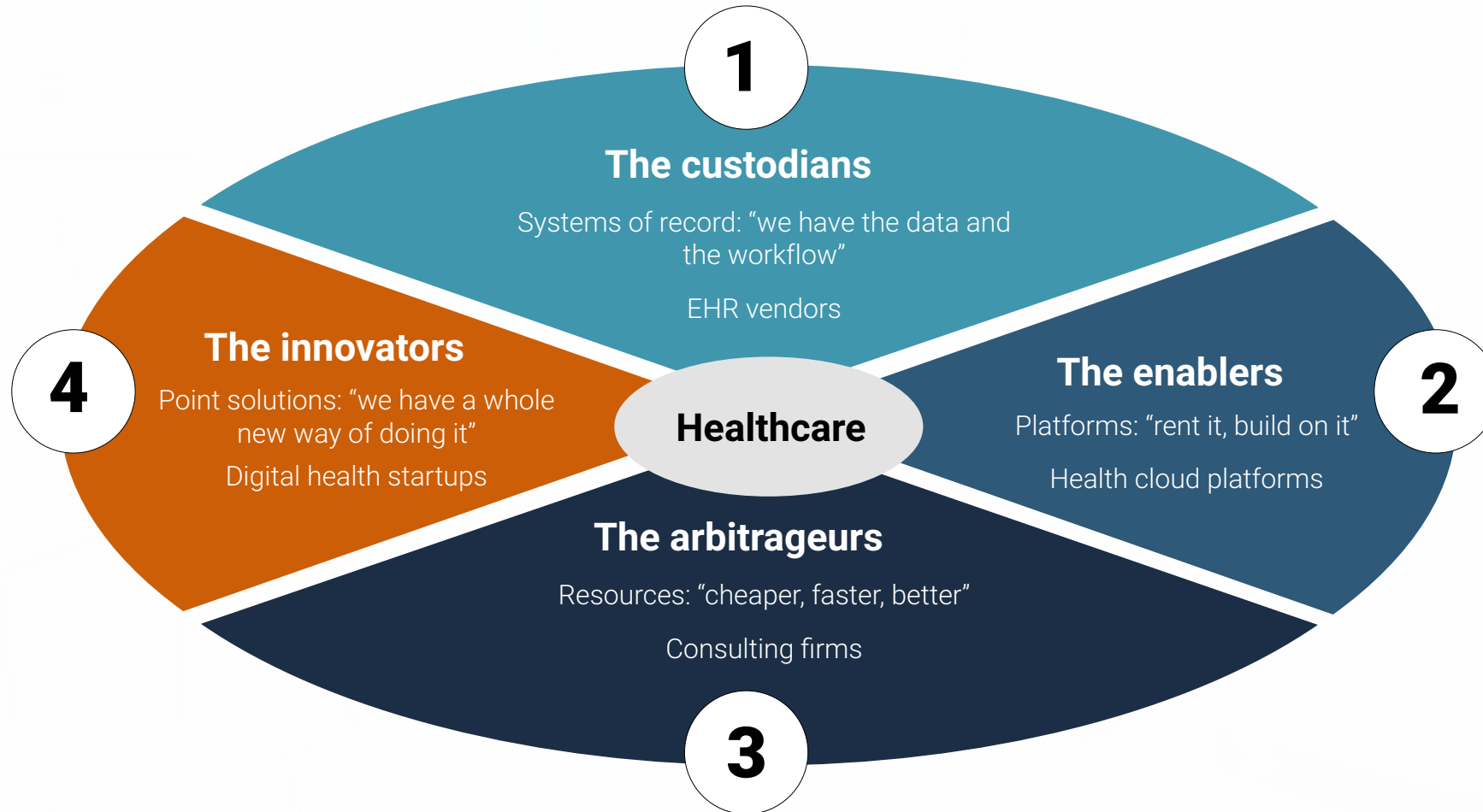
## Provider Digital Contact Information

- All healthcare providers and facilities to update their NPPES record online to add digital contact information

## ADT Electronic Patient Event Notifications

- Creating an electronic patient event notification for the change in ADT status to trigger a message either:
  - » Directly to the provider
  - » Through a Health Information exchange

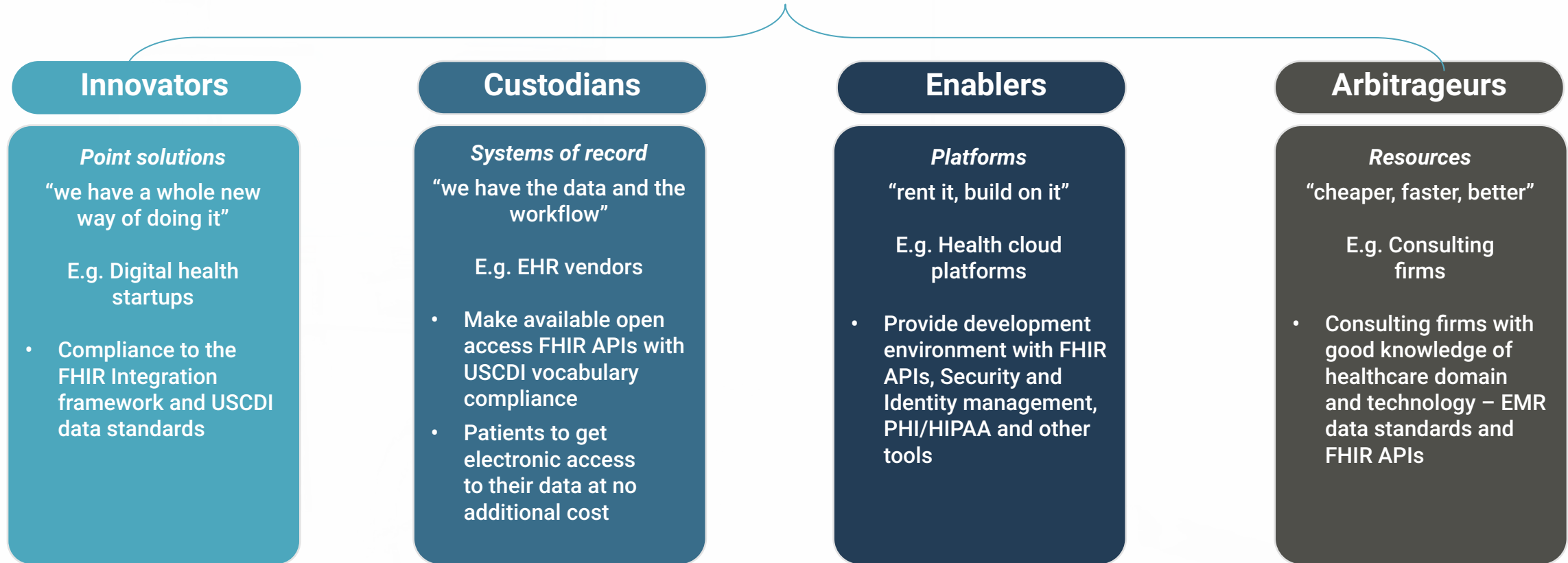
# The Damo ICEA™ Framework for Technology Vendors



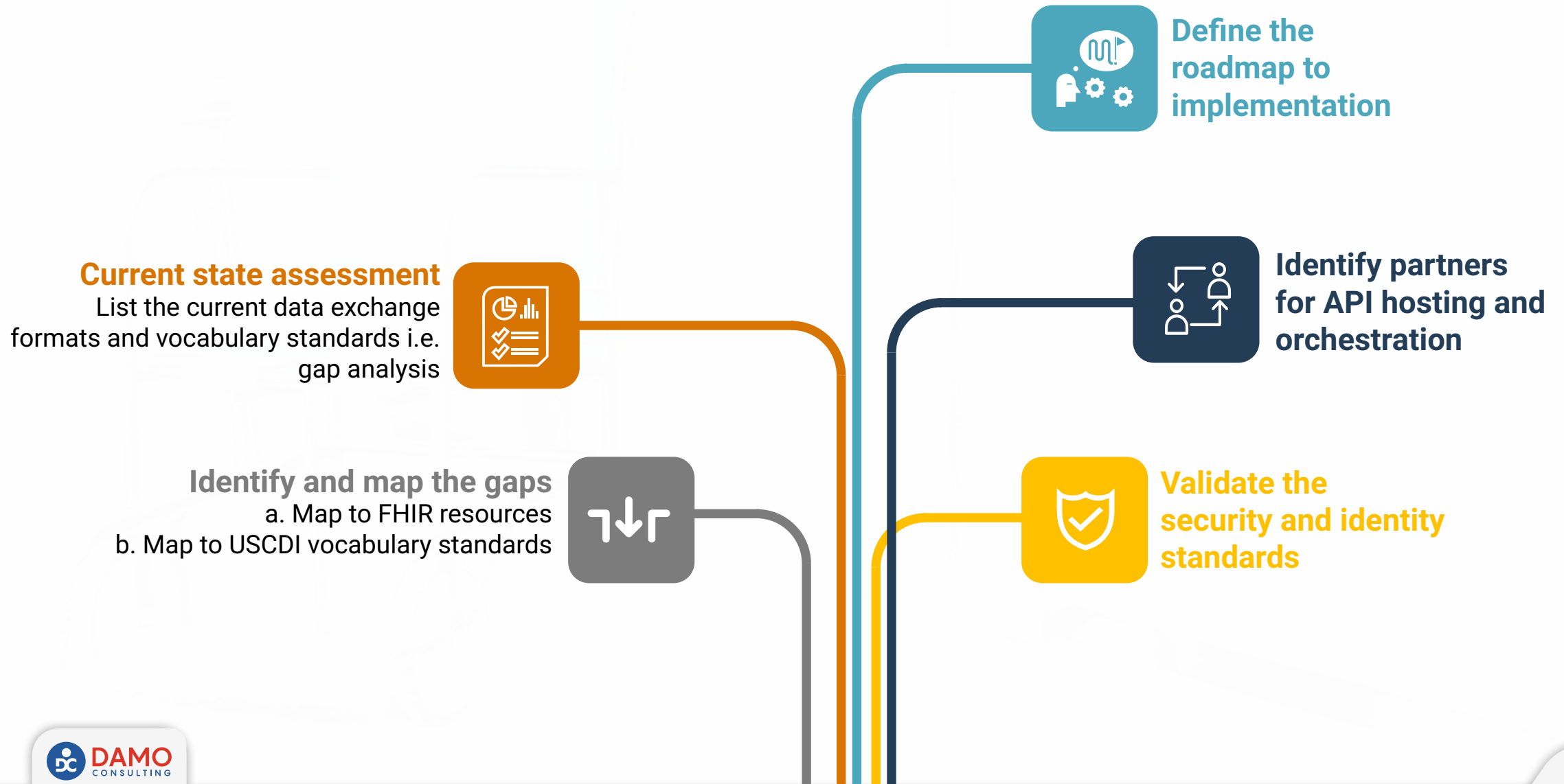
# What the final ruling means for different healthcare IT providers

## Damo ICEA™ Framework

For healthcare technology providers, the new ruling comes with increased opportunities in terms of innovations and increased technological enhancements of existing infrastructure



# How Damo Consulting can help



To learn more about how Damo Consulting can help build and implement interoperability and patient access roadmaps, write to us: [info@damoconsulting.net](mailto:info@damoconsulting.net)

Join the digital healthcare revolution. Stay on top of the latest news, trends, and insights with Damo Consulting.



Stay up to date on current trends in healthcare's digital transformation. Featuring C-suite executives from the healthcare and technology sectors.



### **Vision**

We envision digitally-enabled health systems and technology partners collaborating to deliver a superior care experience and promote better health outcomes for healthcare consumers around the world.

### **Mission**

As a preferred advisory partner and expert in digital transformation strategies, we are committed to supporting healthcare enterprises with digital health innovation while helping technology providers seize the opportunity for growth through the right market strategies.



Damo Consulting is a digital transformation and strategic growth advisory firm serving healthcare enterprises and the technology companies that support them. We specialize in delivering actionable healthcare market intelligence and branded thought leadership for our clients.

#### **USA**

1212 S Naper Blvd  
Suite # 119-160  
Naperville, IL 60540

#### **INDIA**

No 60, Ferns Residency  
K.Narayanapura Kothanur  
Bangalore – 560077  
(Regd. address)

**Email:** [info@damoconsulting.net](mailto:info@damoconsulting.net) | **Website:** [www.damoconsulting.net](http://www.damoconsulting.net)