

# A CIO's Perspective of the Federal Electronic Health Record Strategy

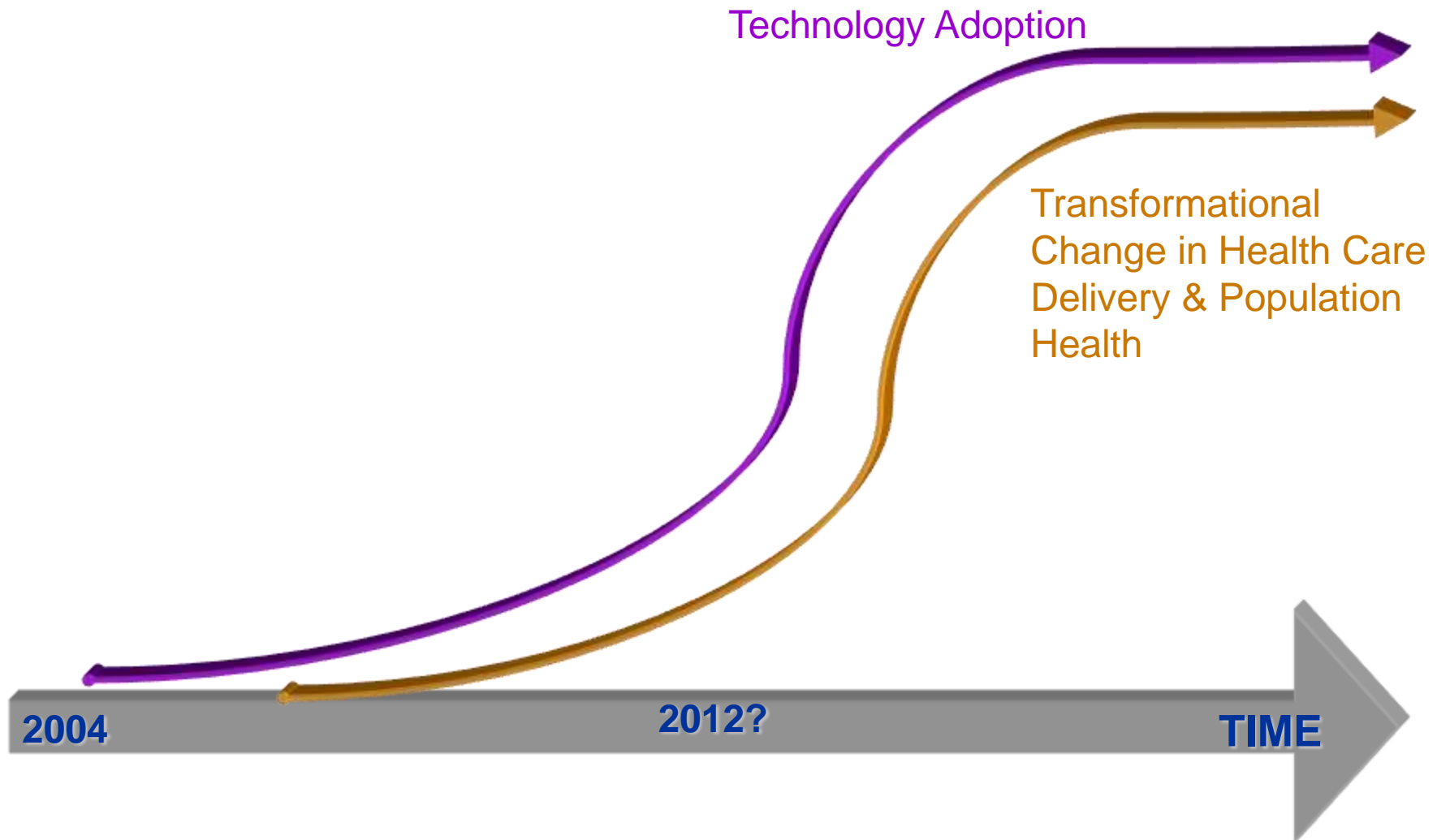
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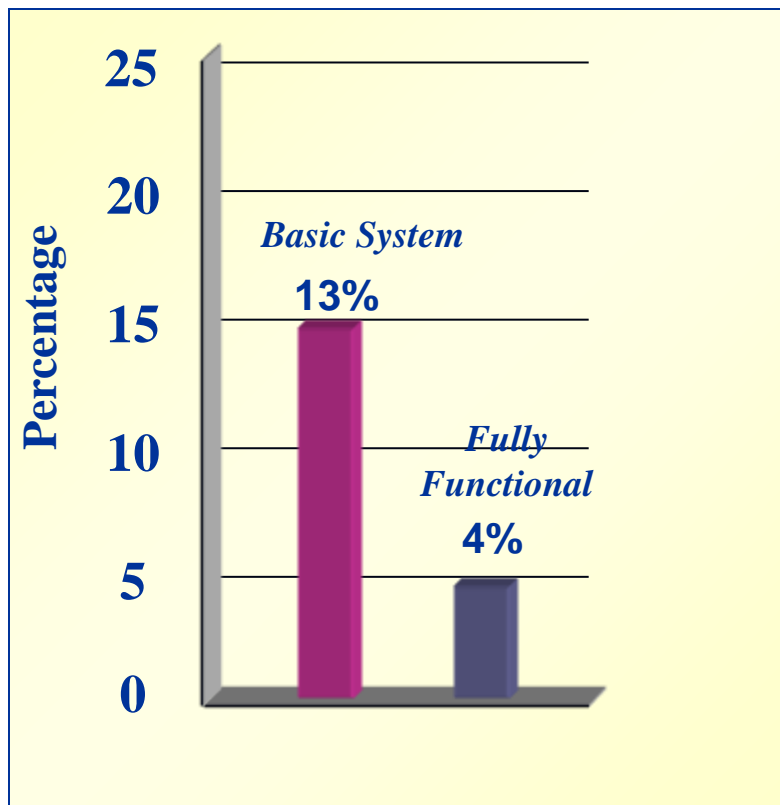
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# Health IT as a Critical Enabler for Health Care Transformation

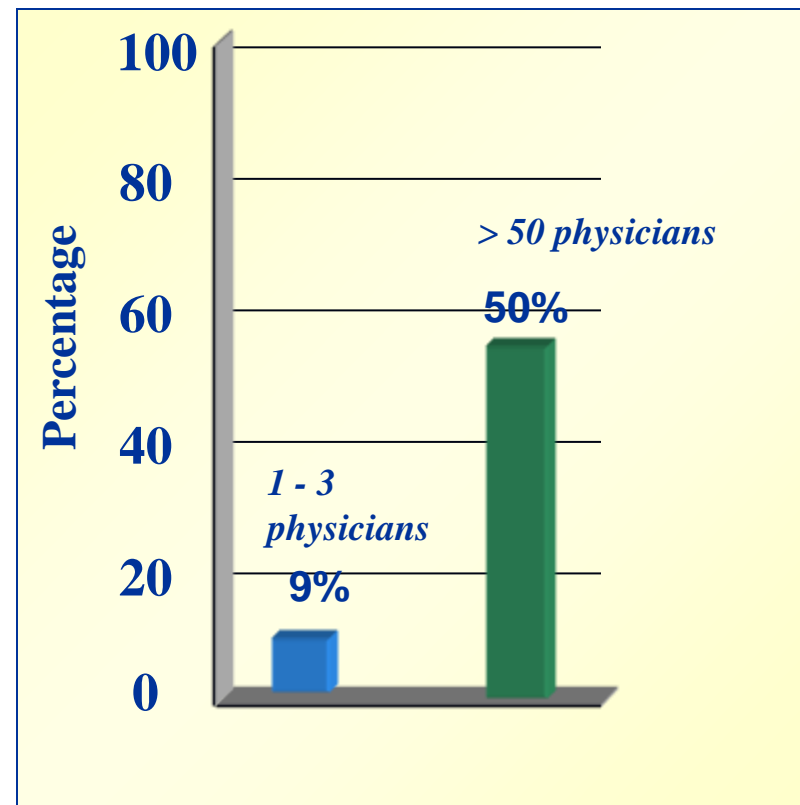


# EHR Adoption is Low and Not Moving

Level of EHR Function



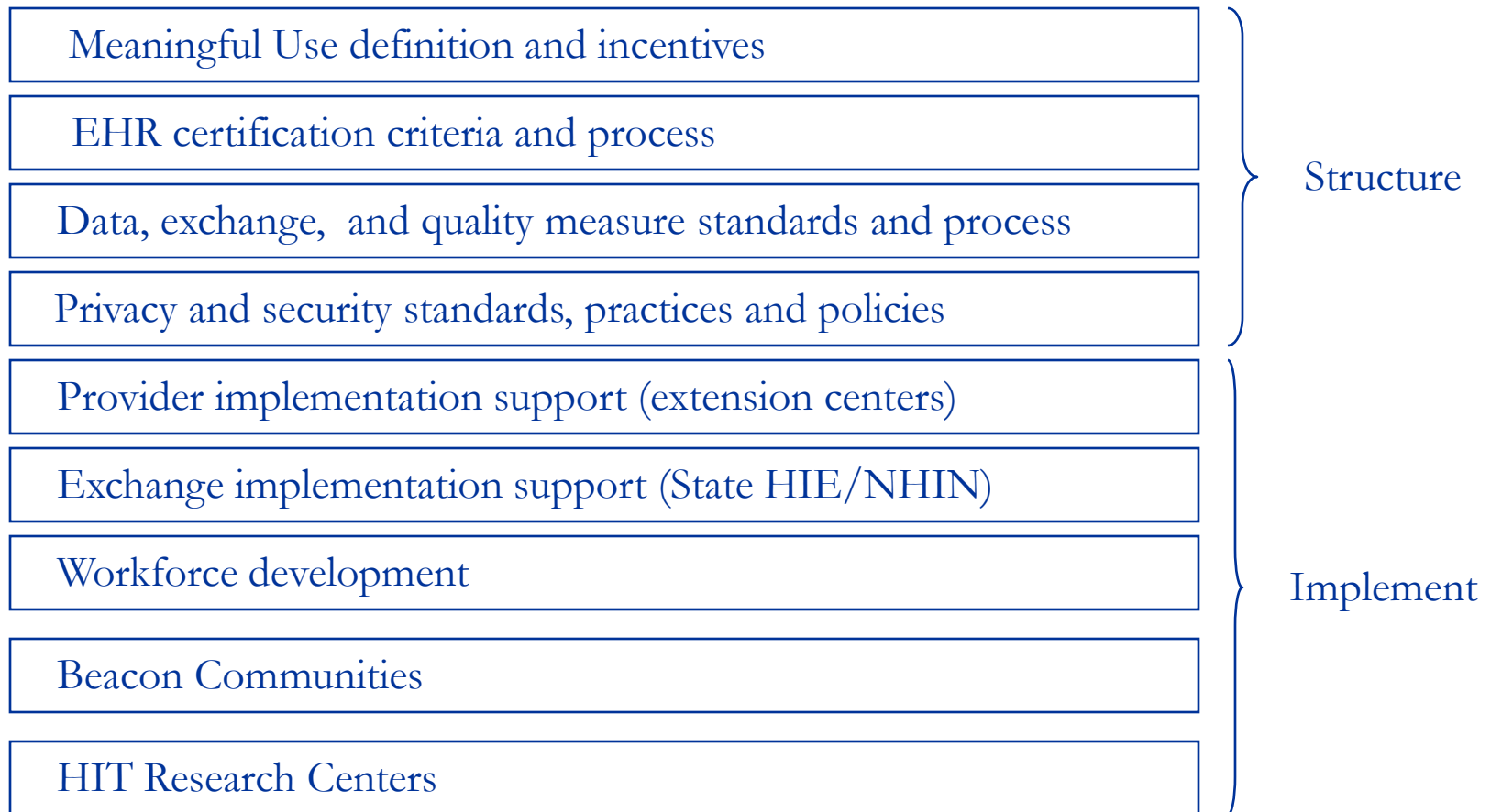
Size of Practice



DesRoches, N Engl J Med 2008.

# The Strategy is very Thoughtful and Comprehensive

Adoption → Meaningful Use → Outcomes



# Near Term Ramifications

- Within Partners:
  - Assess the ability of our applications to support meaningful use and meet standards; upgrade, acquire and/or enhance as needed
  - Develop/acquire internal exchange capabilities
  - Certify our internally developed systems
  - Determine priority of achieving meaningful use
  - Work with our clinicians to achieve use levels
- With the state:
  - Determine if we want to play a role as a REC
  - Identify exchange needs and assess state proposal
  - Work with regional education programs

# Cautions about the Near Term Response

- You have to pursue meaningful use
- Care should be taken to not rush the necessary implementations
- Care should be taken to not inappropriately change a well reasoned IT strategy

# Longer Term Ramifications

- We are in for a bumpy and challenging period of time
- From now on Medicare/Medicaid payments will be materially based on effective use of EHRs
  - Beginning with meaningful use
  - And moving to payment reform
- Meaningful use pressure may “snowball”
  - Commercial health plan incentives may be based on an assumption that meaningful use has been achieved
  - Maintenance of certification may have meaningful use requirements
  - Will licensure and/or accreditation consider meaningful use status?

# Longer Term Ramifications

- The Partners (and industry) EHR development agenda will be increasingly dominated by certification, interoperability and effective use requirements
  - The meaningful use criteria may become the definition of an EHR
- The growth of regional exchange infrastructure will bring increased interdependence between our information systems agenda and the agenda of others

# Longer Term Ramifications

- The IT foundation for the alternative care models and payment reform aspects of the health insurance reform legislation is being established
- The presence of a broadly adopted EHR will cease to be a competitive differentiator.  
Differentiation could occur in several areas:
  - EHR-leveraged care improvement within Partners and with other providers
  - Secondary use of data
  - Superior utilization of clinical decision support
  - Engagement of the patient in their care

# You Can't Beat the View



# You Meet Some Nice People



# Conclusions

- Interoperable electronic health records are a critical contributor to our collective efforts to improve the quality, safety and efficiency of care
- HITECH/ARRA represents an extraordinary infusion of resources into this effort
- We will undergo a major transformation of the healthcare information technology landscape