REPORT FROM MEASURING PROGRESS

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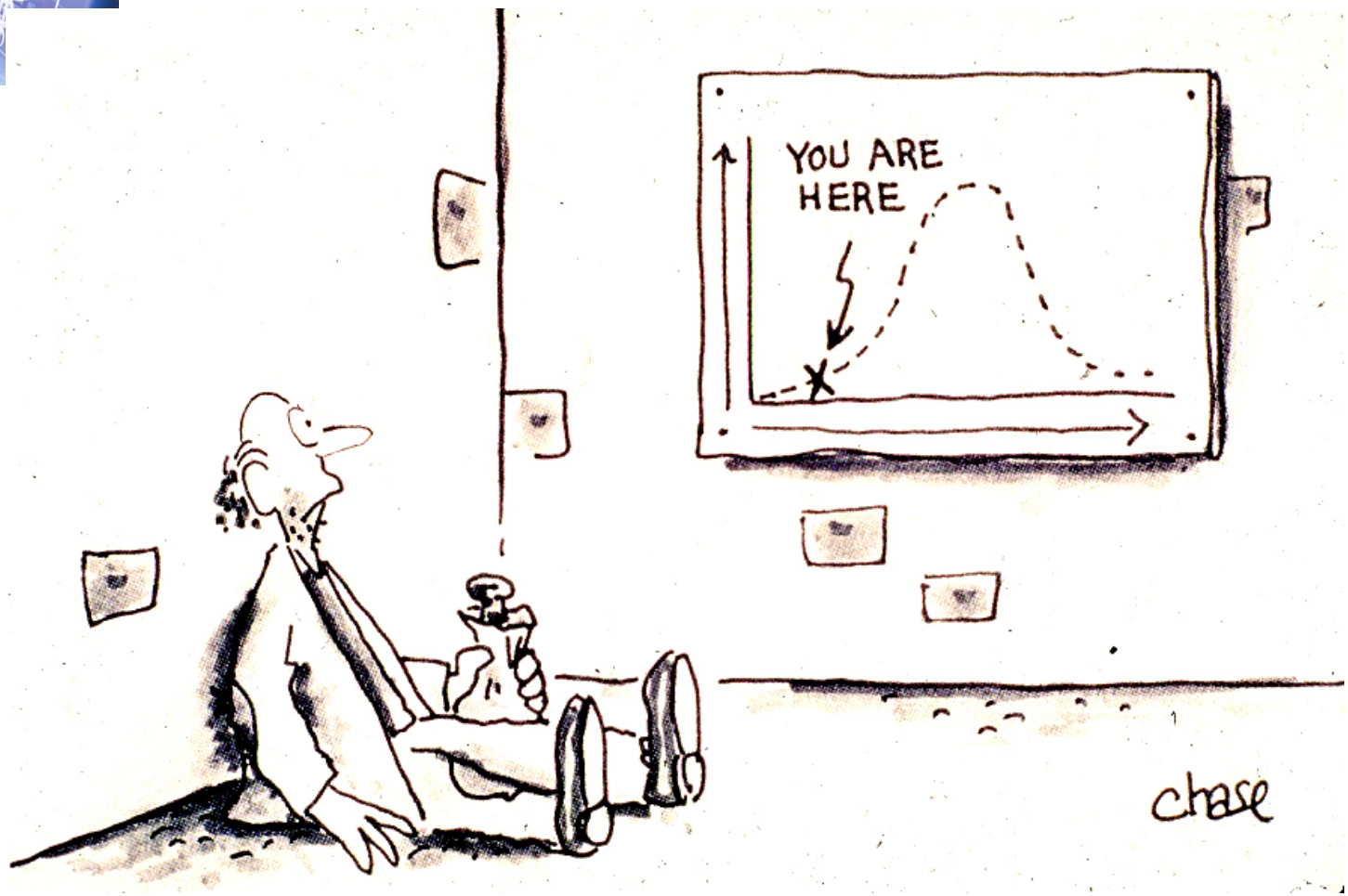
Today's Picture



Measuring Progress

IF YOU CAN'T MEASURE IT YOU CAN'T IMPROVE IT

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recognizing the critical importance and complexity of measurement in achieving success, HHS should convene and fund an impartial expert group, such as an IOM committee, to define metrics for the measurement of the National Health Information Infrastructure.

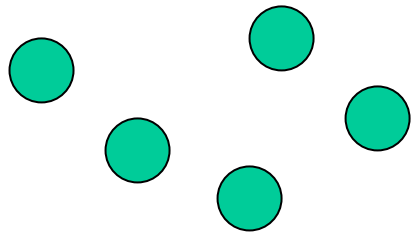
Structure of Expert Panel

- Leader assigned by HHS
- Broad representation of experts
- Advised by stakeholders as needed

Tasks of Expert Panel

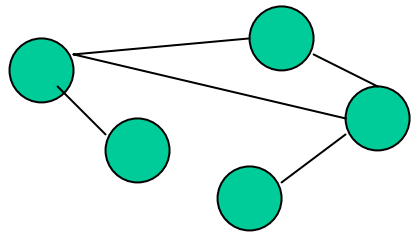
- Create clear and consistent definitions of components of the NHII as basis for metrics, e.g., LHII, EHR, CPOE

Conceptual Model of NHII



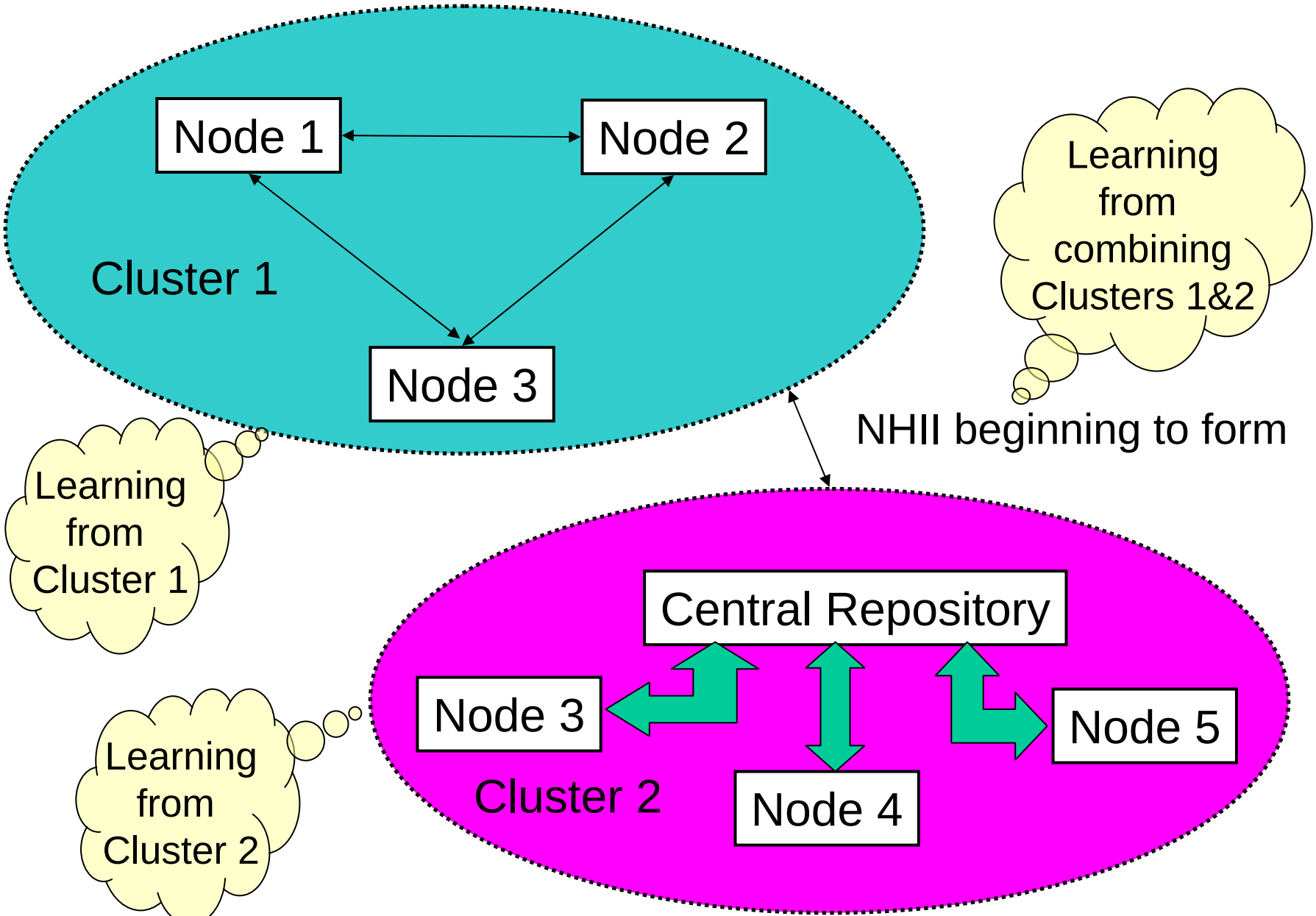
- Composed of nodes (elements, atoms)
- A NODE is:
  - A physical healthcare environment with the requisite health information technology to collect, store, display, and transmit patient-identifiable, structured clinical data in an electronic format
    - sole practitioner connected to the Internet
    - large, academic medical center's inpatient facility

Conceptual Model II



- Connected nodes form a CLUSTER
- A cluster is:
  - A collection of providers of healthcare who share patient-level information electronically
  - 2 or more nodes that have an existing written data-sharing agreement that allows any node to send (or receive) patient-identifiable information to (or from) any other node in the cluster directly or through an intermediary

A Conceptual Model of the NHII



Tasks for Expert Panel

- Define a set of metrics and develop a methodology to test their reliability and validity.
- Define additional test metrics to be released, but not required.

NHII Inventory

- Using expert panel definitions conduct a multi-level inventory of NHII components including functionality and interoperability.
- Include the population covered.

NHII Directory

- Create a website documenting existing LHIIs
- Share best practices of LHIIs

Barriers and Facilitators

- Determine the effects of existing policies on the rates of adoption of NHII.
  - Financial incentives to PCPs for using EHR
  - Reduced malpractice rates for physicians using CPOE