

# Health Data Platform Initiative

*Advancing excellence in health research  
through better access to data*

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# Presentation Objectives

- **Increase awareness of the Health Data Platform Initiative (40 min)**
  - Why it is important to the health system and to British Columbians
  - How it will advance health research through better access to data
  - Describe the various component projects
- **Questions and discussion (20 min)**

# Strategic Context – BC Health System

- **Provincial health budget** (~ \$20B) represents about 45% of the total provincial government budget

## Cost drivers

- Growing population
- Aging population
- Advancements in technology, testing and treatments
- Rising incidence of chronic disease
- Rising drug prices
- Public health emergencies

## Addressing Health System Challenges

- Primary and Community Care
- Surgical Services
- Mental Health and Substance Use
- Seniors

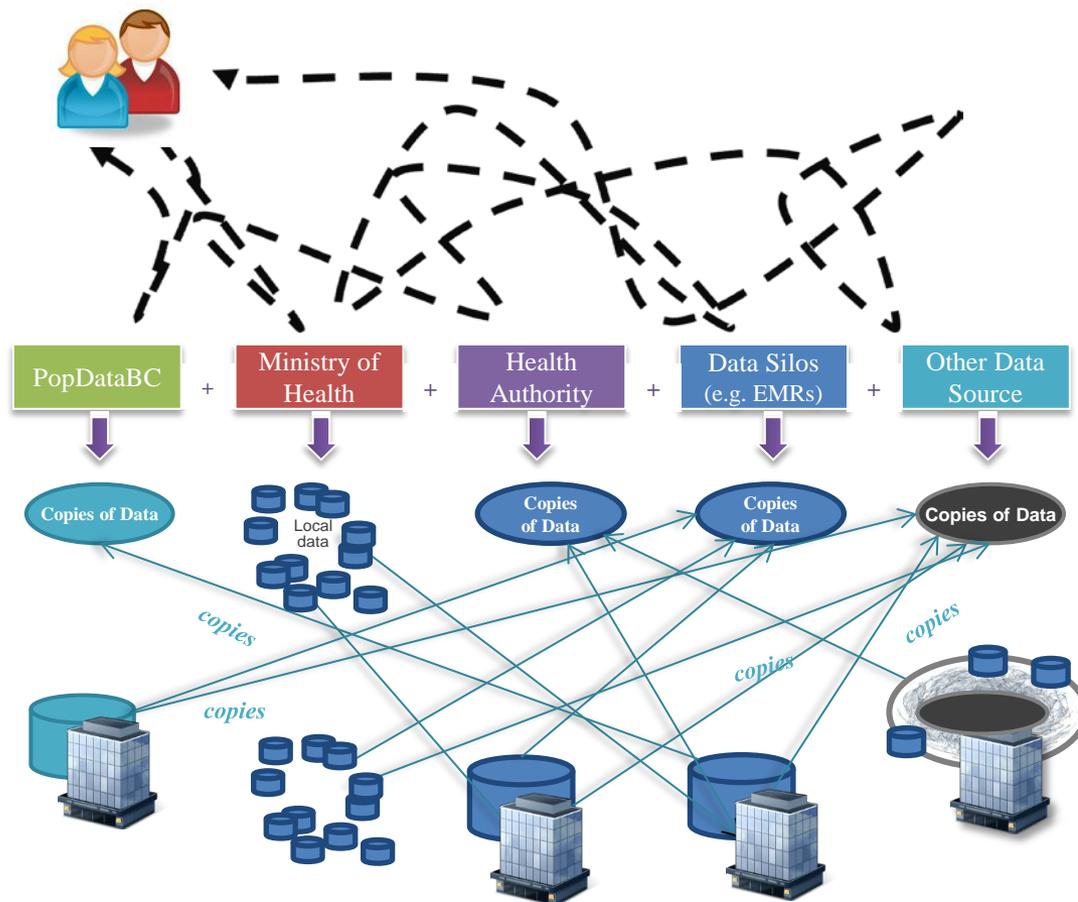
# Strategic Context – Health Research

- **CIHR Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR)**
  - Including patients as full partners in research
  - Coordinate, leverage and augment data for research
- **Putting Our Minds Together: Research and Knowledge Management Strategy**
  - Strengthen the Ministry culture and infrastructure for research and knowledge management
  - Appropriate and timely access to data

# SPOR and Health Data Platform Initiative

- **The Health Data Platform Initiative (HDP)** is a Ministry of Health led initiative with provincial funding and matched federal funding from CIHR's Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR)
- **SPOR and the SPOR BC SUPPORT Unit** has enabled new partnerships for accelerating secure data sharing between sector organizations and developing products and services for greater secondary data use and accessibility
- The HDP is a significant commitment under the **BC SUPPORT Unit and Partner's Data Plan** and critical to supporting patient-oriented research and health system transformation

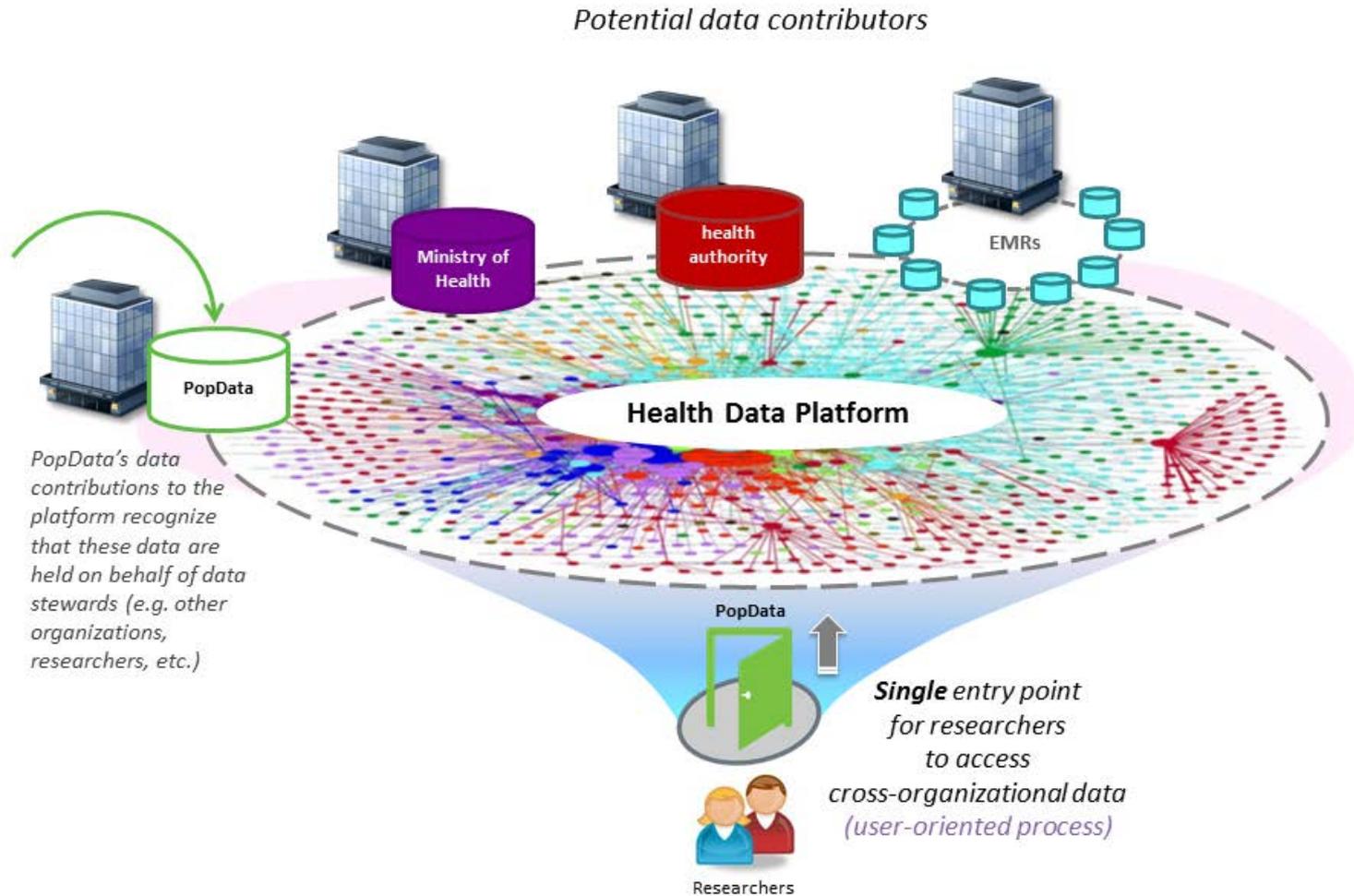
# Current State



## Challenges

- Silos of effort
- Multiple versions and copies of the same data
- Multiple entry points to access data
- Inefficient request process, approvals, access to data sets across multiple stakeholders

# Future State



# Health Data Platform – Vision

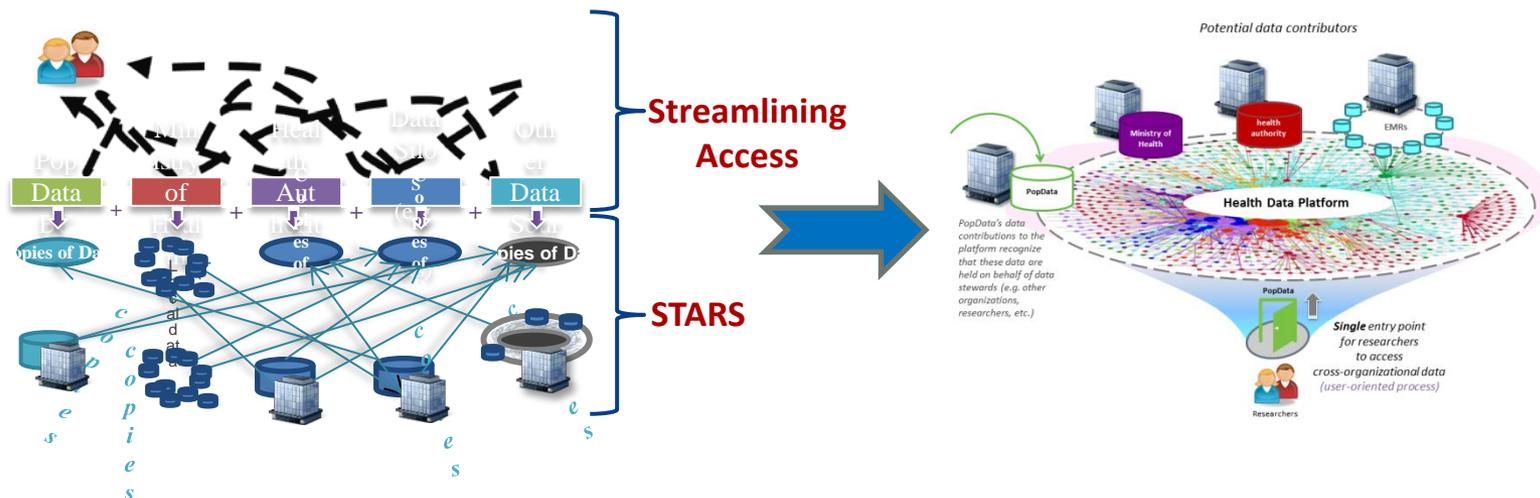
- **Secure federated data environment**
  - Data assembled when needed from multiple health organizations via a single point of access
  - No single physical holding of the data sources
  - Accessed by authorized users
  - Able to support multiple data structures
  - Designed following security and privacy best practices
- **Cross organization sector wide resource**
  - Consistent processes and experience
  - Citizen centric – data from multiple sources
- **New and complementary services working in tandem with existing ones**

# Health Data Platform – Key Themes



# Enhanced Data and Services for Researchers

- **Streamlining Data Access**
  - More efficient process for Data Access Requests
- **Secure Technology for Analytics and Research Services (STARS)**
  - Secure technical environment for assembling and linking data from multiple holdings



# Enhanced Data and Services for Researchers

- **Direct Access**
  - Researcher access to more current Ministry of Health data
- **Patient survey data**
  - Access to patient reported experience measures (PREMS) and patient reported outcome measures (PROMS) data holdings
- **BC Data Scout**
  - Service allow researchers to quickly assess the availability of data to determine the feasibility of a study

# Concluding thoughts

- BC is a site of world class research; the tradition of making BC's health **data available to health researchers is evolving** through the SPOR partnership and other initiatives
- The vision of the **Health Data Platform Initiative** is to create a data ecosystem where health data is findable, accessible and in a form ready to support analysis for researchers and decision makers
- That better access to data for secondary use, in tandem with the shift to patient-oriented research, will **advance health research** and the creation of new evidence for BC.
- That this in turn will lead to **more informed decision making at all levels of the health system** and a more sustainable health system that serves the health care needs of all British Columbians



# QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

# Appendix – Summary of HDP Projects

## Projects

## Description



Preliminary work to enable third party access: Secure Analysis Environment (SAE); policies and procedures; audit, logging and monitoring



Migration of patient reported experience measures (PREMS) and patient reported outcome measures (PROMS) survey data into the Ministry data warehouse, Healthideas. Provincial resource of self-reported satisfaction of patients about the quality of their care experience and about their health related quality of life



Partnership with PopData to enable PopData to query Healthideas directly to enable more up-to-date data to be provided to researchers with approved requests



Aggregate query tool to provide researchers with cohort information in the form of fully de-identified, highly aggregated, approximate results, to determine the feasibility of a study using Ministry of Health data. Service offered through PopData

Streamlining  
Data Access

Implementation of a new model for data access requests for researchers, starting with the health authorities and the Ministry; to enable a more timely, efficient and consistent process, especially for researchers requesting information from multiple organizations



Development of the secure technical environment where data held by multiple organizations can be assembled where authorized via a single point of access, and linked for research and analysis purposes by researchers and decision makers