



InfoAids: Who, What, and Where?



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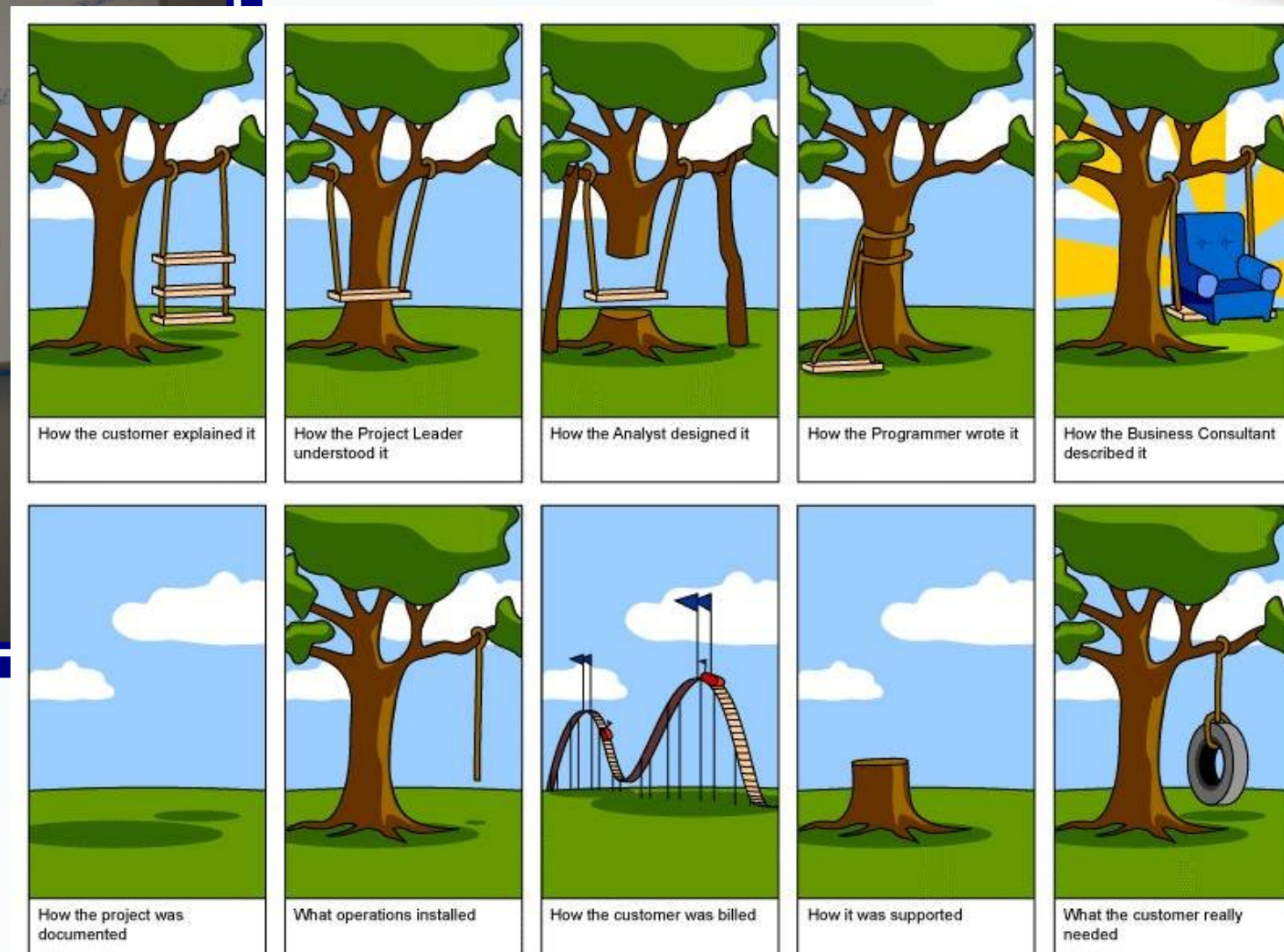
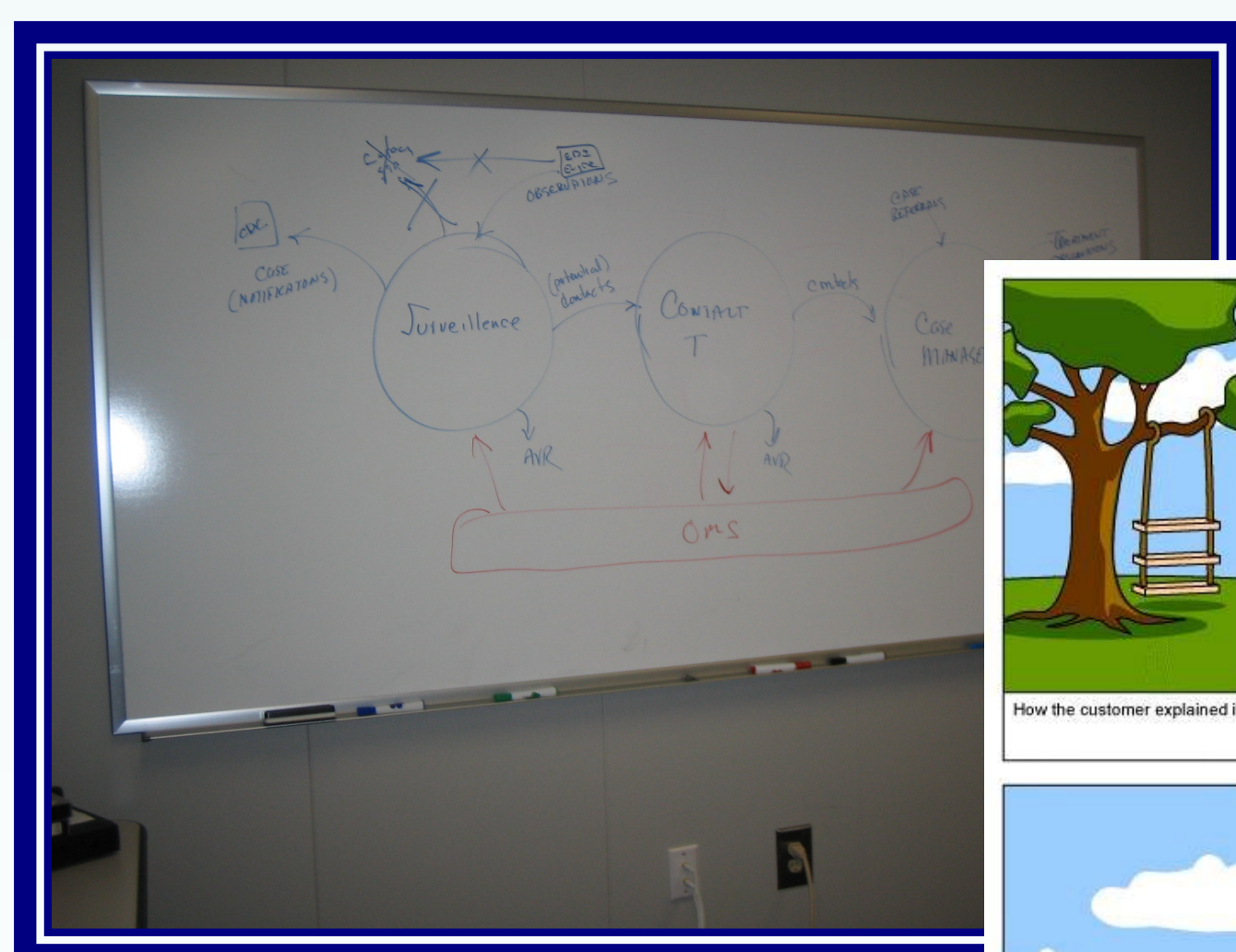
Introduction

The Informatics Aid (or InfoAid) is a mechanism that allows Fellows from the Public Health Informatics Fellowship Program (PHIFP) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide informatics assistance to CDC centers, US state and local health departments, and international public health agencies. In this poster, the authors provide a brief overview of InfoAids, including examples of projects that have been conducted since the first reported InfoAid in 1999.

Types of InfoAid Projects

Informatics Project Management

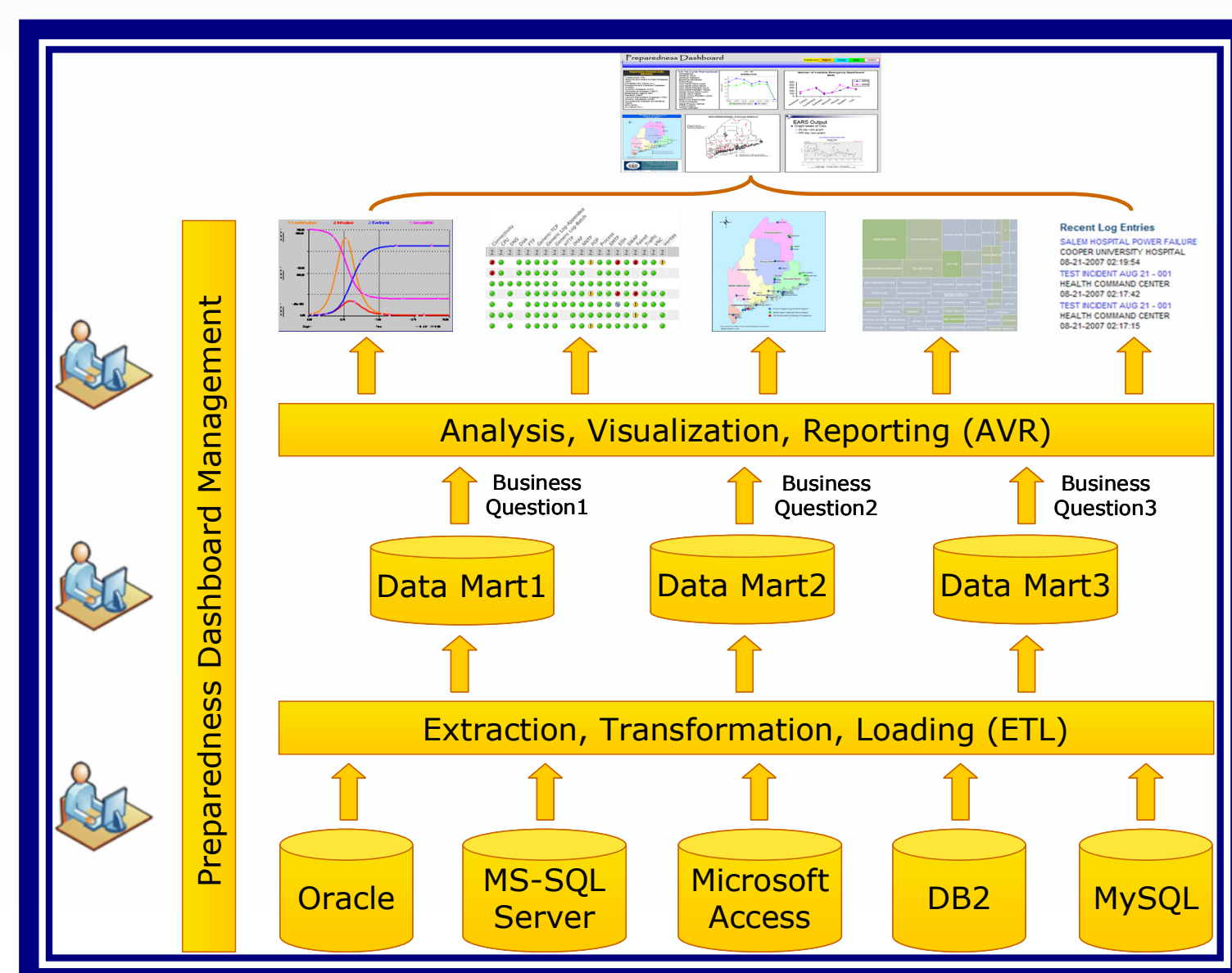
Systems Analysis



Informatics Training



Database Development



InfoAids: Creating a Vital Interface

In the last few years, CDC's PHIFP has experienced a sharp increase in the number of InfoAid requests. From 1999 to the present, Fellows assisted in 27 recorded InfoAids, with more than 50% of them falling in 2007 and the first quarter of 2008. This increase might indicate a growing need to integrate data and information from organizational and technical silos existing in public health and health care arenas. The most common type of InfoAid conducted, systems analysis, consists of assessing existing information systems and generating recommendations for improvement. The broad range of InfoAids conducted suggests the presence of complex, multi-tiered environments with which public health informaticians should be familiar. These InfoAids also demonstrate that public health informaticians serve as interfaces between knowledge domains, as well as between information technology and public health.

Informatics in Action: Example InfoAids

- 1999:** Conducted syndromic surveillance at an international conference held in a major US city.
- 2001:** Geographic Information Systems data analysis and support to a state department of health during Anthrax response.
- 2005:** Implemented and supported a surveillance system to monitor syndromes in shelters during a major hurricane response.
- 2006:** Developed a unified data model and data dictionary for international HIV/AIDS surveillance system.
- 2008:** Evaluated and provided recommendations to enable linkage between four critical health information systems utilized by a state department of health.

For more information

E-mail phifp@cdc.gov with Sub: INFOAID REQUEST

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