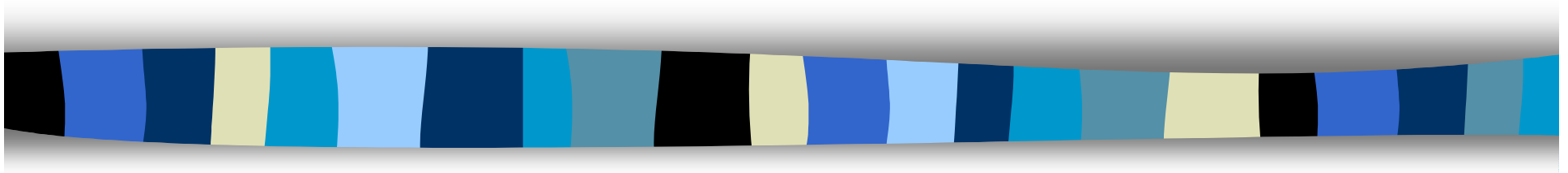# Health Data for Local Action

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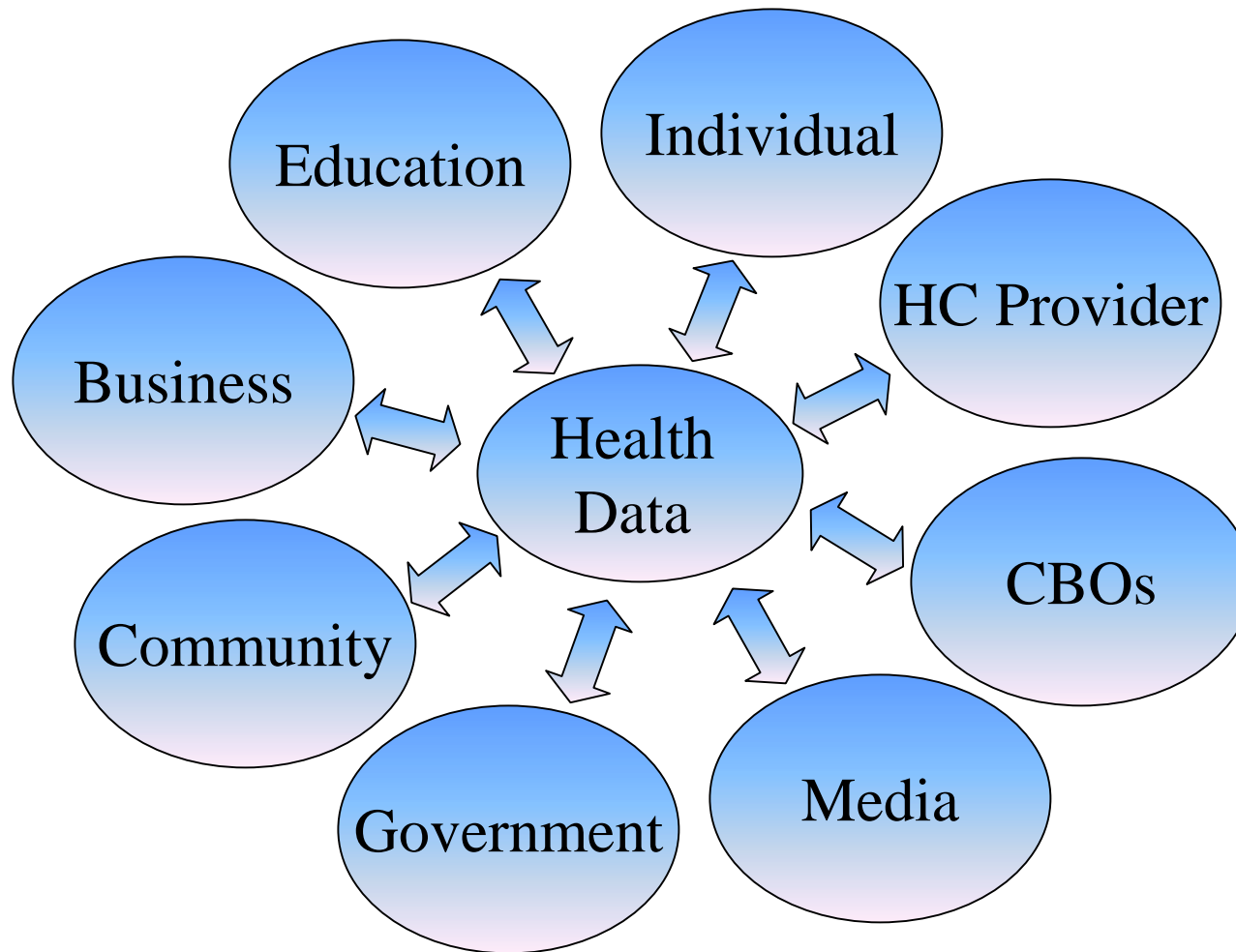
November 20, 2000

Shaping a Vision for 21st Century Health Statistics

- Supports coherent framework
- Include data from multiple levels
- Incorporate financial data
- Use web based systems
- Integrate existing tools
- Provide guidance for analysis and interpretation
- Gain broad collaboration and support
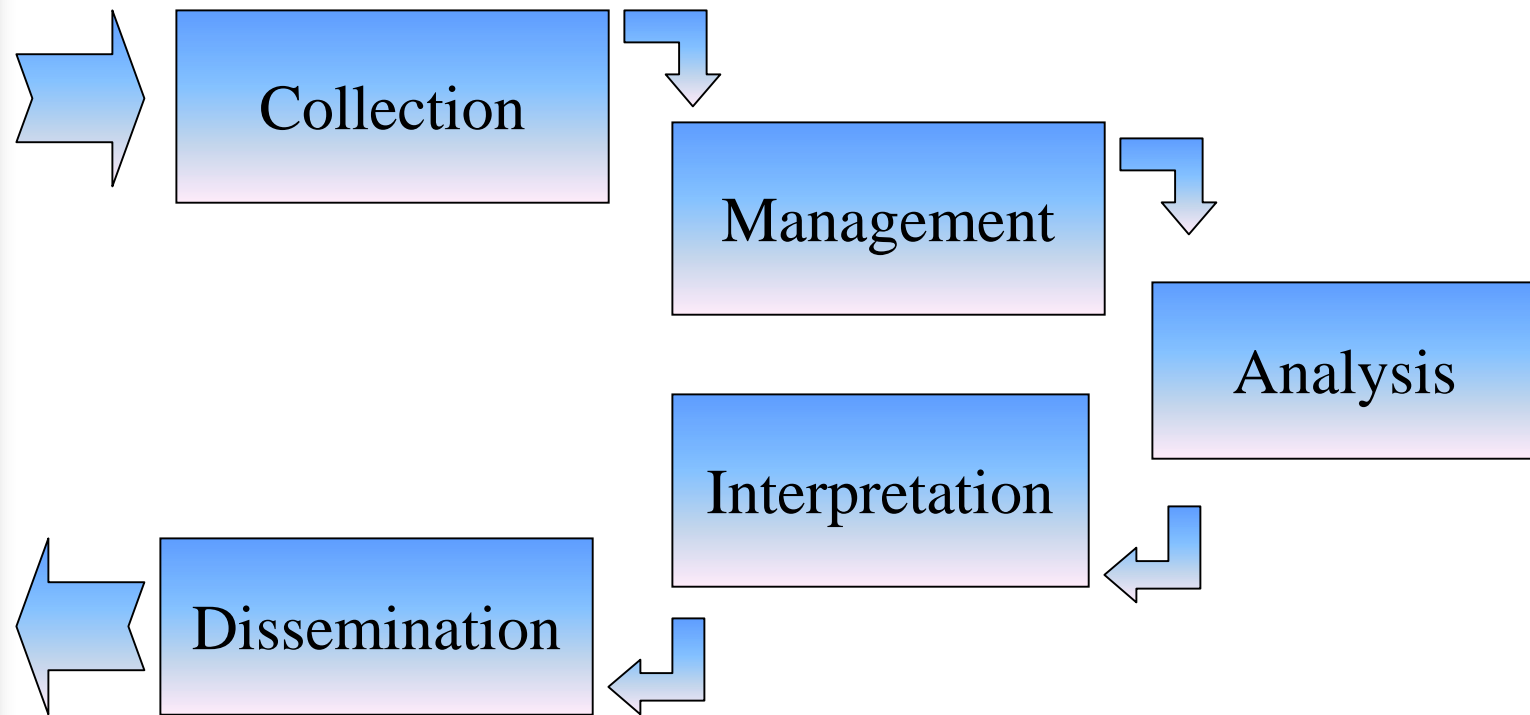
Health Data Providers and Users

Infrastructure Report

- Systems need to be able to "talk"
- Technology isn't the only barrier
- Measuring health and building an evidence base
- Use existing tools to support community health dimension
- Provide model reports, graphs and charts

Data Process at the Local Level

Collection → Management → Analysis → Interpretation → Dissemination

Collecting Local Data

- Common framework needed to guide local providers, individuals, communities and organizations

- Need convenient and consistent procedures for data collection

- Draw data from multiple locations and sources

- Protect privacy and confidentiality

Managing Local Data

- Local health workforce needs training and education in data management
- Providers need software systems that can interface with one another and the web
- Reduce duplicative data requirements by different federal and state health care programs

Analyzing Local Data

- Locals need flexibility in defining boundaries

- Increase options using small area analysis

- Develop other appropriate analytical tools

- Increase training and continuing education for staff

Interpreting Local Data

- Local data needs to be balanced with local knowledge
- Provide comparative data for like and neighboring communities, state, nation
- Sample reports, interpretation guidelines for health data and information
- Provide mechanisms for generating cost/benefit analyses

Disseminating Local Data

- With medical care providers
- With health and human services providers
- With policy and law makers
- With the public
- With the media
- With specific groups

Summary

- Vision for 21st century must be both bottom up and top down

- Infrastructure for health data needs to enhance evidence base for local users

- Multiple data issues at the local level

- New efforts need to reduce duplication and compliment existing approaches

- If it isn't working locally, it isn't working.