EHR Integration – successes, challenges, and EHR industry participation

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Family Health History Tool Meeting
NHGRI, Bethesda, MD

Disclosures

- About me:
  - Primary care internist
  - Clinical geneticist
  - Epic physician champion/super user
- Financial conflicts: none
- Other conflicts (=qualifications):
  - Prior Progeny license
  - Unpaid/informal consultation with Progeny
  - Extensive unpaid work with Epic on FHx/Genomics

Ideal FHx Tool

- **Minimum effort, maximum utility**
- In-line with usual workflow
  - Native to EHR or seamlessly integrated
  - User-defined display (text vs. graphical)
- Limited provider action required
  - Data entry by patient/family
  - Corroborated/accepted by provider
- Robust clinical decision support (CDS)
  - Advice at point of care when appropriate
  - Requires discrete data readily available to EHR

You can't always get what you want
But if you try sometimes…
You get what you need

Richards K & Jagger M,
You can't always get what you want, Let It Bleed,
1969

3rd Party Software

Pros (among others):

↑Data entry by patient/family

↑Corroborated/accepted by provider
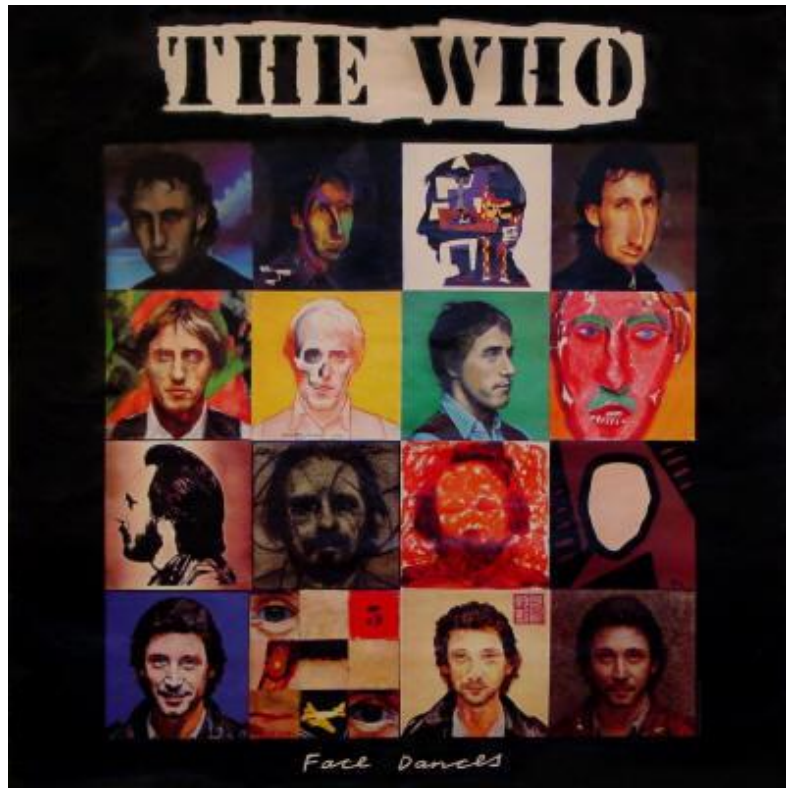
↑Graphical display

Cons (among others):

↓Purchase costs

↓Interface costs

↓**Interface maintenance (both systems)**

You can't always get what you want
~~But if you try sometimes…~~
~~You get what you need~~

Richards K & Jagger M,
You can't always get what you want, Let It Bleed, 1969

You can't always get it
When you really want it
(You can't always get it at all)

Townshend P,
Another Tricky Day,
Face Dances, 1981

EHR Software

Pros:

↑ Native to EHR

↑ (Limited) Data entry by patient/family

↑ Corroborated/accepted by provider

↑ (Limited) Discrete data

↑ Built-in CDS

Cons:

↓ No graphical display

↓ Insufficient discrete data

EHR Software

- Polite persistence, with help from CMIO
- Multiple customers with similar requests
- Collaborative work with vendor to improve functionality
- Rewarding process, collegial collaboration, exciting enhancements in development
- But…

"I don't mean to be rude but this is not as easy as it looks…I'm afraid you'll just have to wait."
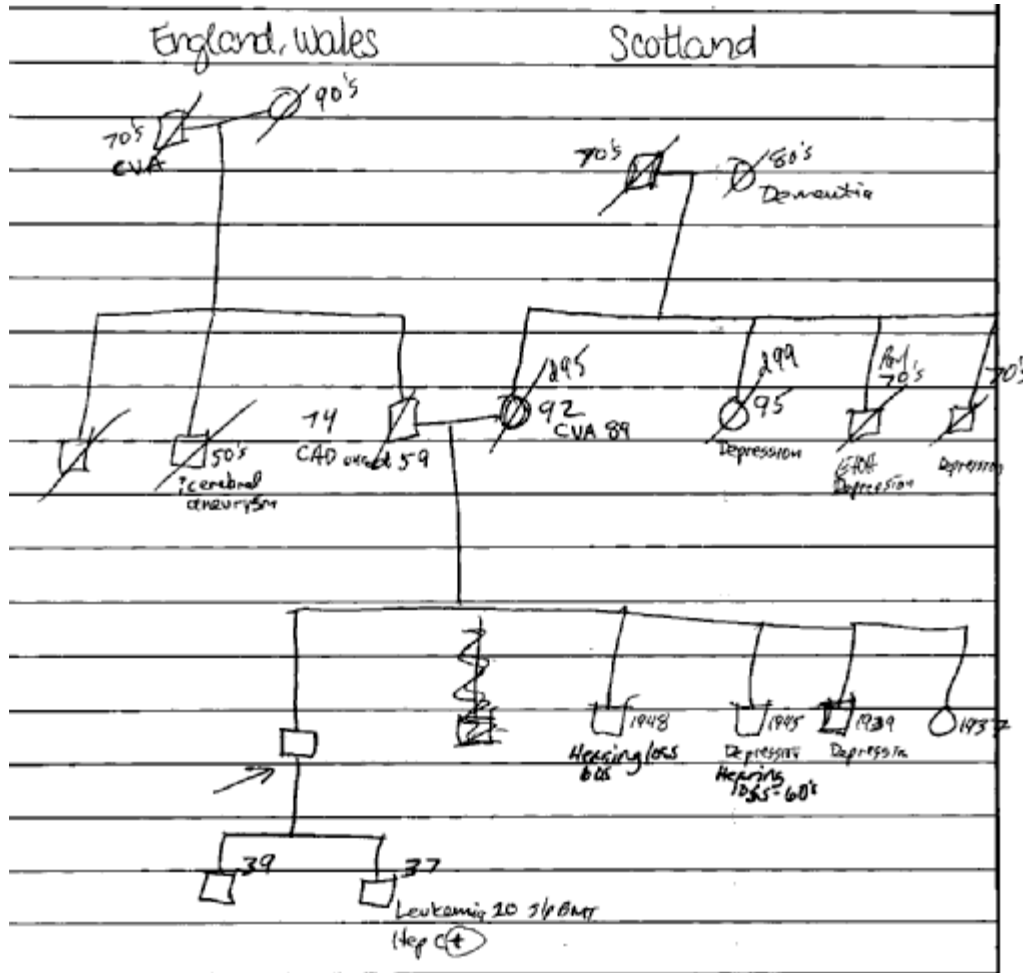-Man in Black, *The Princess Bride*, 1987

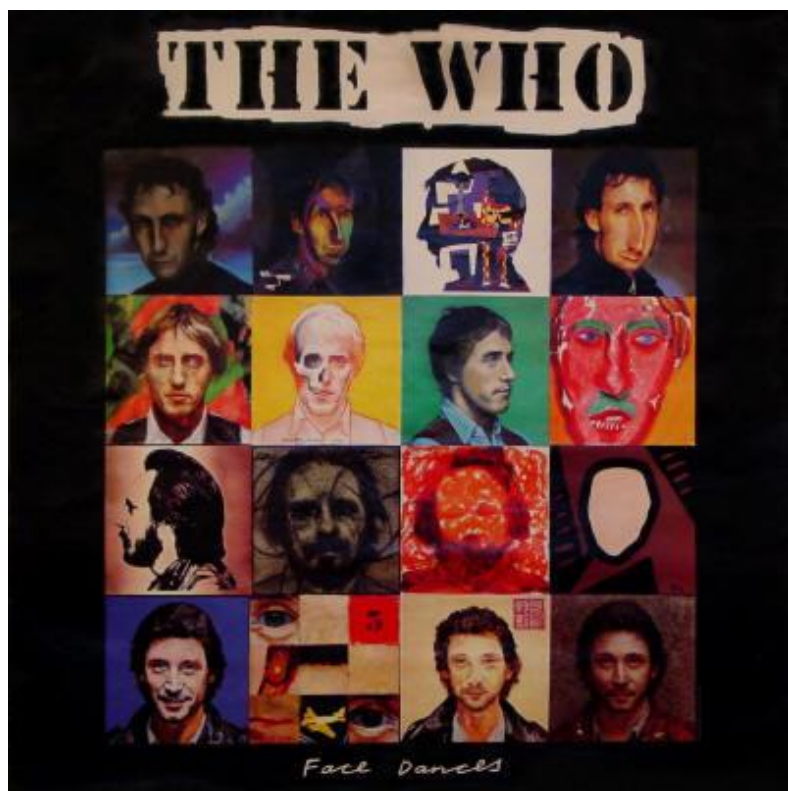"I hate waiting."
-Inigo Montoya, *The Princess Bride*, 1987

What I Do Today

Scanned image

Summary Text:
"**Family History:** see scanned pedigree dated 6/14/2016. Overall, notable for…

This is no social crisis,
Just another tricky day for you

Townshend P,
Another Tricky Day,
Face Dances, 1981