

Title: NCS “Flexible Multi-Mode” Data Collection (Queue Number 33)

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Introduction

The National Children’s Study’s “facilitated decentralization” informatics model and its dynamic protocol place a heavy premium on informatics system flexibility. Traditionally, study data collection has been defined by a single-mode, built to do CAPI, CATI, CASI, web or paper-based questionnaires and rarely switching modes –especially for the same event. In contrast, Westat supports a consortium of NCS study centers crossing all three recruitment strategy protocols in PSU’s with varying geographic and demographic profiles. This poster describes how Westat supports “Flexible Multi-Mode” data collection for NCS.

Methods:

Westat built flexibility into the management of data collection activities to accommodate this variability and allow each center to work at optimum efficiency. Westat has combined historical strength in implementing robust “disconnected mode” field data collection, with new technologies such as Wi-Fi and cellular, allowing site office staff to implement study events with a choice of data collection modes, and even switch from one mode to another if needed.

Results and Conclusions:

Events, for example a Pregnancy Screener, can be scheduled as a home visit using a tablet computer and a CAPI instrument in disconnected mode, or available in a web-based mode for in-person provider office CAPI data collection or switched to a telephone call and CATI instrument available in a call center. Similarly, PSU’s with wireless coverage can check address eligibility and enroll participants directly over a secure web connection, while PSU’s with more limited coverage can perform the same functions on autonomous field computers without fear of data collisions when cases are uploaded.

Flexible Multi-Mode Characteristics:

- Supports all ARS recruitment protocols – Provider Based Recruitment, High Intensity/Low Intensity, Enhanced Household Based Recruitment
- Allows each study center to implement the protocol the way that best suits its operations
- Supports data collection for all NCS Phase 2 Base and Expanded events and instruments
- Provides all data collection modes - home, clinic, provider office, birthing center or call center
- Supports CATI, CAPI, web, and hardcopy data collection
- Ensures field data collection in disconnected or wireless web connect – data collector can choose the mode for each study visit
- Ensures complete and timely VDR submission to the NCS Program Office
- Accepts data from many different sources using standard file formats such as CSV and XML
- Scales to accommodate growth – can support an unlimited number of SCs and their related PSUs

Contact Information:

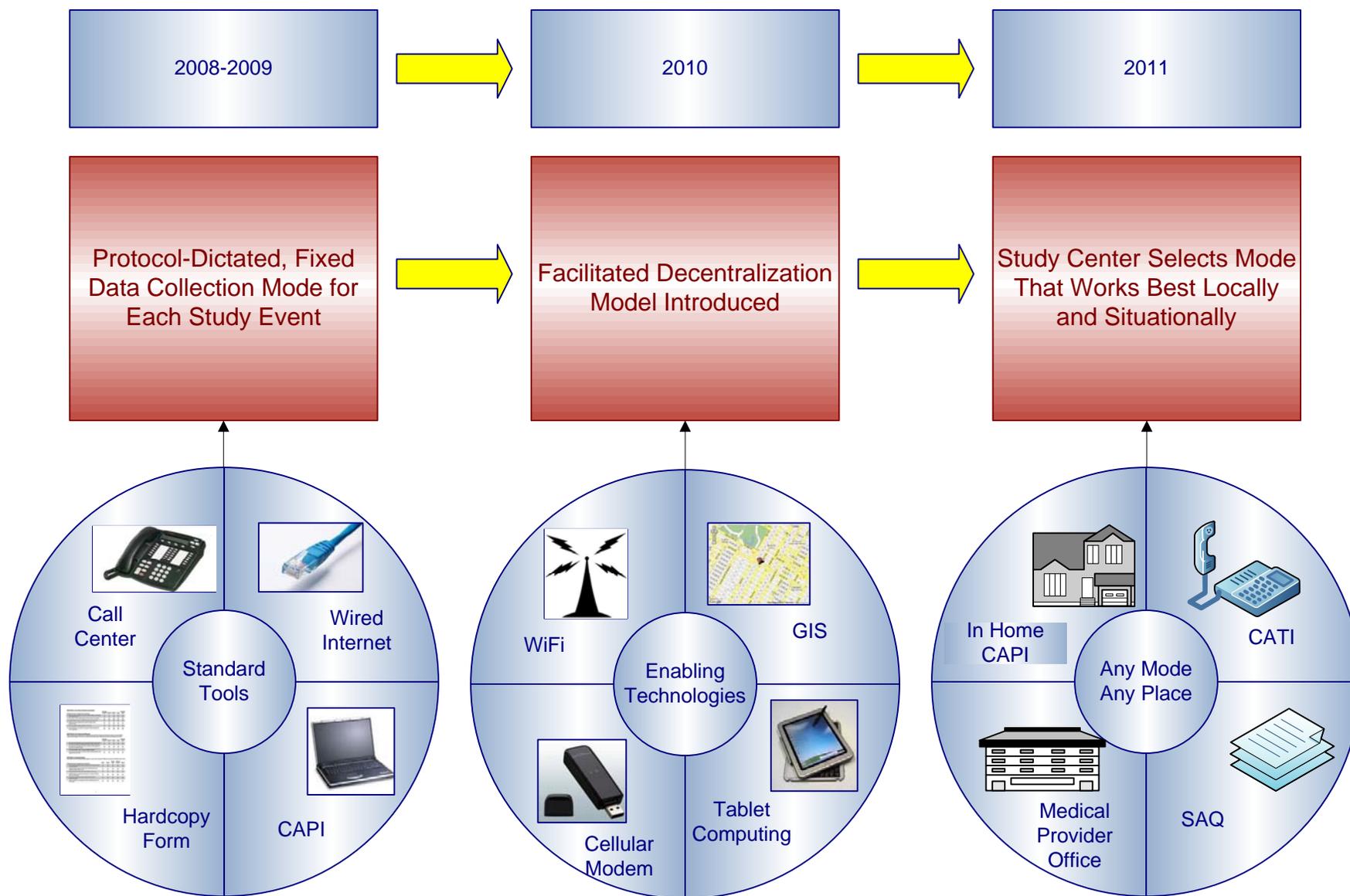
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Westat Research Support Tool Suite:

<http://www.westat.com/researchtools>

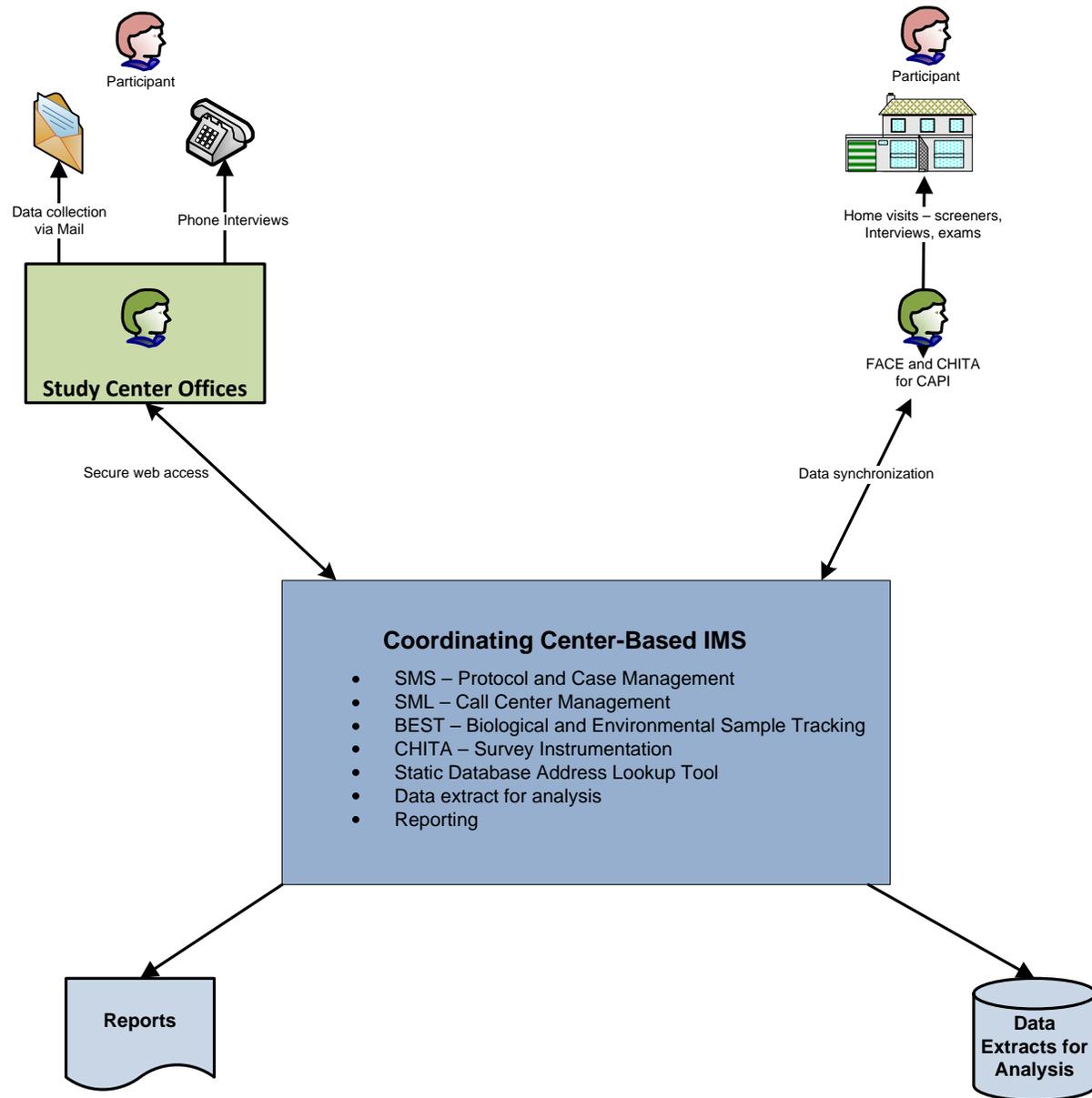
The Evolution of NCS Data Collection



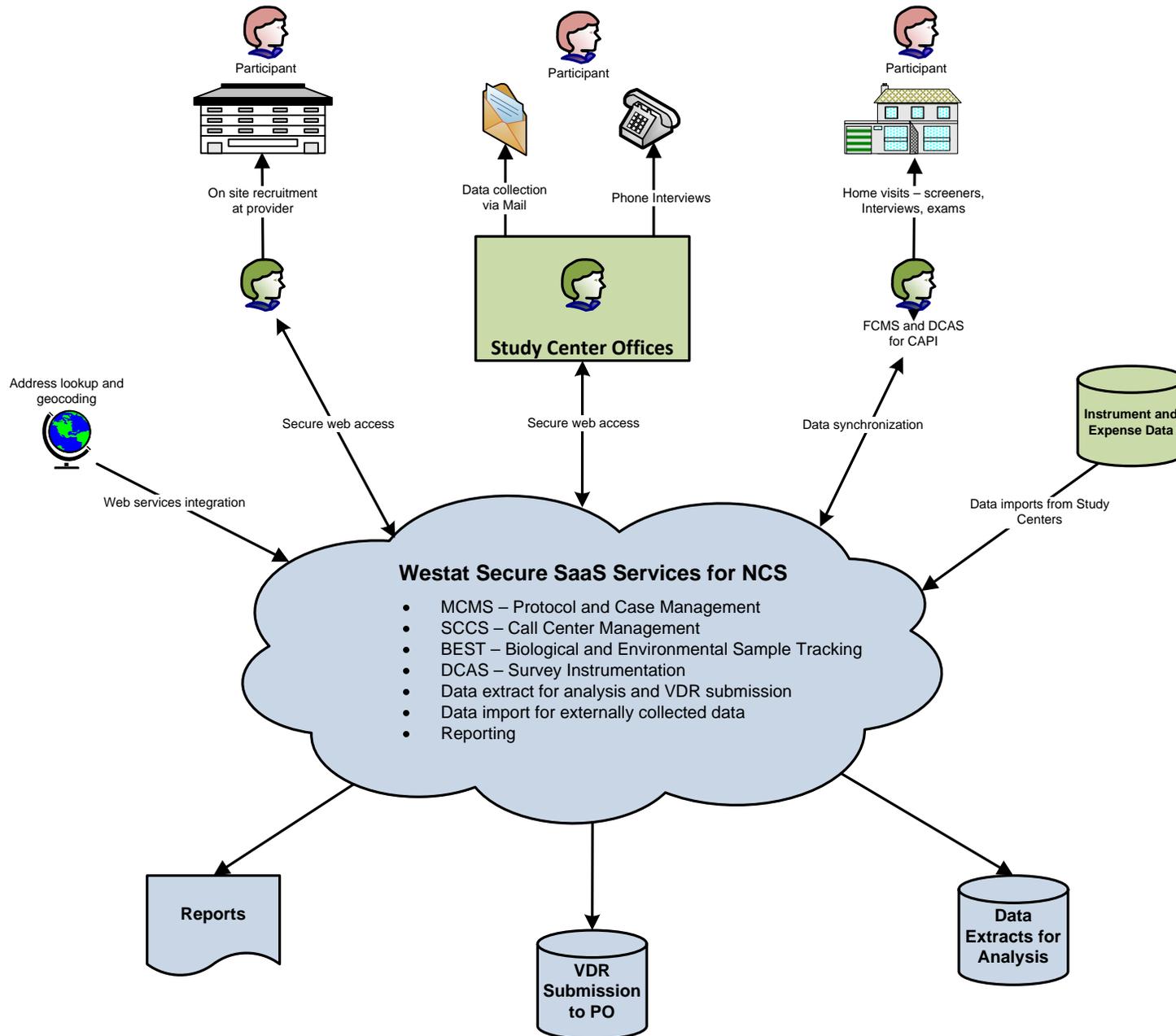
Legacy Data Collection Architecture

Single Protocol and Single-Mode per Study Event

Proprietary Systems



NCS Secure and Flexible Data Collection from Westat Multi-protocol and Multi-mode Technology Enabled with Open Systems



SWISS Consortium
Study Workflow Informatics Software Suite



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