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HEALTH INFORMATICS RESEARCH

Waterloo Smarter Health Seminar Series:

*'why not'*

# Why Not a Cognitive Science Approach to Understanding Clinician-Computer Interaction?

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February 28, 2007

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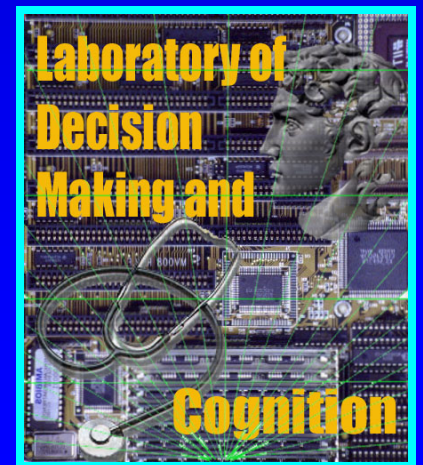
  
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# Why Not a Cognitive Science Approach to Understanding Clinician-Computer Interaction?

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Waterloo Institute for  
Health Informatics Research  
University of Waterloo, Ontario  
February 28, 2007



**Koppel R, Metlay JP,  
Cohen A, Abaluck B,  
Localio AR, Kimmel SE,  
et al.**

**Role of Computerized  
Physician Order Entry  
Systems in Facilitating  
Medication Errors**

**JAMA 2005;293:1197-  
203.**

**JAMA**<sup>®</sup>

March 9, 2005

The Journal of the American Medical Association



## Another Case

*Potassium chloride (KCl) ordered as IV injection and as IV fluid additive using Eclipsys CPOE system:*

- 85-year-old patient, admitted to the medical ICU with septic shock and respiratory failure
- Patient received 316 mEq KCl over 42 hrs in setting of acute and chronic kidney failure
- High dose delivered due to errors and misperceptions by several care providers
- Compounded errors propagated through the system over three days

Horsky J, Kuperman GJ, Patel VL. Comprehensive analysis of a medication dosing error related to CPOE: A case report. *J Am Med Inform Assoc* 2005;12:377-382.

# **Analysis of Failure**

- **Misconceptions about the relation between IV volume (humans) and time duration (system)**
- **Misconception of latest and “dated” laboratory results**
- **Lack of Alerts when potassium value reached a dangerous level**
- **Inadequate clinical user training regarding safe and efficient ordering practices**

## Why are CPOE Systems Desirable?

- Orders are legible
- Transcription is eliminated (or reduced)
- Writer can be identified
- Orders are rapidly routed to destinations
- Orders are rechecked and clinical decision support is provided in real time

# Computerized Provider Order Entry (CPOE)



**NURSING**



**TESTS**



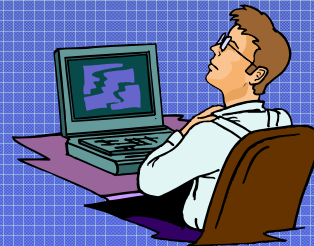
**LABS**



**RADIOLOGY**



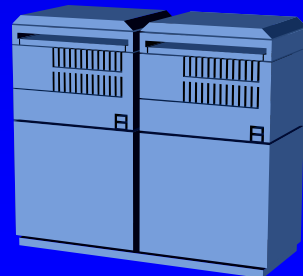
Orders entered using a workstation or a wireless device



**PHARMACY**

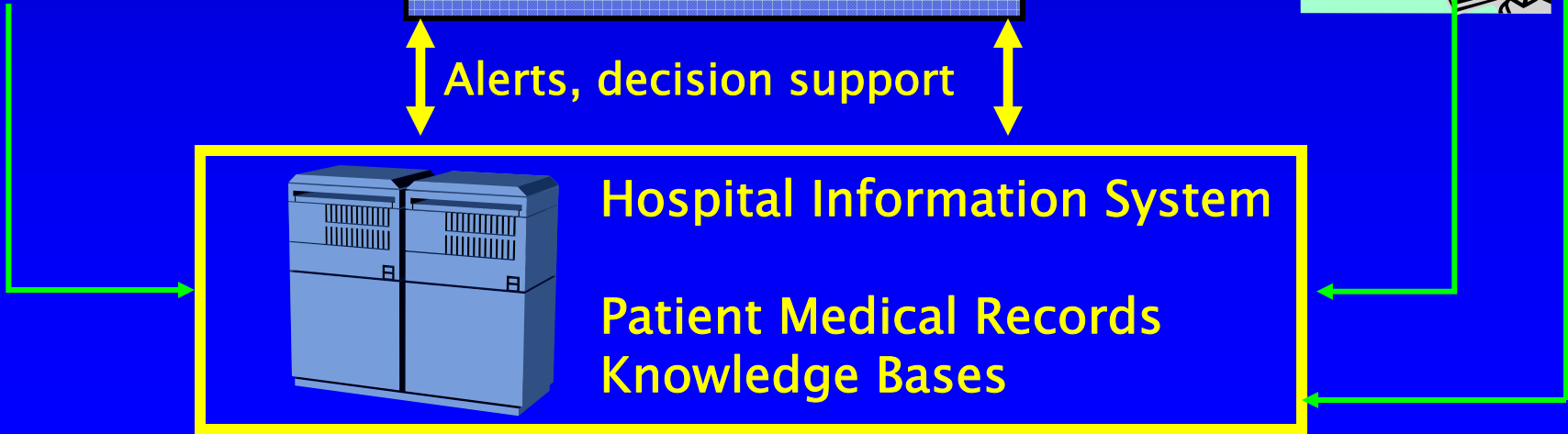


Alerts, decision support



**Hospital Information System**

**Patient Medical Records  
Knowledge Bases**



# Designing for Safety

- Health information technology (HIT) has reduced the risk of serious injury for hospitalized patients.
- Paradoxically, some systems may give rise to hazards of their own
- Errors are the product of cognitive activity in human adaptation to complex physical, social and cultural environments
- How well the design of HIT complements its intended setting and purpose is critically important for safe and effective performance.

Horsky J, Zhang J, Patel VL. To err is not entirely human: Complex systems and user cognition. *J Biomed Inform* 2005;38 264-266.



# Dimensions of Human Computer Interaction (HCI)

## Technological

- Hardware and Software Advances



## Cognitive

- Representation
- Knowledge Organization
- Reasoning and Strategies

# **What is Cognitive Science?**

**Multidisciplinary field  
incorporating theories and  
methods from psychology,  
linguistics, philosophy,  
anthropology, and computer  
science in the investigation of  
cognitive processes in humans  
and machines**

# From Cognitive Science to Medical Cognition

## Cognitive Science Theory

- Memory
- Knowledge Organization
- Problem Solving
- Heuristics/Strategies
- Computational Theory of Mind

## Medical Cognition

### Conceptual Frameworks

- Medical Problem Solving
- Organization of Clinical and Basic-Science Knowledge
- Diagnostic Reasoning Strategies
- Medical Decision Making

# From Medical Cognition to Biomedical Informatics

## Medical Cognition

- Medical Problem Solving
- Organization of Knowledge
- Diagnostic Reasoning Strategies
- Medical Decision Making
- Text Comprehension and Problem Representation
- Development of Medical Expertise
- Medical Discourse

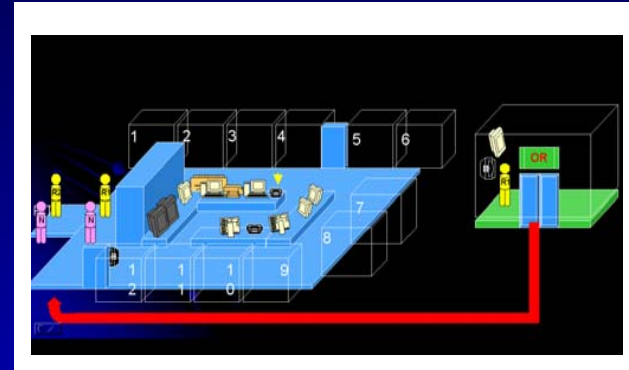
## Biomedical Informatics

- Knowledge and Data Representation
- Management of Medical Information
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Cognitive Models for Enhancing Decision Support
- Cognitive Assessment of Usability and Interfaces
- Targeted Training

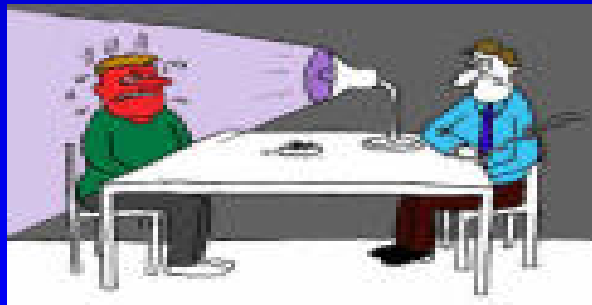
# Specific Methods



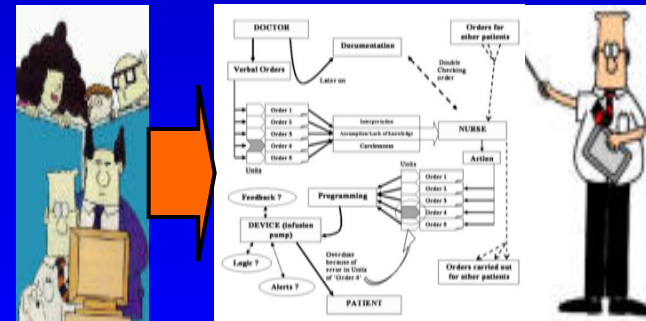
Shadowing of medical team personnel during 'Crucial Periods' pertinent to the individual



Mapping the activities to the ICU/ER layout and time-stamping each interaction or event

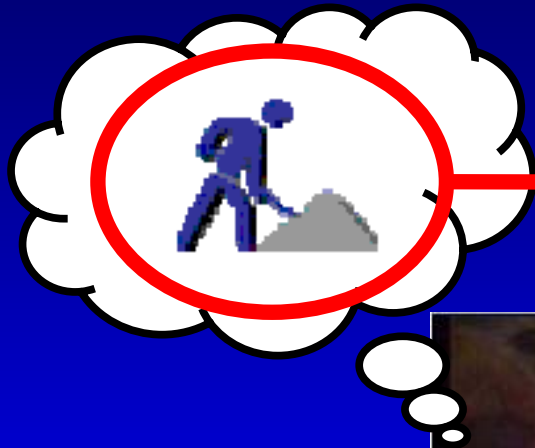


Conducting brief interviews to gain insight on infrastructure, roles, shifts, timings

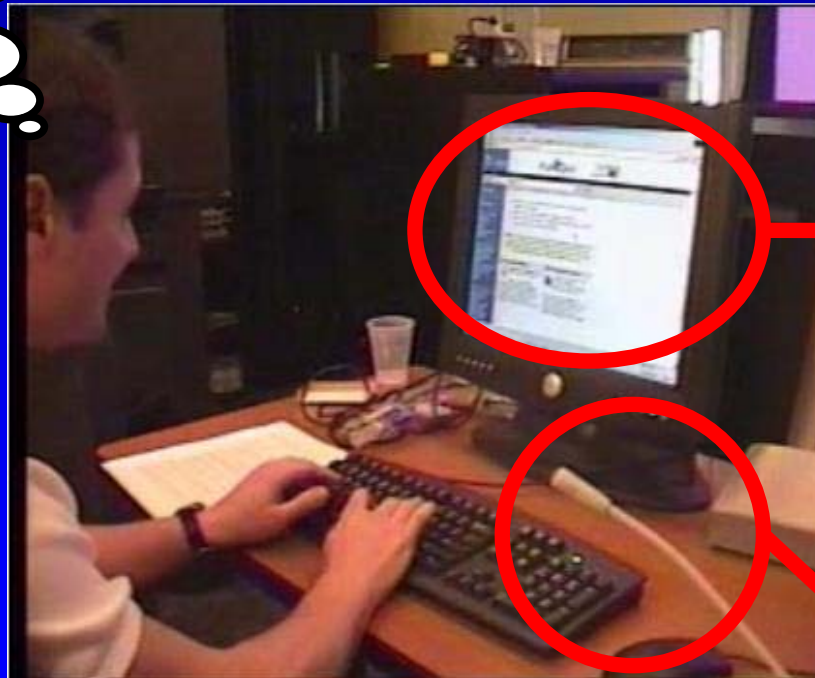


Obtaining log files of the clinical information systems and attempting correlation with observational data.

# Think-Aloud Protocol Reveals Underlying Thought Process



**THOUGHT PROCESS**



**TASK**

**MICROPHONE**

# Clinical Applications and Cognition

- ➔ • Effects of technology on human behavior
- Clinical workflow for triage decision making and technological support

# Effect of an EMR System on Human Cognition

- Transition from paper records to EMR and back to paper record
- Impact on knowledge organization, reasoning
- Information and other technologies are not merely tools to expedite, facilitate and enable the execution of task

Patel V, Kushniruk A, Yang S, Yale J-F, Impact of a computer-based patient record system on data collection, knowledge organization and reasoning. *JAMIA*,7(6)569-85,2001



# Information in EMR and Hand-Written Records

Category of Information	Hand-Written Patient Record	Computer-Based Patient Record	
 1. Chief Complaint	10	28	
2. Past Medical History	13	13	
3. Life Style	33	19	
4. Psychological Profile	10	11	
 5. Family History	7	14	
6. History of Present Illness	55	27	
7. Review of Systems	52	8	
8. Physical Examination	60	55	
9. Diagnosis	14	9	
10. Investigation	29	17	
11. Treatment	21	24	
<b>TOTAL ENTRIES</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>225</b>	

# First section from paper-based record (Pre-EMR)

74 year old woman, whose diagnosis was made in February, as she complained of polyuria/nocturia and fatigue for a few years. She was told her sugar was very high and she was sent to Dr. K., who started her on Diabeta 5 mg/d and sent her to Dr. S. in ophthalmology who reported normal retina. She lost weight, her polyuria improved, her bladder urgency got better, and her glucose values improved dramatically. She does no monitoring at home. She had to be hospitalized for an ankle fracture after falling on ice, for 3 months. At follow-up, Dr. K. seemed pleased with the results.

# **First Section from Electronic Medical Record (EMR)**

**CHIEF COMPLAINT:** Type II diabetes mellitus

## **PERSONAL HISTORY**

**SURGICAL:** cholecystectomy: Age 60 years old

**MEDICAL:** hypothyroidism: asymptomatic since 25 years

## **LIFE STYLE**

### **MEDICATION**

**DIABETA (Tab 2.5 MG)**

**Sig: 1 tab(s) Oral before breakfast**

**SYNTHROID (Tab 0.125 MG)**

**Sig: 1 tab(s) Oral before breakfast**

**HABITS: smoking: 0 alcohol: 0**

# First Section from Paper-Based Record (Post-EMR)

Diabetes type I X age 4

Currently on N54 - N28

	R6 - R2	Measure with OT II	
Glucose levels:	<130	130-180	>180
AM			
Lunch			
Supper			
Bedtime			

Last HbA<sub>1c</sub> since April 96: 7.4/7.2/6.7/6.6/8.9 - higher values in log book

Retinopathy: NIL March 97

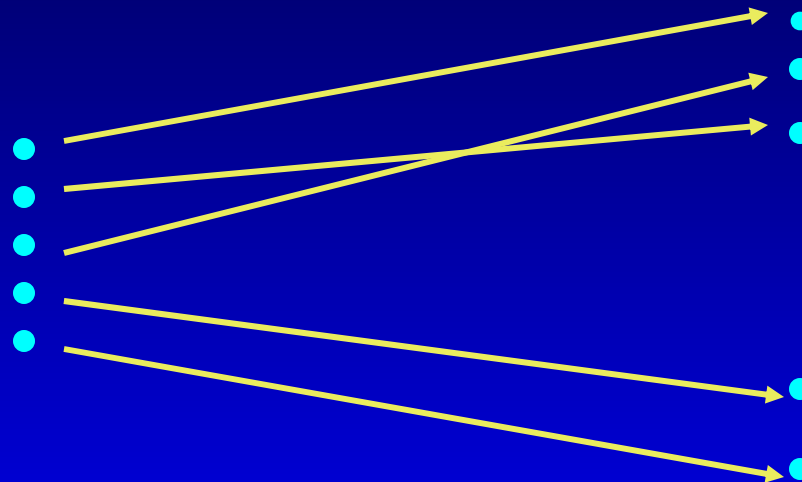
Nephropathy: NIL Oct. 96

# Diagnostic Reasoning

## Paper Record

Patient Data

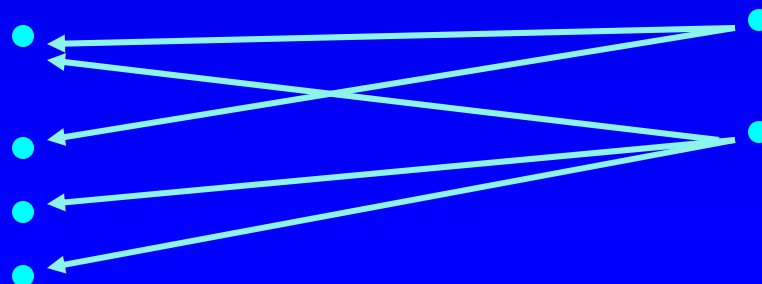
Multiple Hypotheses



**Return to Paper Record**

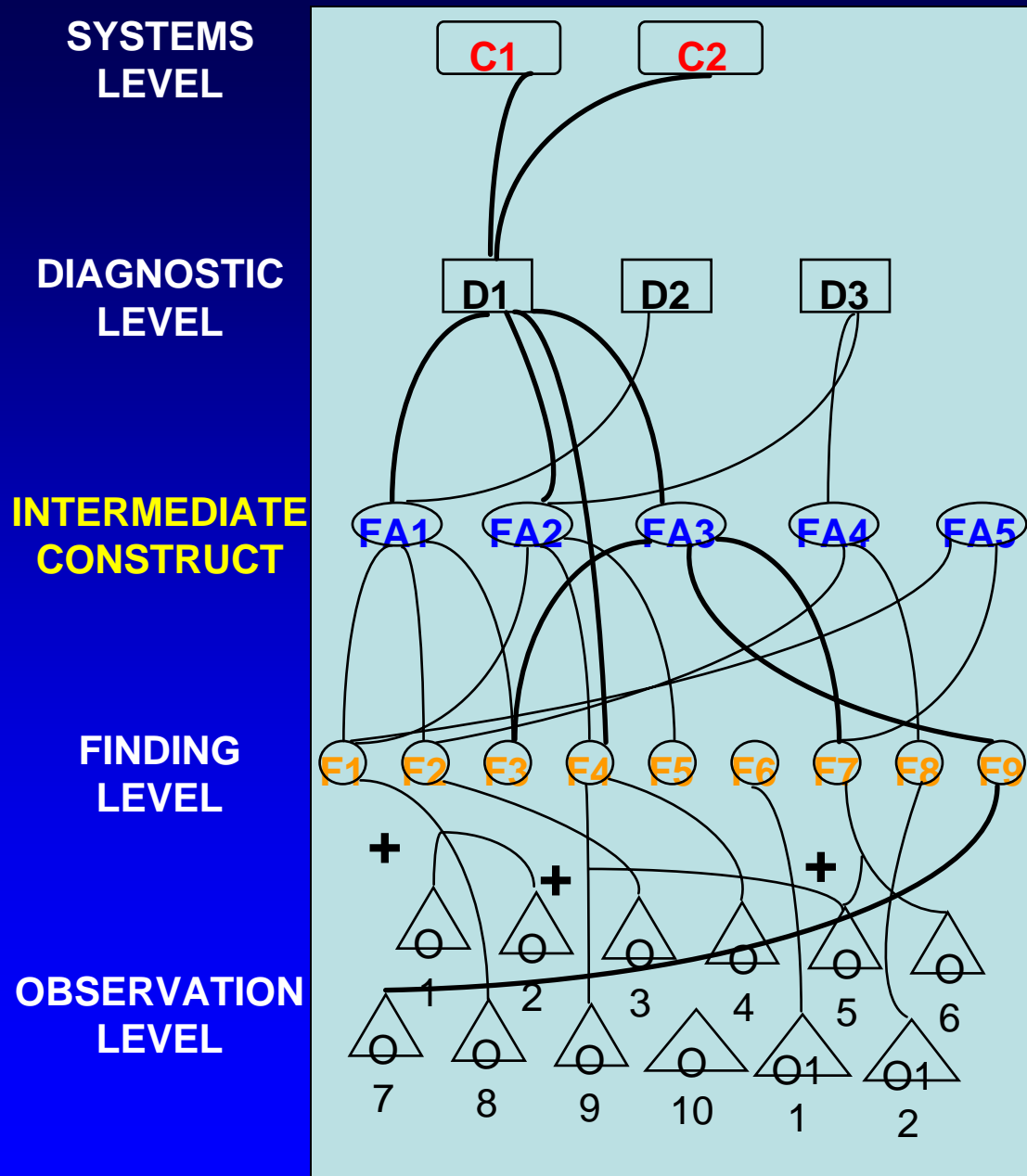
Patient Data

Hypotheses



**Same as EMR!**

# Structure of Medical Knowledge in Problem Solving



# **Influence of Technology on Human Cognition**

- **Information and other technologies are not merely tools to expedite, facilitate and enable the execution of tasks**
  - **They have profound and enduring consequences**
- **Optimal design requires sensitivity to internal organization of concepts by human beings**
  - **Utility and acceptance depend on designer's recognition that the system is a mediator of cognition (re-organizes cognition)**

# Clinical Applications and Cognition

- Effects of technology on human behavior
- ➔ • Clinical workflow for triage decision making and technological support



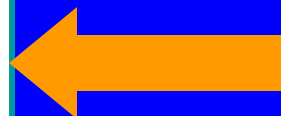
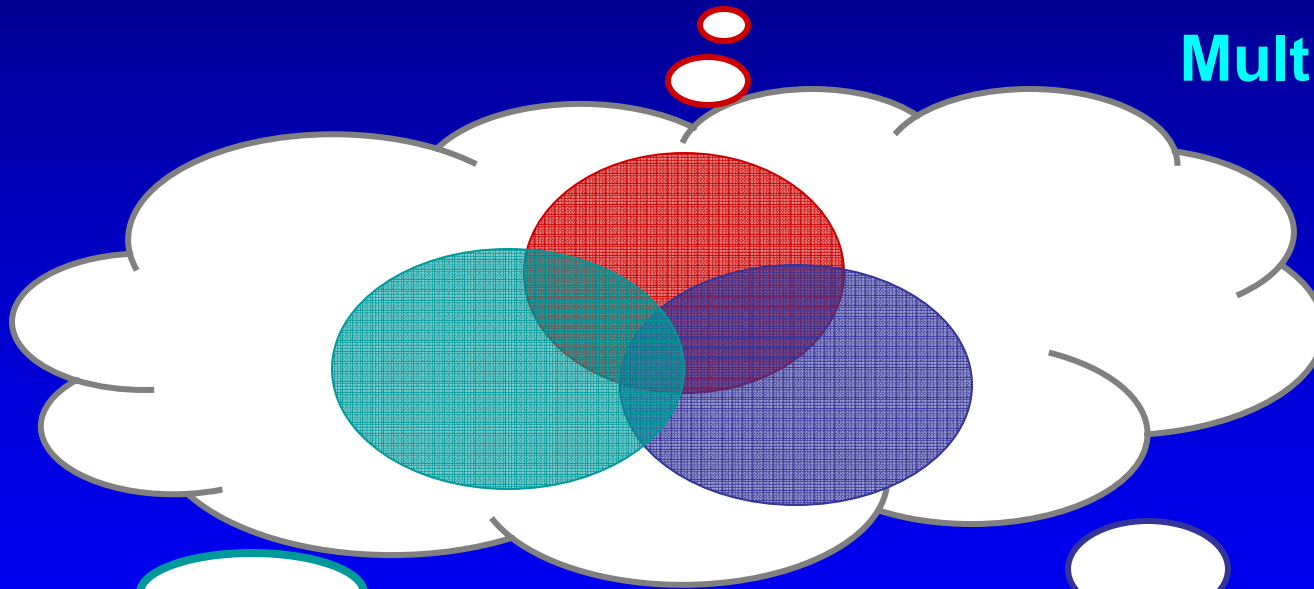
# Collaborative Cognition

DATA



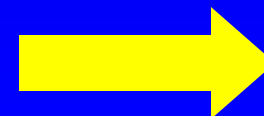
1. Team members
2. Representation
3. Data sources

Multiple



DATA

DATA



# Intellectual Partnership

- Distributed
  - Human-computer interaction analysis

- Knowledge resides partly in the environment



# Intellectual Partnership

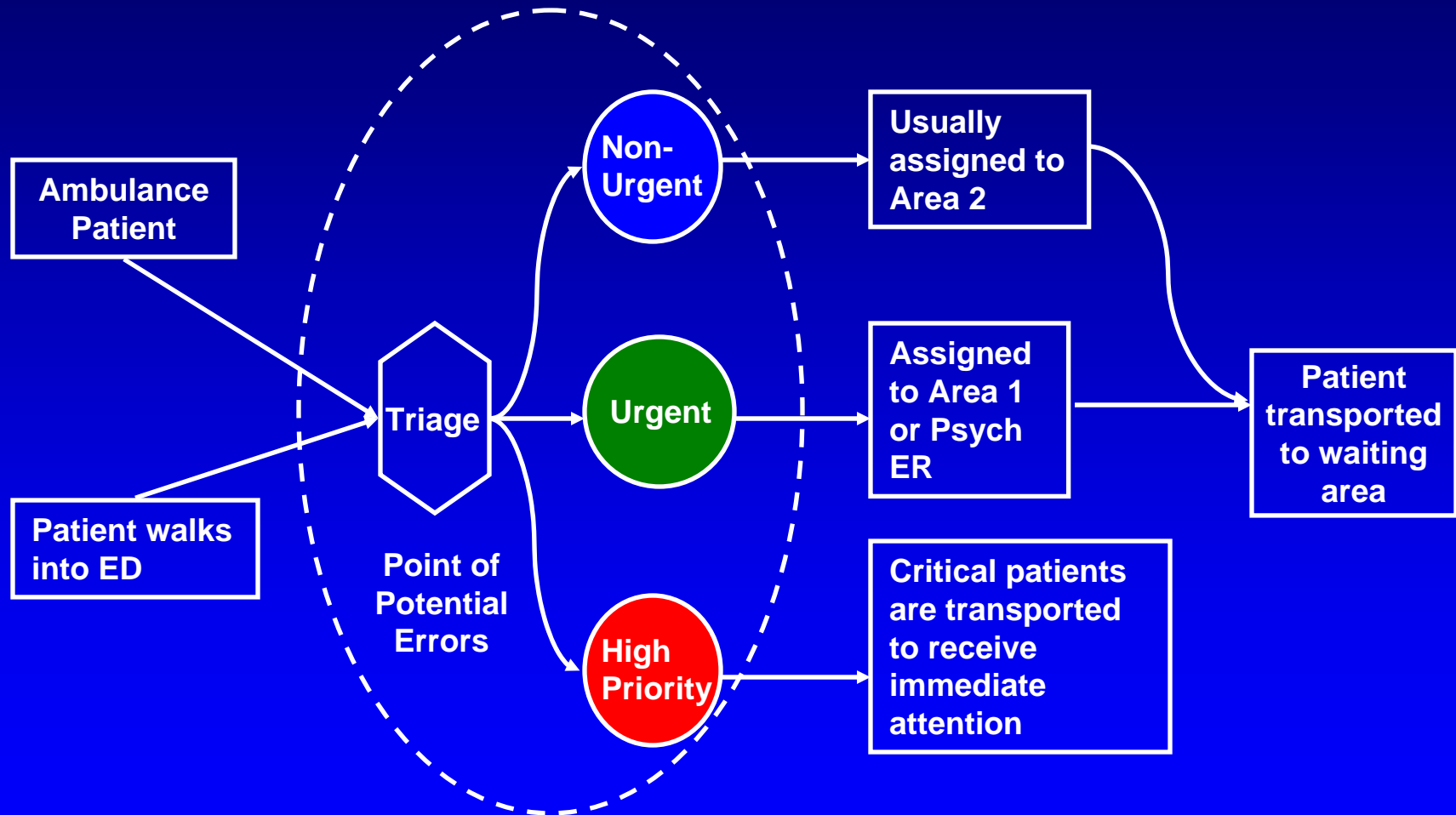


- Coordinating **internal** (user's mind) and **external** (interface, environment) resources

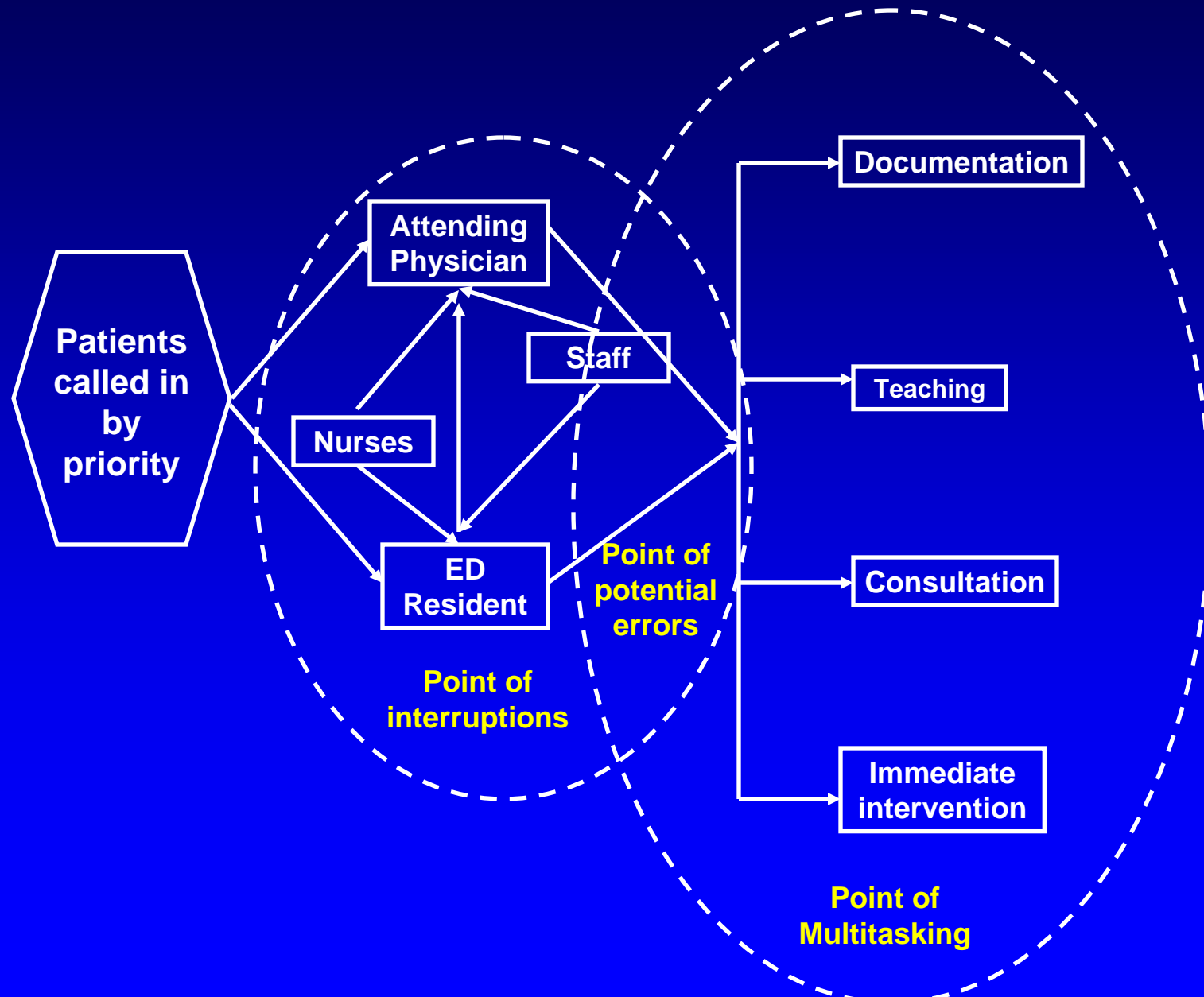
# References

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- Maholtra, S., Jordan, D., Shortliffe, E.H., & Patel, V.L. (2006). Workflow in critical care: Piecing together your own puzzle. *Journal of Biomedical Informatics* [currently available online]
- Cohen, T. Blatter, B. Almeida, C. Patel, VL. *Reevaluating recovery: Perceived violations and preemptive interventions on emergency psychiatry rounds*. JAMIA (in press)
- Cohen, T., Blatter, B., Almeida, C., Shortliffe, E., & Patel, V. (2006). Distributed cognition in the Psychiatric Emergency Department: A cognitive blueprint of a collaboration in context. *Artificial Intelligence in Medicine*, 37, 73-83
- Horsky J, Gutnik L, Patel VL. Technology for emergency care: Cognitive and workflow considerations, Proceedings of AMIA 2006 (in press)

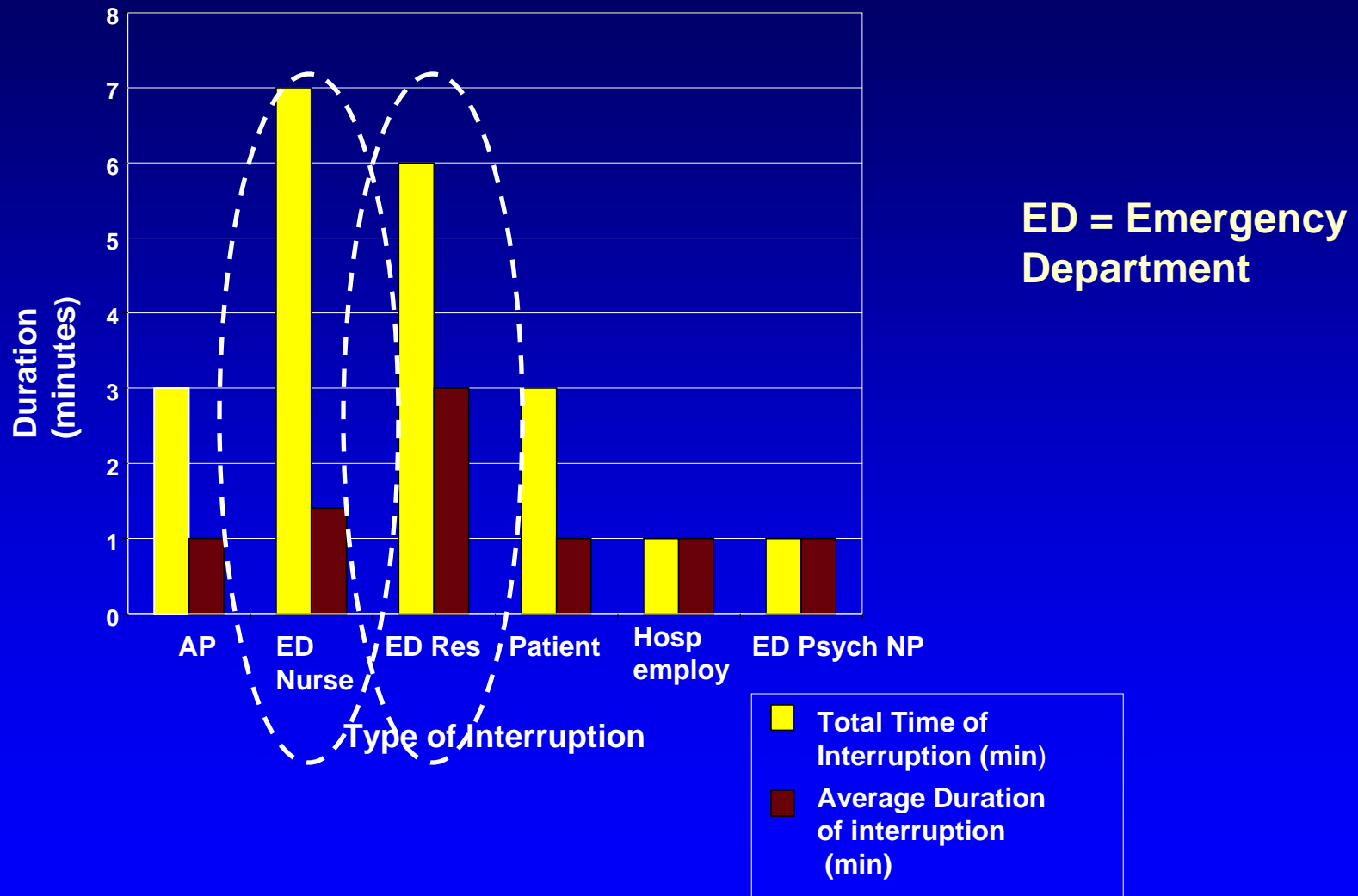
# Overview of Clinical Workflow in the Emergency Department



# Workflow (Continued)



# Interruptions and Multitasking (over 3 hours)



Time and duration of interruptions for different types of individuals

# Pre-Triage Issues in Emergency Dept

(duration 1-2 minutes)

No	Task	Com	Findings - Problems	Recommendations
1	ID patient	Per	Privacy concerns; misspelled names may cause multiple entries in EMR	Separated from waiting room; electronic entry of pt. names
2	Urgency		No decision support; patient history and practice guidelines not accessible	Integrated tracking and EMR systems for immediate recall
3	Patient Destination	Per	Waiting room activity not monitored; no direct communication with fast-track	Pts may be given bracelets; alerts to fast-track personnel
4	Paper form	Wrt	Legibility; single copy for all clinicians	Replace by electronic system

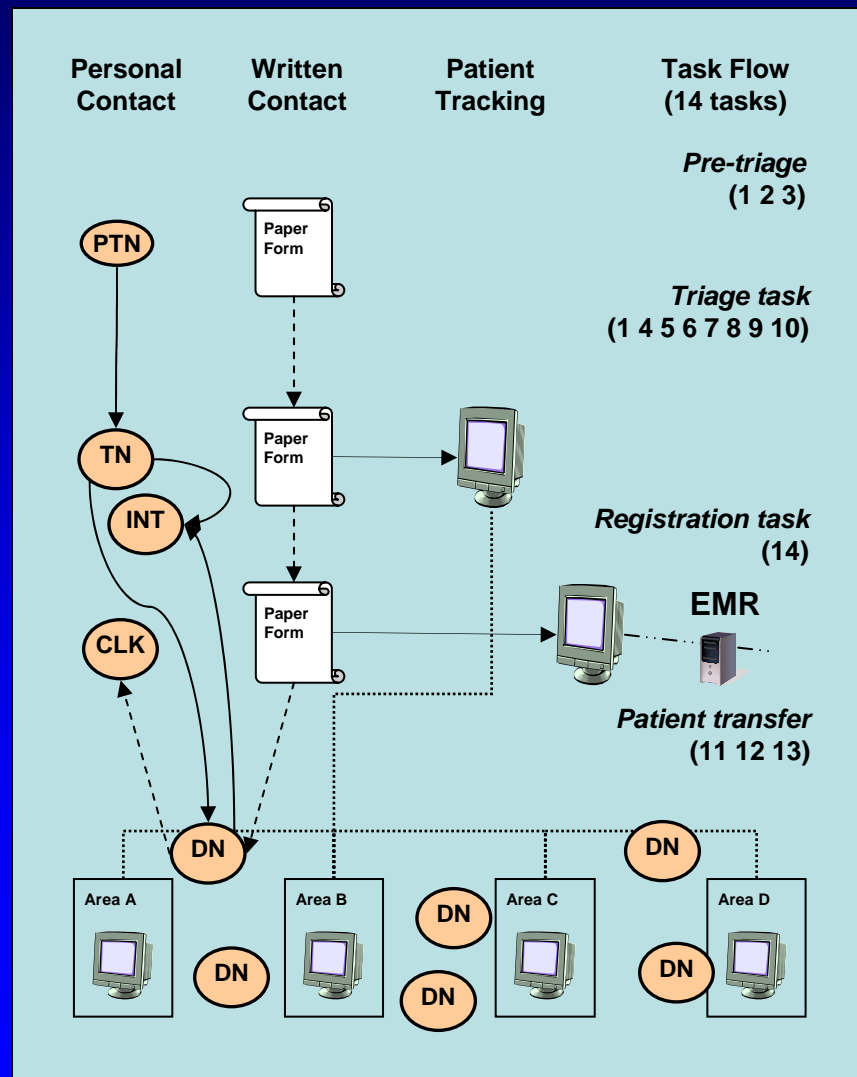


# Triage Issues in Emergency Dept

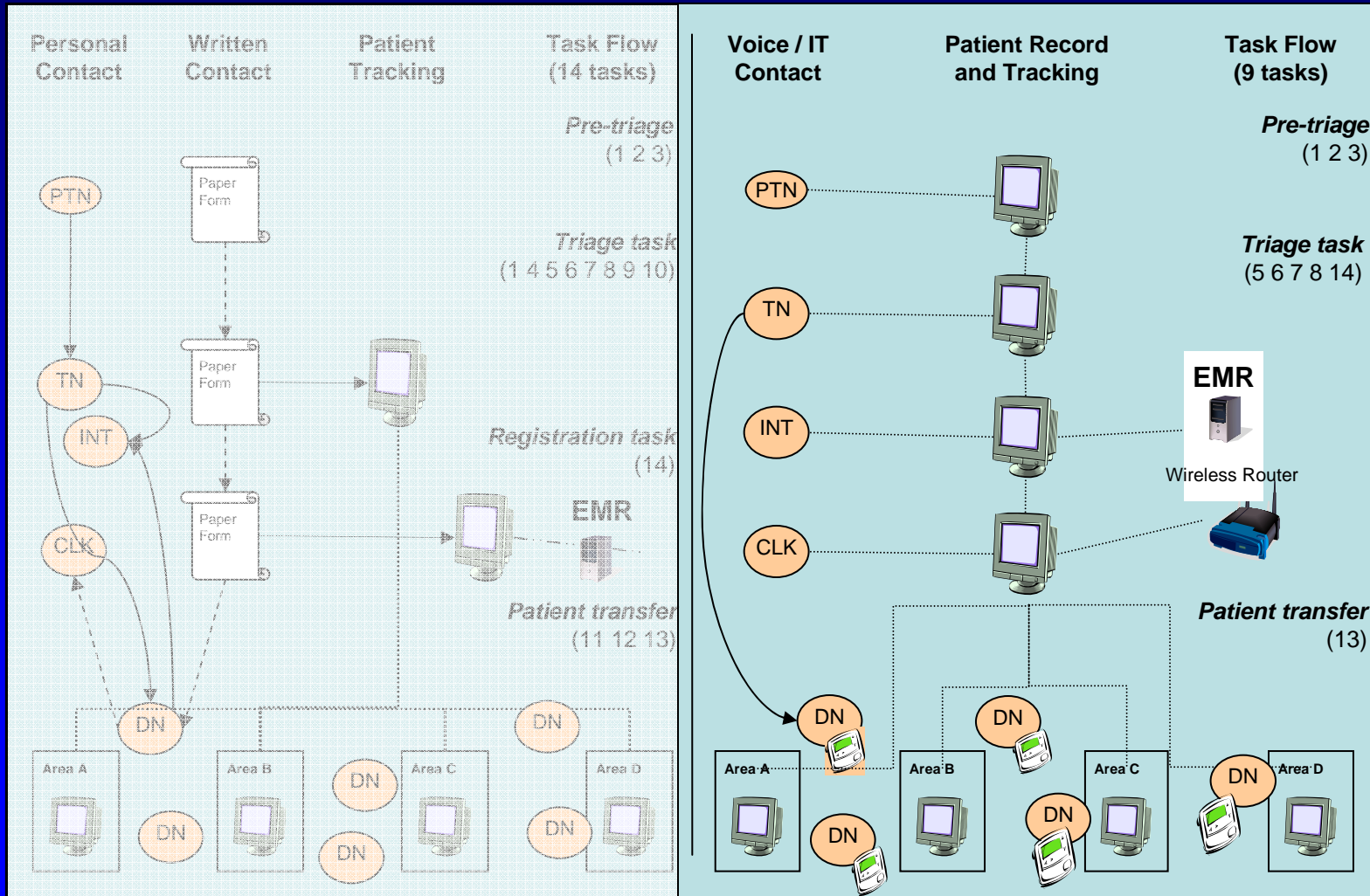
(duration: 12 minutes)

No	Task	Com	Findings - Problems	Recommendations
5	Assessment	Per Wrt	Interpreter inaccessible; EMR with visit history unavailable; no guideline access	Communication via PC or intercom; electronic guideline
6	Triage category	Wrt Per	No decision support available; patient longitudinal record/allergies unavailable	EMR may be ready from pre-triage stage for overview
7	Tracking	Elc	Duplication of data from paper; manual updates of state not always accurate	Integrated system with EMR; automatic updates via RFID
8	Workload estimate	Per Elc	Cognitively difficult; requires calls when tracking system is not updated	Tracking can automate this with algorithms and updates
9	Patient Destination	Per Elc	Awareness of current overall workload of district nurses required	Tracking system may allocate patients to appropriate area

# Clinical Workflow in Emergency Room Triage



# Proposed Clinical Workflow in Emergency Room Triage



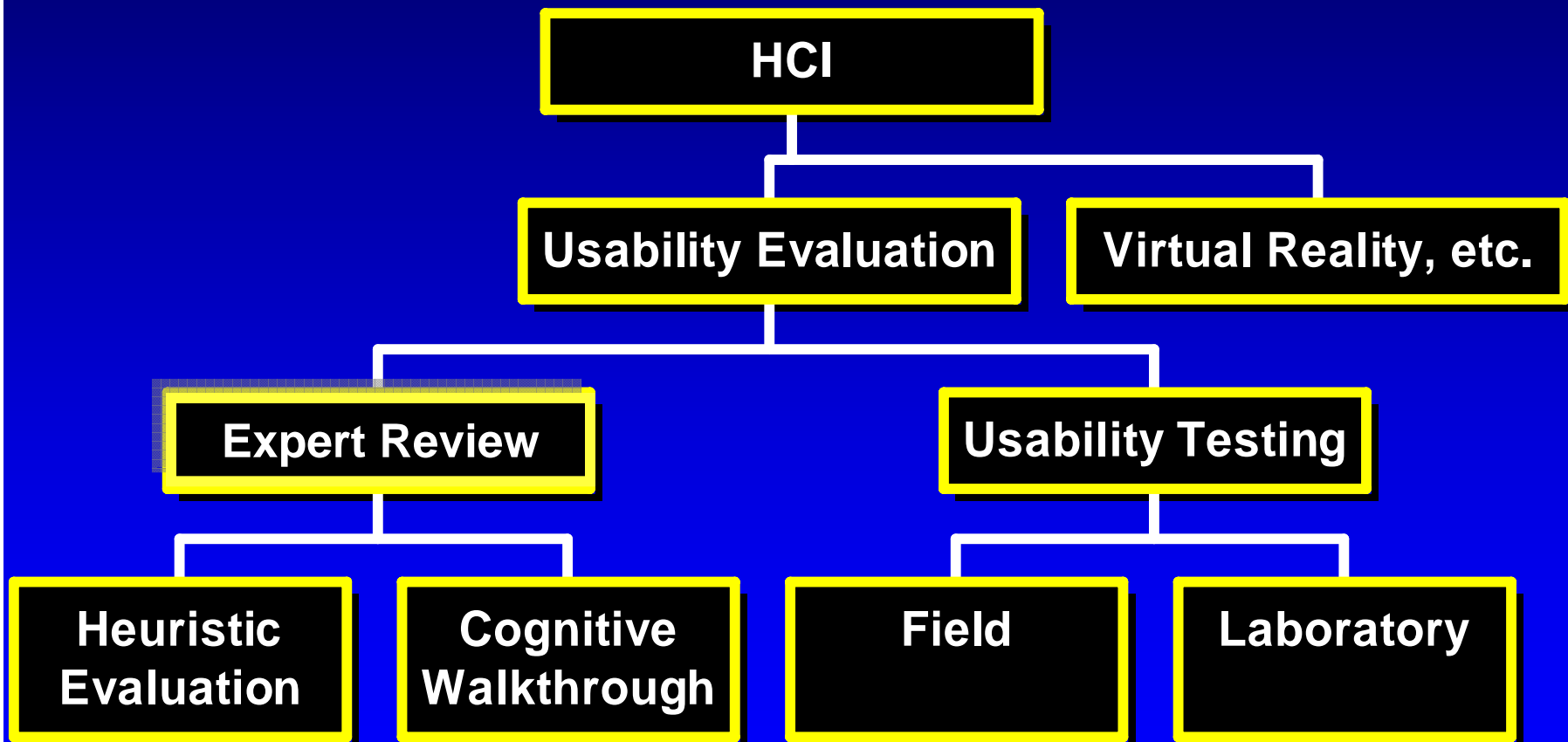
# Summary

- **Failure in interaction among human beings and system agents lead to delays, inefficiencies, and opportunities for error**
- **When information technology is not implemented or not well integrated into workflow, unnecessary tasks are performed and errors are generated**
- **Need to replace inadequate or non-existent technological support of clinicians by specific information and communication technologies that fit the cognitive and workflow demands of the task**

# **Problems Using Things: Imperfect World of Design**

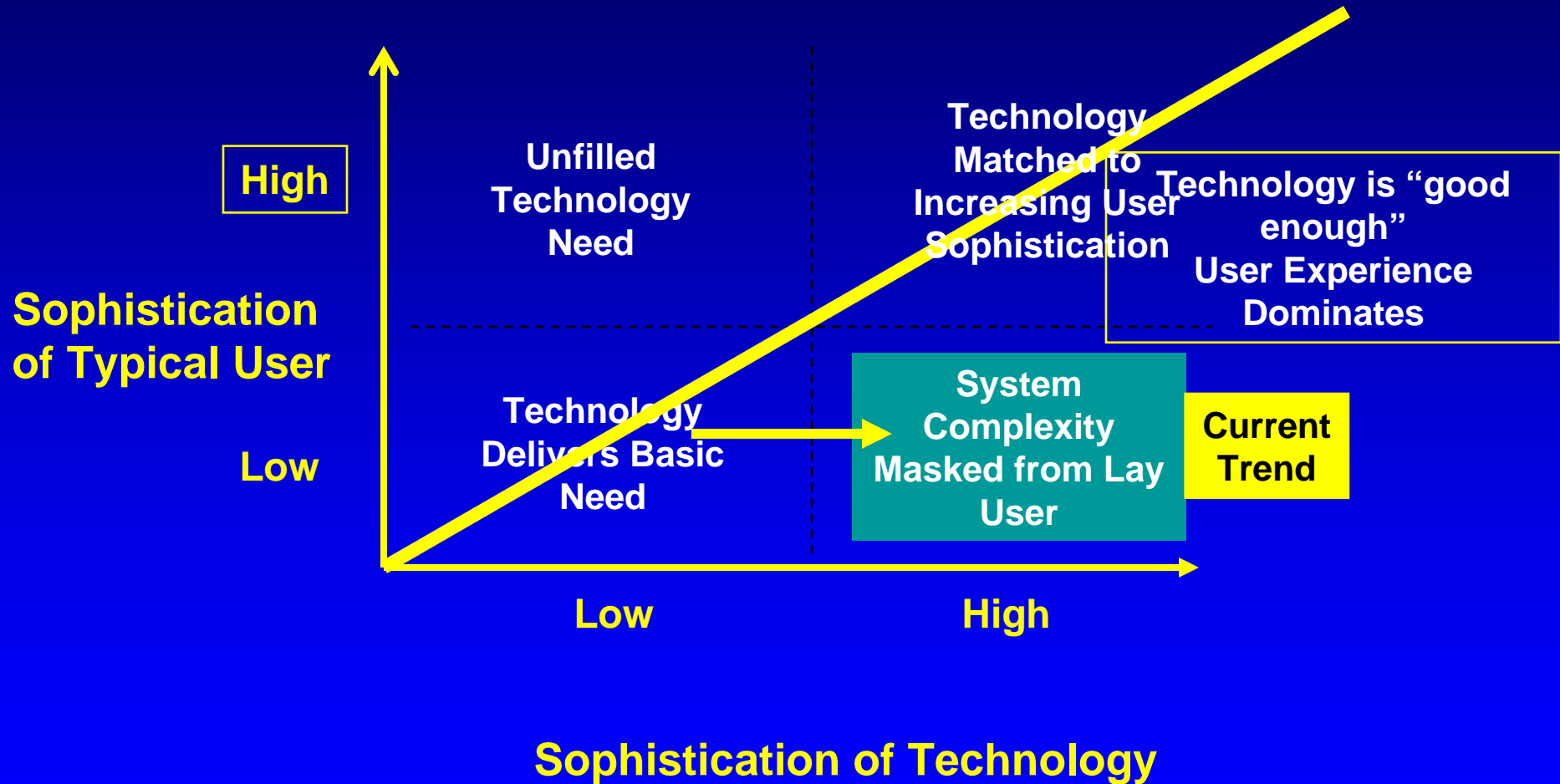
- **Programmable Calculators.**
- **VCRs with or without Advanced Editing Features.**
- **Contemporary Office Telephones with Features such as Call Waiting & Call Forwarding.**
- **“State of the Art” Photocopying Machines.**
- **Home-Monitoring Devices for Patients**
- **Interactive Web Sites**
- **ATM Machines**
- **Computer-Mediated Learning Environments**

# HCI Landscape





# User-Technology Interaction: Role of Cognition





# Some Lessons from Cognitive Studies

- **Design of HIT must complement its intended setting and purpose to encourage safe and effective performance**
- **Technology can help to manage errors, but also introduce new opportunities for errors**
  - **Thus has to be carefully monitored for intended and unintended outcomes**
- **Technology must support (and be sensitive to) how we do our tasks in the clinical environment**
  - **Exception: when we are doing our task poorly without technology**



**Chapter 4:  
Cognitive Science in  
Biomedical Informatics  
—VL Patel and DR Kaufman—**

**Biomedical  
Informatics  
Textbook**

**(3rd edition)**

**Springer Verlag - 2006**

