

## Next Steps

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# LHS Phase 1 Plan

This draft proposal is a stakeholder-driven plan for how ACTS Collaborative participants and other stakeholders can take specific actions to build on the [ACTS LHS Concept Demonstration](#) and drive progress toward a shared learning health system (LHS) future vision.

The proposal outlines a three-year Phase 1 effort to create a series of concept demonstrations around specific use cases. The goal is to demonstrate a strong digital knowledge ecosystem where information flows seamlessly around the LHS cycle in ways that improve care processes – and ultimately outcomes – for selected high priority clinical targets.

**Proposed  
Concept  
Demonstration  
Use Cases**

To prove the value of the ACTS framework for real-world scenarios, the proposal focuses on creating four initial use cases with broad value to the extended healthcare community. These use cases share specific traits, including:



### **Care Improvements**

Use cases represent significant opportunities to improve public health and reduce morbidity and mortality



### **Leverage Federal Initiatives**

Activities and deliverables build on pertinent Federal programs, guidance, and tools for the use cases



### **Stakeholder Participation**

Use cases are based on improvement targets prioritized by stakeholders and work to address them will be driven by their strategic initiatives

## **Proposed Use Cases**

- 1 Pandemic Response
- 1 Preventative Care

1 Hypertension Control

1 Pain Management / Opioid Use

## ACTS Stakeholder-Based Approach to Success

The public and private sectors are already investing massive resources into improving information flow to build a true health knowledge ecosystem. But current investments and activities are fraught with waste and redundancy, and valuable health information and evidence is not used nearly to its true potential. This is occurring in a large part because most of the work underway is happening in siloes.

Numerous organizations play a role in delivering on the vision of a tightly integrated, interactive learning health system. The ACTS Phase 1 proposal aims to drive collaboration and consensus. Continuous improvement within learning health systems is driven by smooth flow of information - within and between many different sources – throughout the cycle (see figure below).

The ACTS Phase 1 proposal calls on AHRQ and other participants to work together to identify projects currently underway, leverage existing efforts and tools, and when needed, enhance or create new solutions. Participating organizations will identify tasks and deliverables they can work on (based on their business drivers) to contribute to a broader, federated LHS whole. The viability of this approach is reinforced by the [41 ACTS support letters](#) indicating interest from key stakeholder organizations in aligning their efforts and investments in this way.

**The proposal recommends conducting scalable pilots for the initial four use cases that successfully:**

**Use best available tools and strategies**

(including existing resources from AHRQ /HHS/federal agencies) to develop living, evidence-based guidance

**Implement guidance**

through care process reengineering for several care delivery organizations (CDOs)

**Evaluate**

**results** from care, learning, and progress toward [Quintuple Aim](#) outcomes

**Apply the**

**results** from this analysis to build working

concept  
demonstration  
s for four use  
cases and  
promote  
scaling to  
more CDOs  
and targets

## The “How” and the “Who”

The image below depicts how the various elements of the learning health cycle should interoperate. We're not there yet, but initiatives such as ACTS are driving real progress.

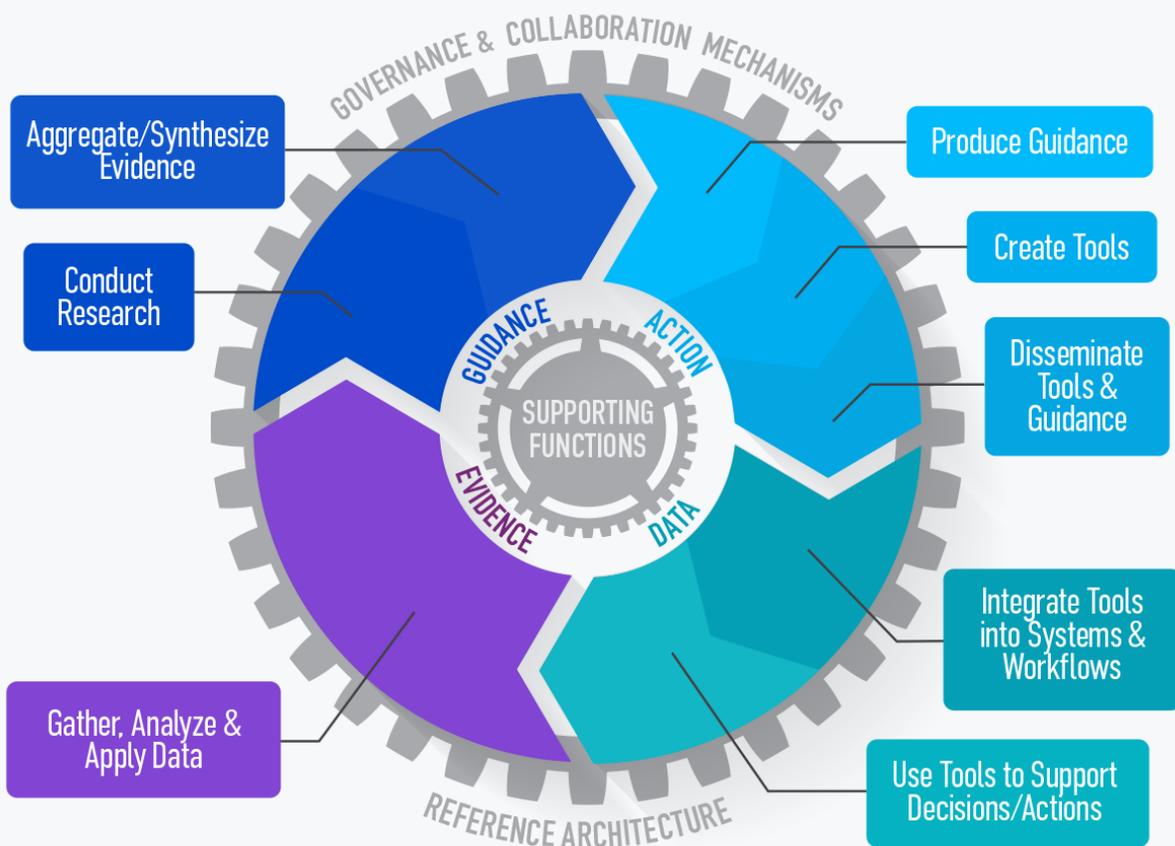
The ACTS Phase 1 proposal focuses on convening the individuals and organizations (the who) already working independently and in small groups to address discrete parts of the larger challenge. By promoting understanding of who is doing what to enable the knowledge ecosystem, the ACTS initiative can help organizations share ideas, best practices, and even resources and tools on a broader scale.

ACTS participants are beginning to fill out a ["Phase 1 LHS Project Stakeholder Organization Activities Template"](#) to document their LHS-related efforts pertinent to the Phase 1 proposal. Once

completed and shared on via this Proposal page, stakeholders will be able to see others doing similar work, get ideas about promising practices and collaborations, and cultivate synergies.

The ACTS initiative has been a valuable forum to understand and begin addressing gaps in technology, standards, and processes that hind progress. We have the opportunity to further advance collaborations and coordination around disjointed projects to more quickly make progress toward an effective learning health system cycle that fully realizes stakeholder goals

## Elements of an Effective Learning Health System Cycle



# Phase 1 Activities

Information under the the following five tabs detail specific activities AHRQ and others could undertake to transform independent, separate activities, into an integrated learning health system cycle. The proposed activities address the broad spectrum of requirements needed to create and sustain an effective learning health system cycle, initially focusing on the four identified use cases and expanding over time to additional targets.

This work will focus on accessing and using the best of available tools and information, as well as designing and piloting better future approaches (view the [University of Minnesota LHS case study](#) as an example). Proposed activities will build on the experiences/insights derived from such previous work as illustrated in the [LHS Concept Demo](#) that lays a strong foundation for each of the proposed tasks.

The proposed timeline for activities is located following the list of proposed activities. Click on one of the five buttons below to see the corresponding activities/tasks.

Create/Use Governance and Collaboration

Enhance/Leverage Infrastructure

Enhance/Develop Living, Computable Guidance

Enhance Guidance Implementation & Assessment

Evaluate/Plan Roadmap Execution

### **Form Phase 1 LHS Project Steering Committee**

Build on [ACTS Stakeholder Community](#) and COVID Collaborative participants.

 Governance & Collaboration

### **Establish Collaboration Infrastructure**

Build on experience with [ACTS COVID Collaborative site](#) and AHRQ/HL7/other collaborative sites.

### **Support LHS Project Steering Committee**

Select/create overarching entity to coordinate efforts on the specific targets and related

efforts to build knowledge ecosystem.

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- Refine four clinical targets (use cases) for concept demo and consider additional potential targets.
- Establish criteria to select tools/resources for Federal Digital Knowledge Portal, other demo tools.
- Establish criteria to select clinical sites to participate in guidance implementation (sites will likely need to have sophisticated health IT capabilities).
- Support requirements development for concept demo components.
- Support agile development for concept demos.
- Support concept demo feedback evaluation and project plan for Phase 2.
- Institute project management for Phase 1 activities.
- Cultivate opportunities for public and private organizations participation in Phase 1.

**Leverage existing national initiatives, including:**

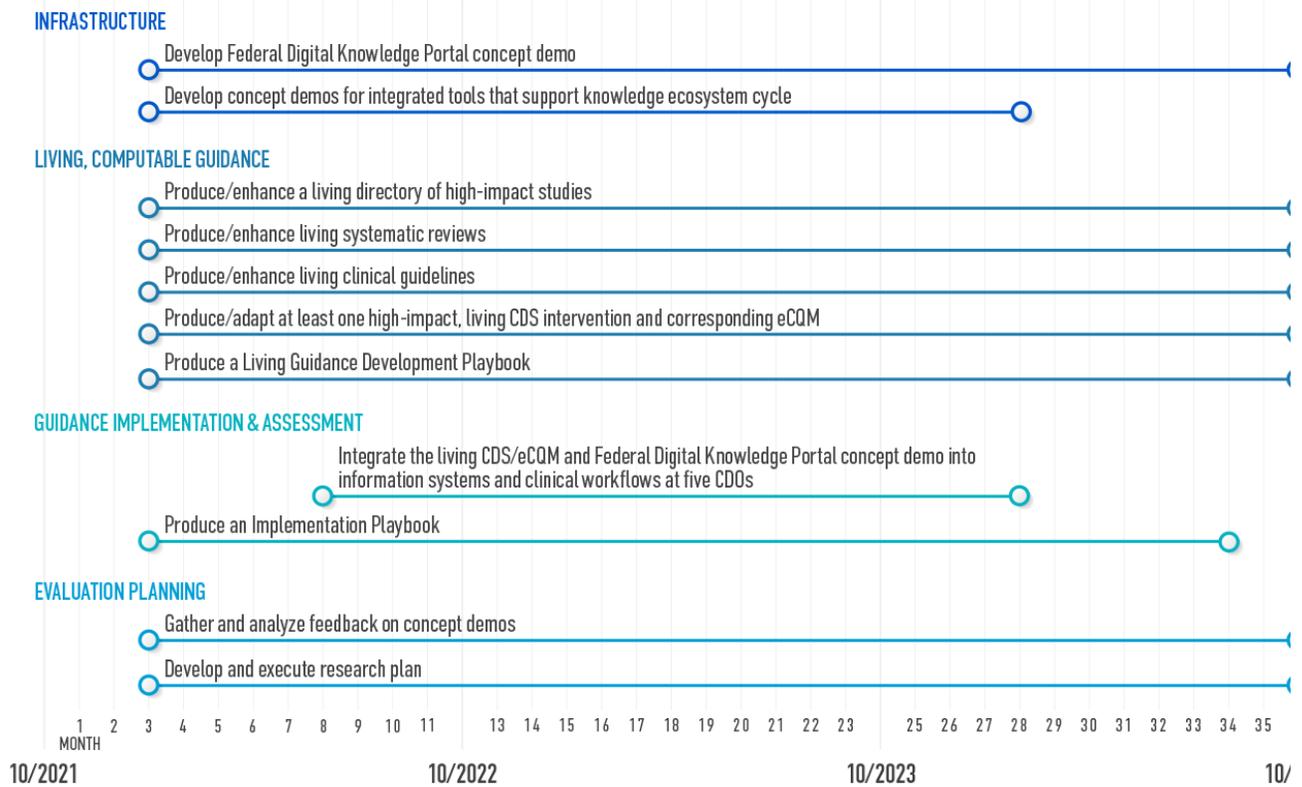
- Hypertension: [Million Hearts](#), [AMA/AHA TargetBP](#), [EvidenceNOW](#)

- Pain/Opioids: PCCDS Stakeholder-driven Opioid Action Plan, Surgeon General's Opioid Efforts, CDC Opioid efforts, CMS Opioid Efforts, (67)(56)
- COVID-19/Pandemic Response: HHS Activities, VA Activities, DOD Activities, International Activities
- Preventative Care: Healthy People 2030, USPSTF
- Build on collaboration process and results from ACTS LHS Concept Demo
- Coordinate Phase 1 project requirements gathering, development, evaluation, and Phase 2 planning.
- Hold an annual meeting for stakeholders.
- Plan to form/select a public/private partnership to manage LHS execution efforts/phases.

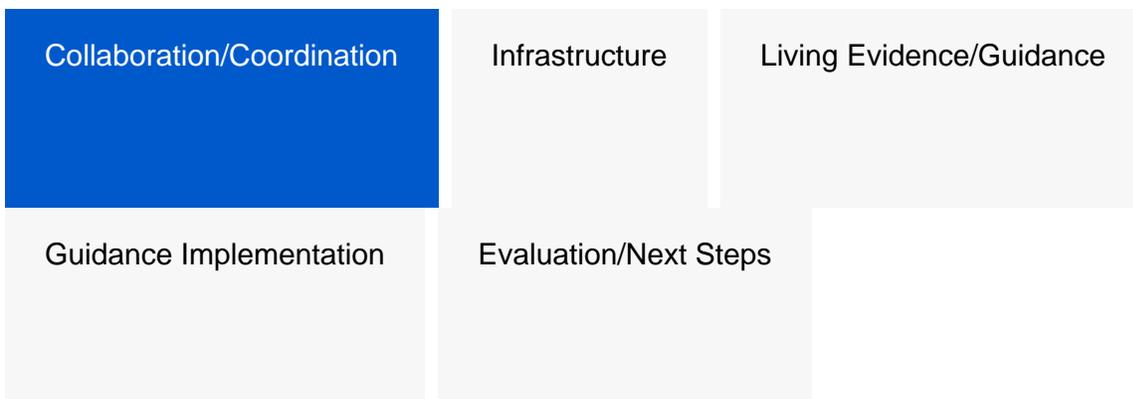
## Proposed LHS Project Timeline

### GOVERNANCE & COLLABORATION





## Proposed Phase 1 Deliverables



### Collaboration/Coordination

- Collaboration network and infrastructure
- Refined, expanded, and further vetted shared future vision
- Phase 1 LHS Concept Demonstration steering committee

- Coordinating center to ensure concept demonstration execution leverages and supports the many other initiatives working to enhance the knowledge ecosystem
- Public/private partnership to drive coordinated LHS execution efforts