

Health AI Innovation at YNHHS

Center for Health Care Innovation

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Yale
NewHaven
Health

Agenda

1

YNHHS and the Center for Health Care Innovation

2

The Connecticut Health AI Partnership: impact and what's next

3

Thought leadership in AI governance and post-deployment monitoring

4

Discussion: future state funding opportunities



CONNECTICUT HAS DONE THIS BEFORE

The hardest part of an innovation is almost never the discovery.

It is the adoption.

In 1844, Hartford dentist **Horace Wells** breathed nitrous oxide and had his own tooth pulled without pain - proving surgical suffering was optional.

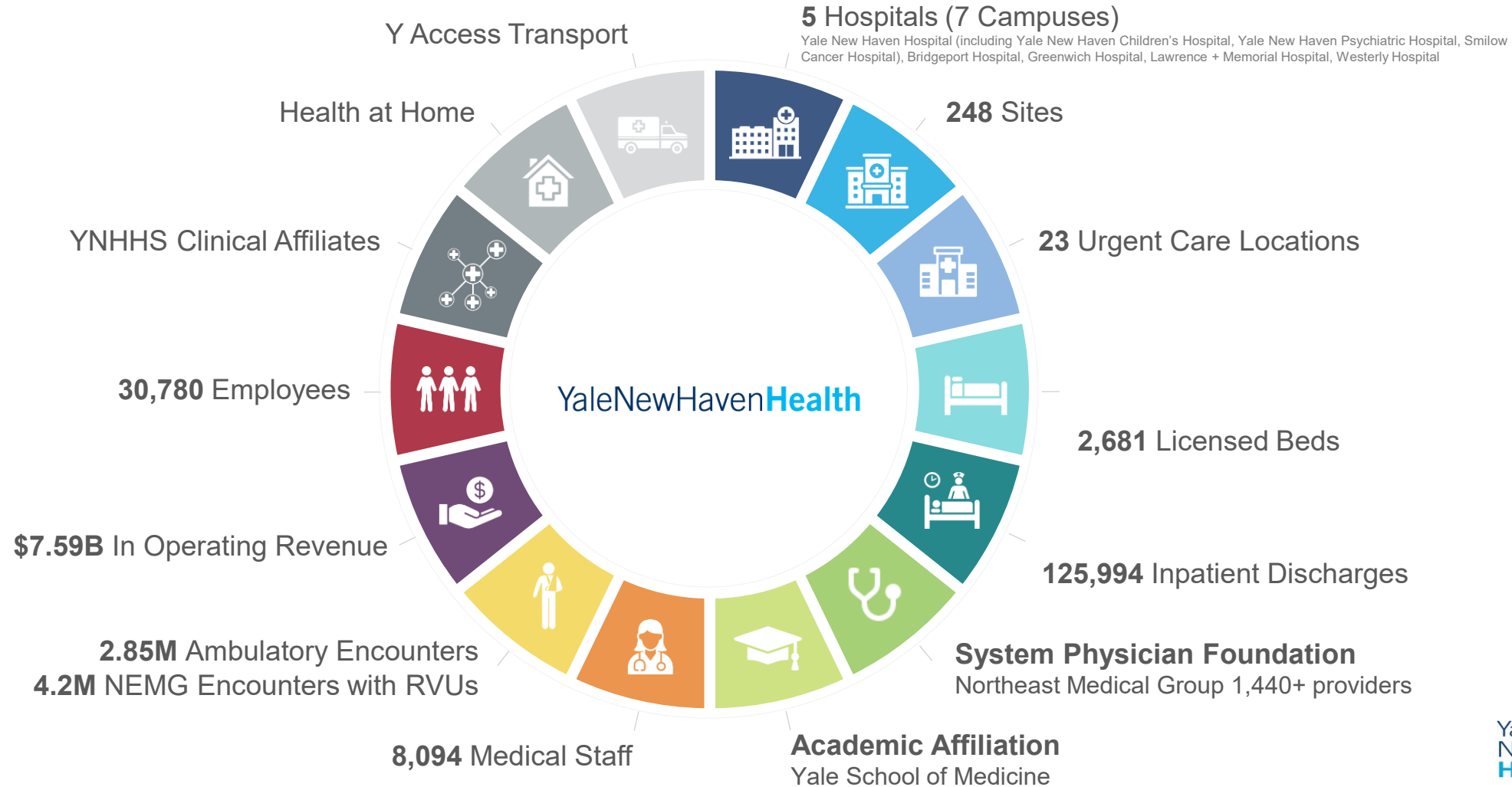
His first public demonstration failed and he was jeered out of the room. Within two years, anesthesia was standard practice worldwide.

Health AI is arguably a similar moment - and Connecticut is once again shaping the national discourse.

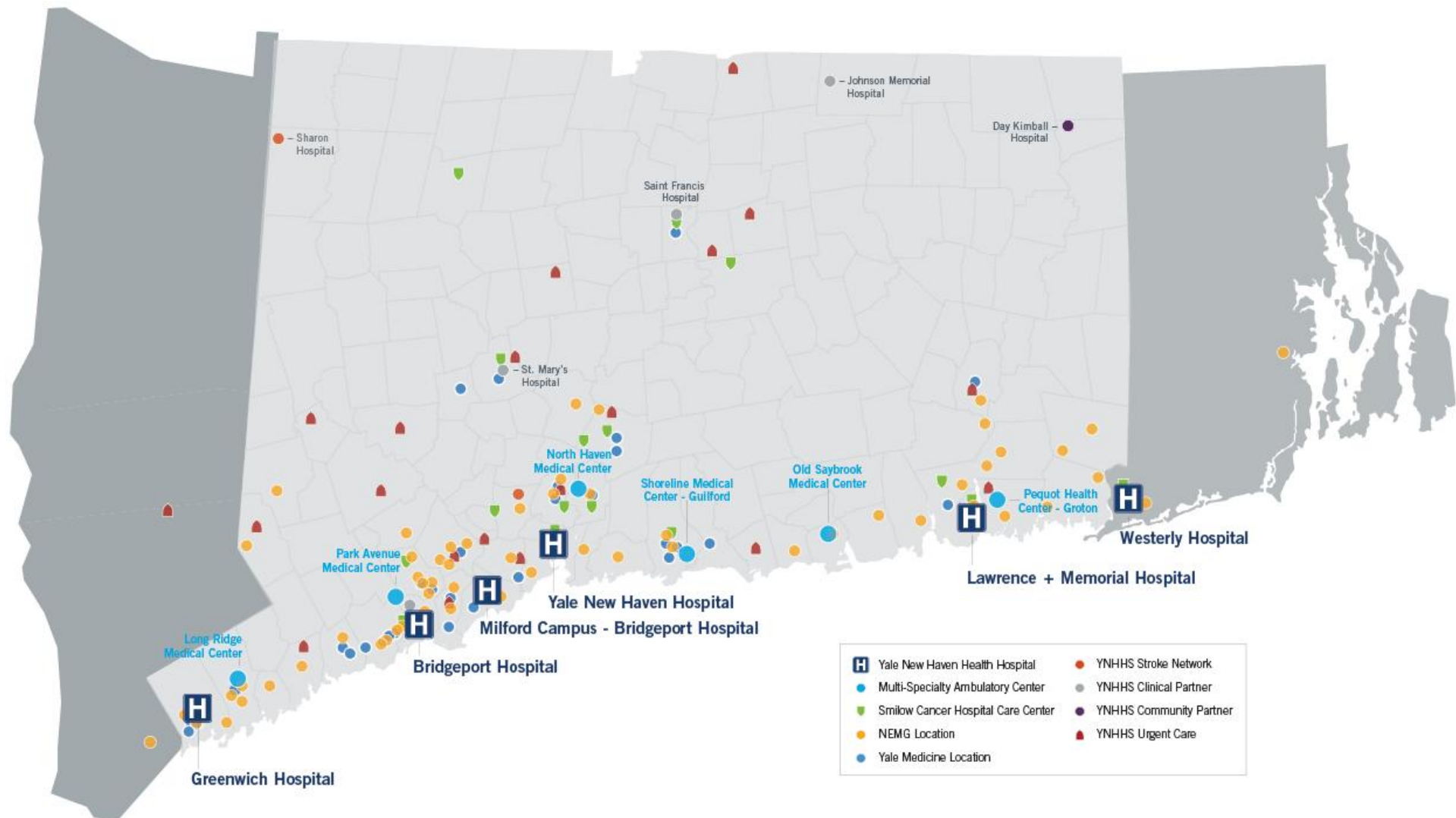
Original illustration in the spirit of Robert Hinckley's *The First Operation Under Ether* (1882-1893) – Generated by Microsoft Co-Pilot

Source: Mistry LN, Khachane NA, Shah PP, Soman M, Neelkanthan S, Jawdekar AM. Horace Wells: A Pioneer in Modern Anesthesia and Pain-Free Medical Practices. *Cureus*. 2024 Oct 15;16(10):e71575. doi: 10.7759/cureus.71575. PMID: 39553159; PMCID: PMC11566315.

Yale New Haven Health / Snapshot (FY 2025)



YNHHS / Throughout Our Communities



CHI Overview

Culture

Build a culture of innovation as the foundation

Strategic Alignment

Activities align to the strategic goals of the Academic Medical Center

Double Bottom Line

Accrue strategic and financial value for the organization

CHI VISION STATEMENT

Given established excellence in clinical care and leading research, YNHHS, Yale Medicine and Yale University are a unified lighthouse for creating, identifying, fostering and scaling health innovations - investing in disruptive innovation across digital health, diagnostics, devices and medical technology.

2026 FOCUS AREAS



Access



Workflow Redesign



Decentralization of
Care



New Care Models



GenAI & Big Data

INNOVATION WORKSTREAMS

Innovator Support

Internal funding through seed grants, education and connections that move AMC innovators along their journey.

Co-Development

Early-stage partnerships with external companies, pairing clinical insight with operational expertise toward implementation.

Strategic Investments

Capital investments in early-stage start-ups and venture funds to anticipate disruption and create new revenue streams.

Governance

INNOVATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (IEC)

IEC

The decision-makers

Executive leadership that sponsors innovation

- Sets the innovation priorities for the system
- Approves funding and major commitments
- Removes roadblocks and holds the work accountable

INNOVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IAC)

IAC

The advisors

Clinical, operational and research leaders

- Brings frontline expertise to shape ideas early
- Reviews and pressure-tests proposals before they scale
- Recommends what is worth pursuing to the IEC

Connecticut Partnership: \$750K In, Statewide Impact Out

Since 2025, State of Connecticut grant funding plus YNHHS commitment has built a recurring, statewide health AI innovation engine

THE INVESTMENT

\$750K

State of Connecticut grant funding

\$475K Two Health AI Symposia (2025, 2026) - program, speakers, convening, operations

\$275K Distributed as award prizes to winning teams

YNHHS MATCHING COMMITMENT

\$250K

Internal Innovation Awards program (2026)

\$1.0M total committed across the partnership

THE OUTPUT & IMPACT



BEYOND THE METRICS



Evolution of the Connecticut Health AI Partnership

Statewide in 2025, internal in 2026, and back to statewide in 2027 - each symposium advancing the theme

2025

THEME: GOVERNANCE

\$750K State of CT grant secured

- Inaugural Health AI Symposium establishes the convening platform
- Statewide Health AI Championship with CT health systems: 54 applications, 12 finalists, 6 winners
- Hospital Advisory Group formed; blinded review by six CT health systems
- 328 registrations, 208 attendees set the baseline

2026

THEME: IMPLEMENTATION + MONITORING

+\$250K YNHHS Internal Innovation Awards

- Second Health AI Symposium at Kroon Hall, Yale (May 26-27)
- Competition runs internally as the YNHHS Innovation Awards pitch competition
- 475 registrations and 275 attendees - up 44% and 32% year over year
- Earned media coverage and winners securing follow-on Blavatnik funding

2027

THEME: TBD -IMPACT & VALUE

\$400K YNHHS allocation of new State funding

- Third Health AI Symposium plus a return to statewide competition with the Hospital Advisory Group
- \$100K symposium program and \$300K Championship / Innovation Awards prizes
- \$100K Comptroller awards against state employee health benefit challenges
- Connecticut Innovations to invest up to \$500K into winning solutions

Governance to Implementation to Impact and Value: a durable statewide health AI engine

Hospital Advisory Group was a key enabler of statewide success

Clinical and innovation leaders from six Connecticut health systems shaped the Symposium and steered the Health AI Championship - defining the problems, reviewing every submission blind, and standing behind the results



Christine Finck, MD
Surgeon-in-Chief
Connecticut Children's



Pete Grevelding
Chief Operating Officer
Gaylord Specialty Healthcare



Barry Stein, MD
Chief Clinical Innovation Officer
Hartford HealthCare



Jasper Edwin Tolarba
Nursing Research & Innovation
Nuvance Health



Vivek Ramakrishnan, PhD
Innovation Lead
Acting CEO QuantumCT (Formerly Uconn)



Lee H. Schwamm, MD
Chief Digital Health Officer
Yale New Haven Health

6 health systems | 54 applications reviewed blind | 12 finalists selected by non-affiliated judges | **one statewide standard**

Where the Health AI Championship Winners Are Now

\$275K awarded to six teams across four Connecticut health systems - every project is now in development, integration, validation or live clinical deployment.



GOLD \$100K + validation

Ramesh Batra & Smita Krishnaswamy
Yale New Haven Health / Yale

Predicting time to death after circulatory-death organ donation

IRBs advancing with the Arizona and Nebraska organ procurement organizations; an ARPA-H partnership with Revalia Bio secured donor, procurement and transplant-outcome data from LifeShare OPO.



SILVER \$50K

Richa Sharma
Yale New Haven Health

POLARIS - AI co-pilot for stroke etiology classification

Polaris app built in Epic with a real-time FHIR data pipeline; cleared YNHHS assessment and security design reviews; StrokeClassifier validated on 3,000 patients.



SILVER \$50K

Rohan Khera
Yale New Haven Health

Ensign-AI - ECG detection of subclinical myocardial disease

Amyloidosis and structural heart disease models are live in the YNHHS clinical infrastructure; the amyloidosis model was published in a leading journal and presented at a major international cardiology meeting.



BRONZE \$25K

Tae Chiam
Connecticut Children's

AI simulation and optimization for ED resource allocation

Forecasting moved to a sustainable cloud implementation with automated retraining, drift monitoring and forecast history; the volume model and discrete-event simulation are complete.



BRONZE \$25K

Steven Zweibel
Hartford HealthCare

AI-enabled multi-class diagnosis from electrocardiograms

Pivoted to a Unified Diagnosis model covering ejection fraction plus aortic, mitral and tricuspid disease and pulmonary hypertension - trained and validated across inpatient, ED and outpatient cohorts; Epic integration underway with MIT.



BRONZE \$25K

Tapan Mehta
Hartford HealthCare

Detection and recurrence prediction for subdural hematoma

Recurrence prediction reached an AUC above 0.80 against a 0.70 target; the team is now measuring the tool's impact on physician decision-making.

AI to the Bedside: AI Governance & Implementation at YNHH

Strategic Governance Structure

Establish executive-level committees to oversee AI initiatives and ensure strategic alignment

Standardized Evaluation and Risk Management

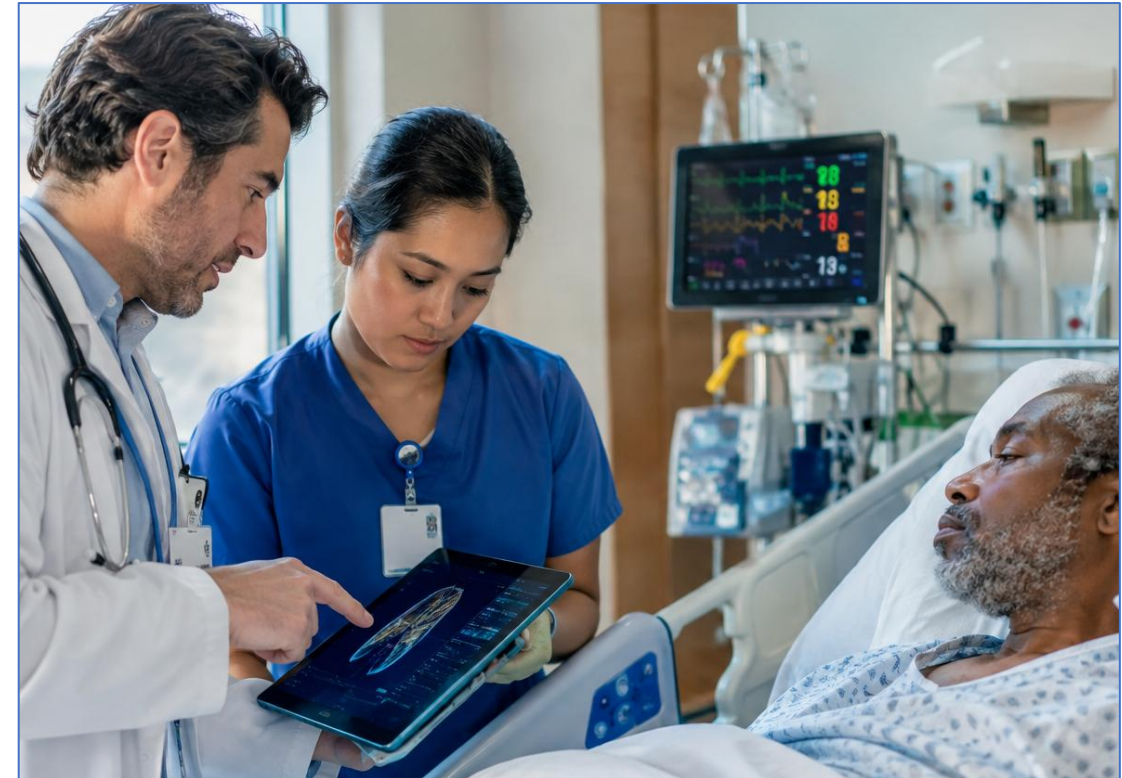
Develop consistent protocols, risk tiering, and mitigation strategies for transparent AI governance.

Stakeholder Engagement and Accountability

Foster inclusivity by involving stakeholders from multiple domains to promote accountability, enterprise alignment, & consider implications of AI implementation

EHR Integration, Workforce Training and Education

Equip staff with knowledge and skills for responsible use of AI tools and technologies.



Ethical Principles of AI and Innovation

Accountability

Clarifying to whom and to what extent responsibility or legal liability falls

Autonomy

Preserving patient dignity, self-determination, and capacity for informed decisions

Equity

Promoting fairness in opportunity and outcomes, with equitable access to AI

Integrity

Intellectual honesty, data integrity, and rightful acknowledgment of contributions in clinical research

Non-maleficence

Preventing harm and risks to patients, including AI hallucinations in healthcare

Privacy

Protecting patient information from illegitimate access and maintaining confidentiality

Security

Safeguarding health data through vulnerability assessments and prevention of breaches and cyberattacks

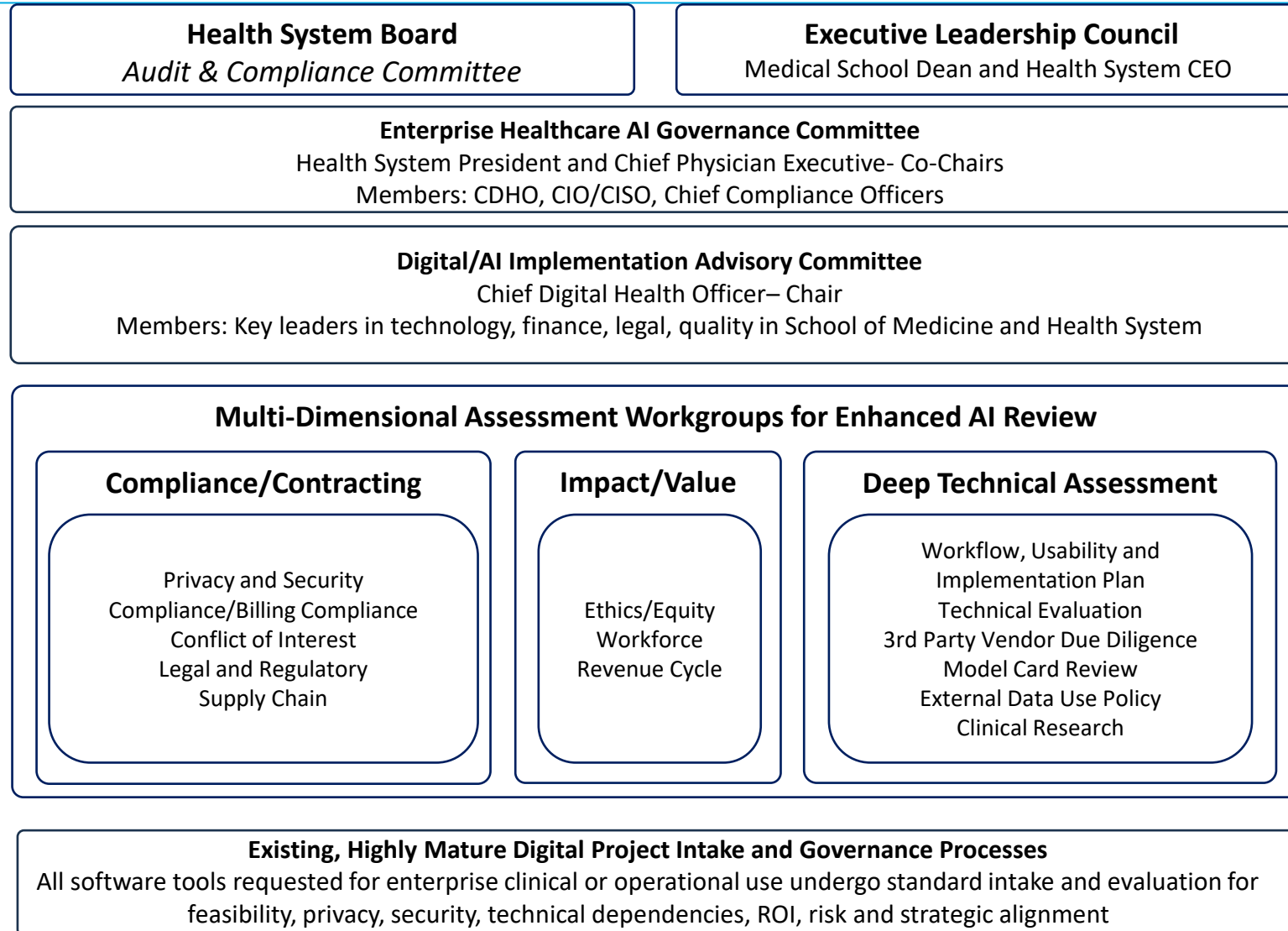
Transparency

Understanding the processes underlying model outputs, including datasets and performance evaluation

Trust

Building confidence that AI is competent, serves patients, and transparently shows its limitations

Enterprise Healthcare AI Governance Model Overview



Discussion

1

How might we use this meeting to explore future state funding opportunities?

2

Which additional AI initiatives could be supported?

3

Where could collaboration accelerate implementation?

4

What potential new funding mechanisms should we pursue?

Thank You

We look forward to building the next chapter together.

The Health AI Symposium returns in 2027

Continuing our focus on practical, clinically grounded applications of AI - convening health system leaders, clinicians, researchers and industry partners.

1

Save the date

Third statewide Health AI Symposium, spring 2027

2

Agenda and speakers

Program details and registration announced in the coming months

3

Stay in touch

innovation@ynhh.org