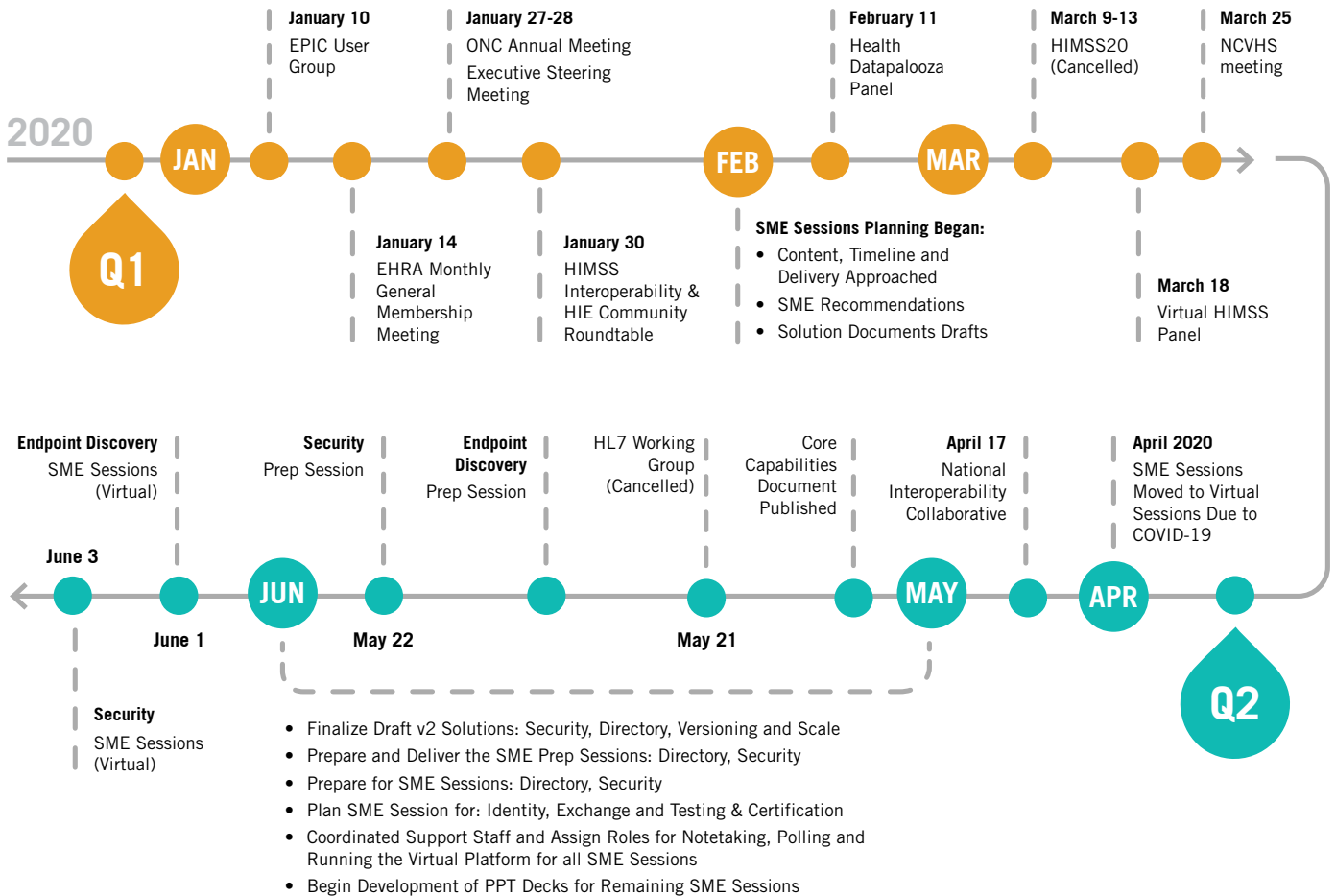# *FAST* is Making Strides in 2020

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the work completed by the FHIR at Scale Taskforce (*FAST*) between January and July 2020.

Despite COVID-19, *FAST* members continued with the plan presented in January, specifically to obtain additional industry subject matter expert (SME) input to further refine the taskforce proposed solutions to FHIR scalability challenges. The feedback received through these SME Sessions will be advancing the taskforce proposed solutions into recommended solutions and support the development of the *FAST* Action Plan. The *FAST* Action Plan, with an initial draft targeted for September, is intended to chart the next steps for the *FAST* solutions and to communicate the taskforce recommendations to the industry.
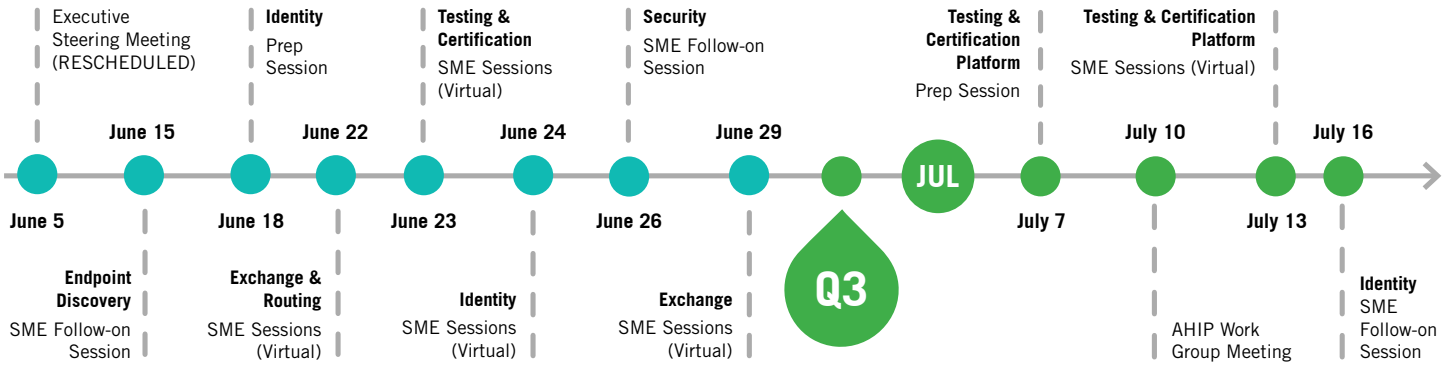
Key Accomplishments Mid-Year 2020

The timeline below details the work and accomplishments to date. The level of effort ramped up dramatically April-July with coordination efforts to finalize the v2 proposed solutions, plan, schedule and execute on the 3-hour SME Panel Sessions and the additional preparatory work. The level of work required additional support staff and time.
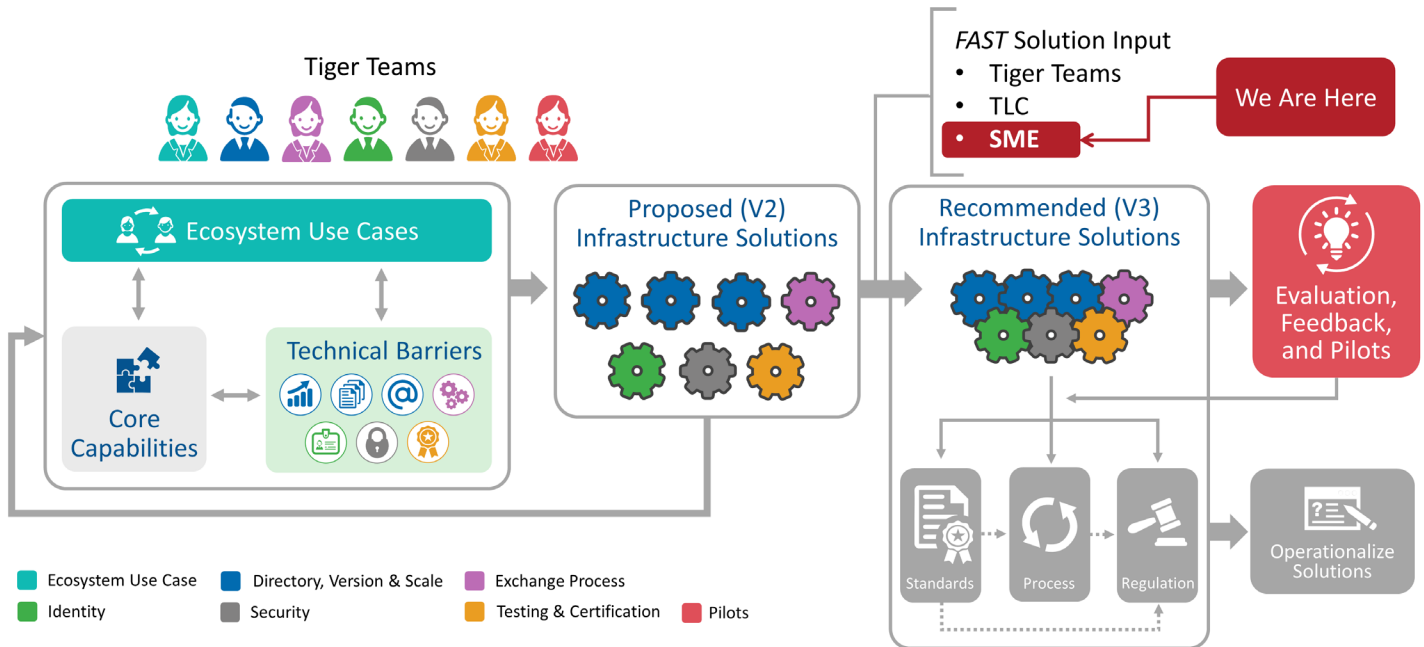

2020

Q1

January 10
EPIC User Group

January 27-28
ONC Annual Meeting
Executive Steering Meeting

February 11
Health Datapalooza Panel

March 9-13
HIMSS20 (Cancelled)

March 25
NCVHS meeting

JAN — FEB — MAR

January 14
EHRA Monthly General Membership Meeting

January 30
HIMSS Interoperability & HIE Community Roundtable

SME Sessions Planning Began:
• Content, Timeline and Delivery Approached
• SME Recommendations
• Solution Documents Drafts

March 18
Virtual HIMSS Panel

Endpoint Discovery
SME Sessions (Virtual)

Security
Prep Session

Endpoint Discovery
Prep Session

HL7 Working Group (Cancelled)

Core Capabilities Document Published

April 17
National Interoperability Collaborative

April 2020
SME Sessions Moved to Virtual Sessions Due to COVID-19

June 3

JUN — MAY — APR

June 1

May 22

May 21

Q2

Security
SME Sessions (Virtual)

• Finalize Draft v2 Solutions: Security, Directory, Versioning and Scale
• Prepare and Deliver the SME Prep Sessions: Directory, Security
• Prepare for SME Sessions: Directory, Security
• Plan SME Session for: Identity, Exchange and Testing & Certification
• Coordinated Support Staff and Assign Roles for Notetaking, Polling and Running the Virtual Platform for all SME Sessions
• Begin Development of PPT Decks for Remaining SME Sessions

Timeline:

- Executive Steering Meeting (RESCHEDULED)
- **June 5** — Endpoint Discovery, SME Follow-on Session
- **June 15**
- **June 18** — Exchange & Routing, SME Sessions (Virtual)
- Identity Prep Session
- **June 22**
- **June 23** — Identity, SME Sessions (Virtual)
- Testing & Certification, SME Sessions (Virtual)
- **June 24**
- **June 26** — Exchange, SME Sessions (Virtual)
- Security SME Follow-on Session
- **June 29**
- **Q3**
- **JUL**
- Testing & Certification Platform Prep Session
- **July 7**
- **July 10** — AHIP Work Group Meeting
- Testing & Certification Platform, SME Sessions (Virtual)
- **July 13**
- **July 16** — Identity SME Follow-on Session

Where Are We in the *FAST* Solution Development Process?

As reflected in the *FAST* solutions development process, the taskforce continued with the collaborative and iterative approach, engaging a select and representative group of industry experts through a series of five guided discussion panels.

FAST Solution Input
- Tiger Teams
- TLC
- **SME**

We Are Here

Tiger Teams

Ecosystem Use Cases · Technical Barriers · Core Capabilities → Proposed (V2) Infrastructure Solutions → Recommended (V3) Infrastructure Solutions → Evaluation, Feedback, and Pilots

Standards → Process → Regulation → Operationalize Solutions

Legend:
- Ecosystem Use Case
- Identity
- Directory, Version & Scale
- Security
- Exchange Process
- Testing & Certification
- Pilots

Subject Matter Expert Panel: Planning, Scheduling and Execution

The SME Panel Sessions are a key component in the *FAST* solutions process. SMEs were invited to provide their individual expert opinion and guidance on feasibility, unintended consequences, stronger alternate approaches and best implementation path forward for the *FAST* proposed solutions.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic impact on priorities, workloads and schedules, the taskforce members continued to dedicate a large amount of time to solution revisions and content development, to better highlight the proposed solutions scope and goals and to support focused discussion with the SMEs. Version 2 of the taskforce proposed solutions were leveraged in preparing the SME panels presentation content, discussion items and feedback request. Previously collected input, through the Fall 2019 Technical Learning Community (TLC) webinar series, continued to be reviewed by the Tiger Teams and incorporated in the version 2 of the *FAST*-proposed solutions. This process entailed many hours of collaboration, refinement and work to gain consensus.

In addition, a large amount of time and effort on the side of the *FAST* Chief Architects, Tiger Team leads, ONC staff, and the Point-of-Care Partners (POCP) contractor team, was dedicated to nominating, deliberating and coordinating with chosen SMEs to plan, schedule, prepare and deliver the expert panel sessions.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 149 SMEs were nominated
- 84 SMEs were invited to participate
- 315+ slides were developed
  - 13 proposed solutions
- SMEs, in total, contributed 362 hours of their expertise
  - 5 SME Prep Sessions
  - 8 SME Sessions
- 1,262 contractor hours between Jan-June were used
- The Chief Architects and Tiger Team volunteer members ramped up their work spending countless hours preparing for and attending SME Sessions

Process for Executing SME Sessions

SME Nominations

- SMEs were nominated based on their background and expertise with input from the *FAST* Executive Committee members, *FAST* Coordinating Committee members, *FAST* Chief Architects, Tiger Team leads and *FAST* ONC project leads

Key Considerations for SME Selection

- The following criteria were considered:
  - Individuals were not involved in the initial solution creation but known to have in-depth knowledge of the challenges being addressed and the technical and/or policy considerations to solve them
  - Being an industry decision maker able to bring a fresh perspective, sometimes outside of healthcare, on ways to strengthen the solutions

Scheduling Prep & SME Sessions for Each of the *FAST* Focus Areas

Selected SMEs were invited to attend:

- One-hour preparatory session (*FAST* overall goals and approach, overview of the solution, introductions)

- Three-hour discussion session (Tiger Team led solution overview & discussion)

- Two-hour follow on sessions to continue the discussion, when necessary

SME Session Format & Materials Development

- The SME Panel Sessions were *by-invite only,* seeking expert opinion without attribution to any one person or organization, allowing for a free conversation and quality feedback

- *FAST* Tiger Teams and POCP contract staff, streamlined the presentation content to effectively communicate the technical barriers being considered and the proposed solutions in a manner that would support discussions and feedback

- Each session's scope and goals targeted to but not limited to:
  - Reach consensus
  - Identify potential alternative approaches
  - Identify approaches, barriers and requirements to implementation

- SME feedback captured during each session through detailed note-taking by the contract staff will support solutions refinement moving forward

SME Panel Sessions Rosters

Convened by ONC, the five expert panel sessions were facilitated by the *FAST* Chief Architects, Patrick Murta and Paul Oates together with the Tiger Team Leads and key Tiger Team members for each focus area. Tiger Team members, other industry professionals and ONC representatives observed the sessions.

A National Solution for FHIR Endpoint Discovery

Alix Goss, ONC *FAST* Tiger Team Lead

Bob Dieterle, ONC *FAST* Tiger Team Lead

Celine Lefebvre, American Medical Association

Dr. Steven Waldren, American Academy of Family Physicians

Terry Cunningham, American Hospital Association

Dave Cassel, Carequality

Didi Davis, Sequoia

Paul Wilder, Commonwell

Scott Stuewe, DirectTrust

Rim Cothren, California Association of Health Information Exchanges / eHealth Exchange

Dan Chaput, HHS | ONC

Alexandra Mugge, HHS | CMS

Steven Lane, Sutterhealth

Matt Schuller, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association

Hans Buitendijk, Cerner & Commonwell

Ron Urwongse, Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare, Inc

Scalable Security Solutions

Luis Maas, ONC *FAST* Tiger Team Lead

Brett Stringham, ONC *FAST* Tiger Team Lead

Matt Randall, Cerner

Jason Vogt, Commonwell

Mark Scrimshire, NewWave

Calvin E Beebe, Mayo Clinic

Joshua Mandel, Microsoft Healthcare

Catherine Schulten, AllClear ID

Avinash Shanbhag, HHS | ONC

Aman Raheja, Humana

Mike Donnelly, Epic

Scott Stuewe, DirectTrust

FHIR Testing & Certification

Lee Barrett, ONC *FAST* Tiger Team Lead

Sandy Vance, ONC *FAST* Tiger Team Lead

Wayne Kubick, HL7

Robert Bowman, CAQH

Vik Sachdev, EDIFECS

Mario Hyland, AEGIS

Lesley Berkeyheiser, EHNAC

Matthew Rahn, HHS/ONC

John Snyder, HHS | ONC

Tim Dunnington, Healthcare HCA

Hans Buitendijk, Cerner

Sharon Muscatell, SHIEC

Scott Stuewe, DirectTrust

Didi Davis, Sequoia

Dave Cassel, Carequality

Individual Identity Management

Meena Jambulingam, ONC *FAST* Tiger Team Lead

Carmen Smiley, ONC *FAST* Tiger Team Lead

Mary Beth Kurilo, American Immunization Registry Association (AIRA)

Lauren Riplinger, American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)

Jason Vogt, CommonWell

Eric Heflin, eHealthExchange

Marisa Bass, CLEAR

Scott Schumacher, IBM

Joaquim Neto, Verato

Colin Wallis, Kantara

Blake Hall, ID.me

Josh Mandel, Microsoft Healthcare

Stan Huff, MD, Intermountain Healthcare

Ricky Bloomfield, Apple

Dan Sanders, Anthem

Matt Doyle, Epic

Drew Torres, Cerner

Shaun Grannis, MD, Regenstrief

Abel Kho, MD, Northwestern University

Karly Rowe, Experian Health

Reliable Transaction Exchange

Durwin Day, ONC *FAST* Tiger Team Lead

Patrick Murta, ONC *FAST* Chief Architect

Henry Meyne, Availity

Beth Clapper, Change Healthcare

Robert Bowman, CAQH

Jason Vogt, CommonWell/ Meditech

Eric Heflin, eHealth Exchange

John Kelly, EDIFECS

Alix Goss, Imprado

Alex Kontur, HHS | ONC

Mike Cabral, HHS | CMS

Amit Shah, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida

Michael Gould, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association

Matt Doyle, Epic

David Turvey, Cerner

Mary Kay McDaniels, Cognosante

FAST Community Engagement Continues!

While we finalized V2 of the *FAST* proposed solutions and prepared and executed on the SME Panel Sessions, we continued to engage with the industry.

2020 January to June *FAST* Community Engagement

(Click links below to go to event pages)

- EPIC User Group
- EHRA Monthly General Membership Meeting
- HIMSS Interoperability & HIE Community Roundtable
- Health Datapalooza
- HIMSS Presentations (held virtually in light of HIMSS cancellation)
- National Interoperability Collaborative Webinar
- AHIP Work Group Session
- Small group, closed meetings (with organizations like Carequality, Commonwell and *FAST* leads) on select topics, potential collaborations and validation

➡ Up Next

- **ONC Tech Forum,** August 10-11, 2020
- **SHIEC**, August 20, 2020
- **Da Vinci Roundtable,** August 26th, 2020
- ONC *FAST* Workshop, September 14, 2020
- **AHIMA20,** October 14-16, 2020

What's Next?

The *FAST* Team will be synthesizing feedback from each of the SME Sessions into a summary report which will be distributed to participating SMEs and posted on the SME Panel Session page on confluence. Tiger Teams will be analyzing the feedback and incorporating it into Version 3 solutions documents in parallel to the development of the *FAST* Action Plan. The Action Plan will outline recommended solutions and the path forward.

The *FAST* Team looks forward to providing you with updates along the way!