

Epoch Ontological Framework to support Clinical Trial Management

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Overview

- Clinical trials are used to determine whether new drugs or treatments are both safe and effective.
- Complex clinical trials involve collaboration among many groups using different software applications.
- Lack of standardization and reduced efficiency leads to poor productivity.
- We are building an ontological framework called **Epoch** to improve semantic interoperability among clinical trial management applications.

The Immune Tolerance Network

- ITN is an international collaboration designed to accelerate the development of immune tolerance therapies
- Funds, plans, implements, monitors, and assesses investigator-initiated clinical trials of novel tolerance-promoting therapies in
 - Autoimmune diseases
 - Transplantation
 - Allergy and Asthma
- Provides services to undertake comprehensive mechanistic studies that complement each trial

Schedule of Events

Table 7: Summary of Assessments for Subjects

Visits	Screening Pre-MS Review Panel	Screening Post-MS Review Panel	Baseline	Post-mobilization & Pre-conditioning	Day 0 (Transplant)	Day +1 to +28	Weeks 4 & Day 30									
	SC1	SC2	-1	PM	0	1 ^a	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 ^b		
Informed Consent																
Signed Screening Informed Consent	X															
		X														
			X													
				X												
					X											
						X										
							X									
								X								
									X							
										X						
											X					
												X				
													X			
Medical History and Physical Exam																
Medical History	X															
Physical Exam and Health Assessments ^d	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Post-Mobilization or Post-Transplant Acute Toxicity Assessment				X			X	X	X							
Clinical Procedures & Assessments																
CBC		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

^aClinical evaluation until Day 28 or discharge from hospital (see MOP).

^bThe primary endpoint visit is the study primary endpoint evaluation visit who meet the primary endpoint (Section 3.2.1) should undergo a complete evaluation the primary endpoint (see Section 6.3.7.2), and will, in addition, continue to be followed on the schedule listed in Section 6.3.7.1. Study subjects withdrawn from the trial for any reason prior to the 60-month evaluation should undergo a complete end of study evaluation if possible (see Section 6.3.7.2).

Schedule of Events

	Summary of Assessments for Subjects											
	Screening Pre-MIS Review Panel	Screening Post-MIS Review Panel	Baseline	Post-mobilization & Pre-conditioning	Day 0 (Transplant)	Day +1 to +28	Week 4 (Day 28)	Day 56				
Visits	SC1	SC2	-1	PM	•	•	•	•				
Informed Consent												
Signed Screening Informed Consent	X											
Signed Treatment Informed Consent												
	X											
	X											
	X											
		X	X									
		X										
		X										
			X									
Exam												
Medical History	X											
Physical Exam and Health Assessments ^a	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Post-Mobilization or Post-Transplant Acute Toxicity Assessment				X			X	X	X			
Clinical Procedures & Assessments												
CBC with diff and platelets		X	X					X	X	X	X	X

^aClinical assessments are required twice a week until Day 28 or discharge from hospital (see MOP).

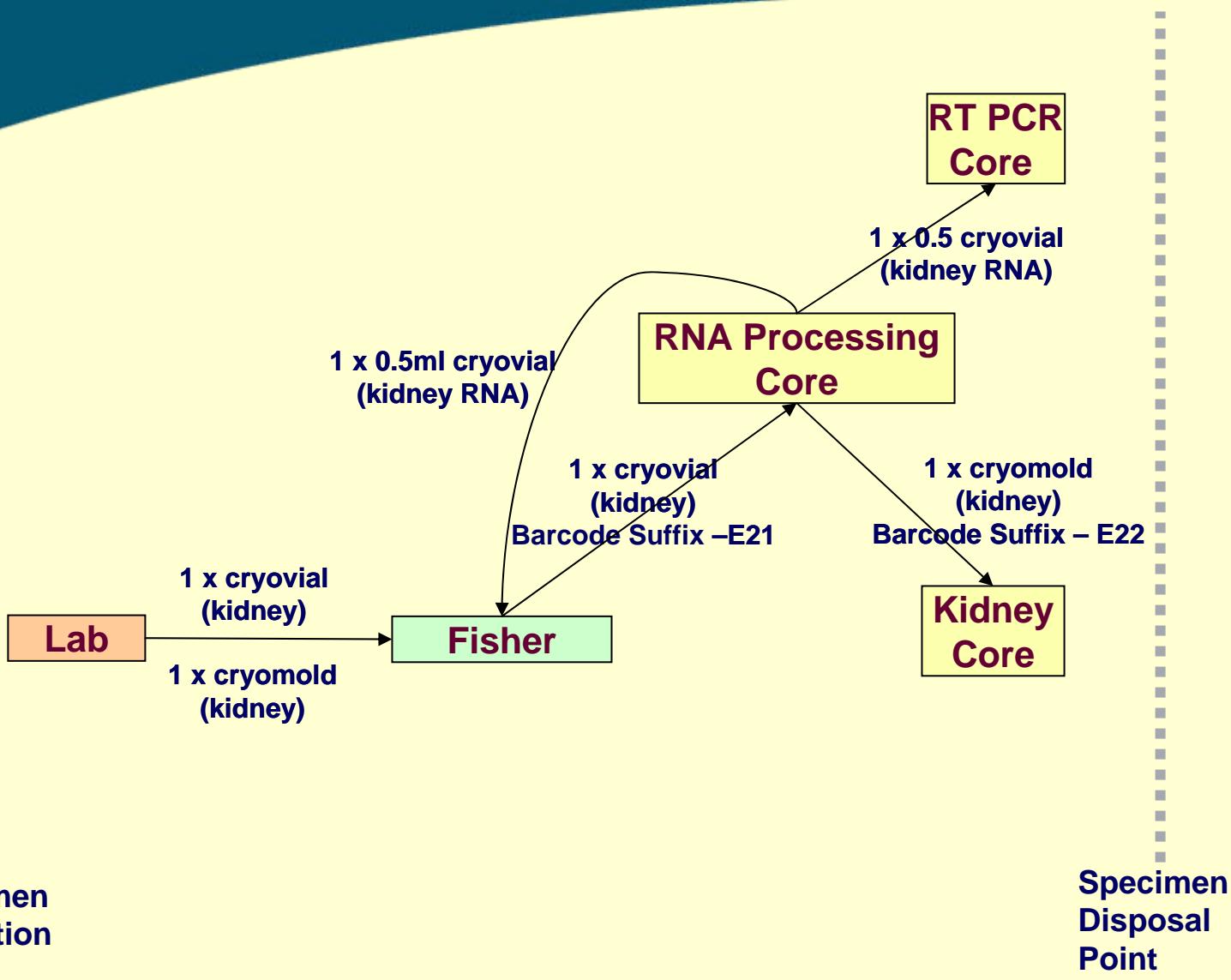
bThe point evaluation visit and the Study Completion Visit. Subjects who meet the primary endpoint (see Section 6.3.7.2), and will, in addition, continue to undergo a complete end of study evaluation at the time of meeting the primary endpoint (see Section 6.3.7.2). Study subjects withdrawn from the trial for any reason prior to meeting the primary endpoint (see Section 6.3.7.2) will undergo a complete end of study evaluation if possible (see Section 6.3.7.2).

Specimen Table

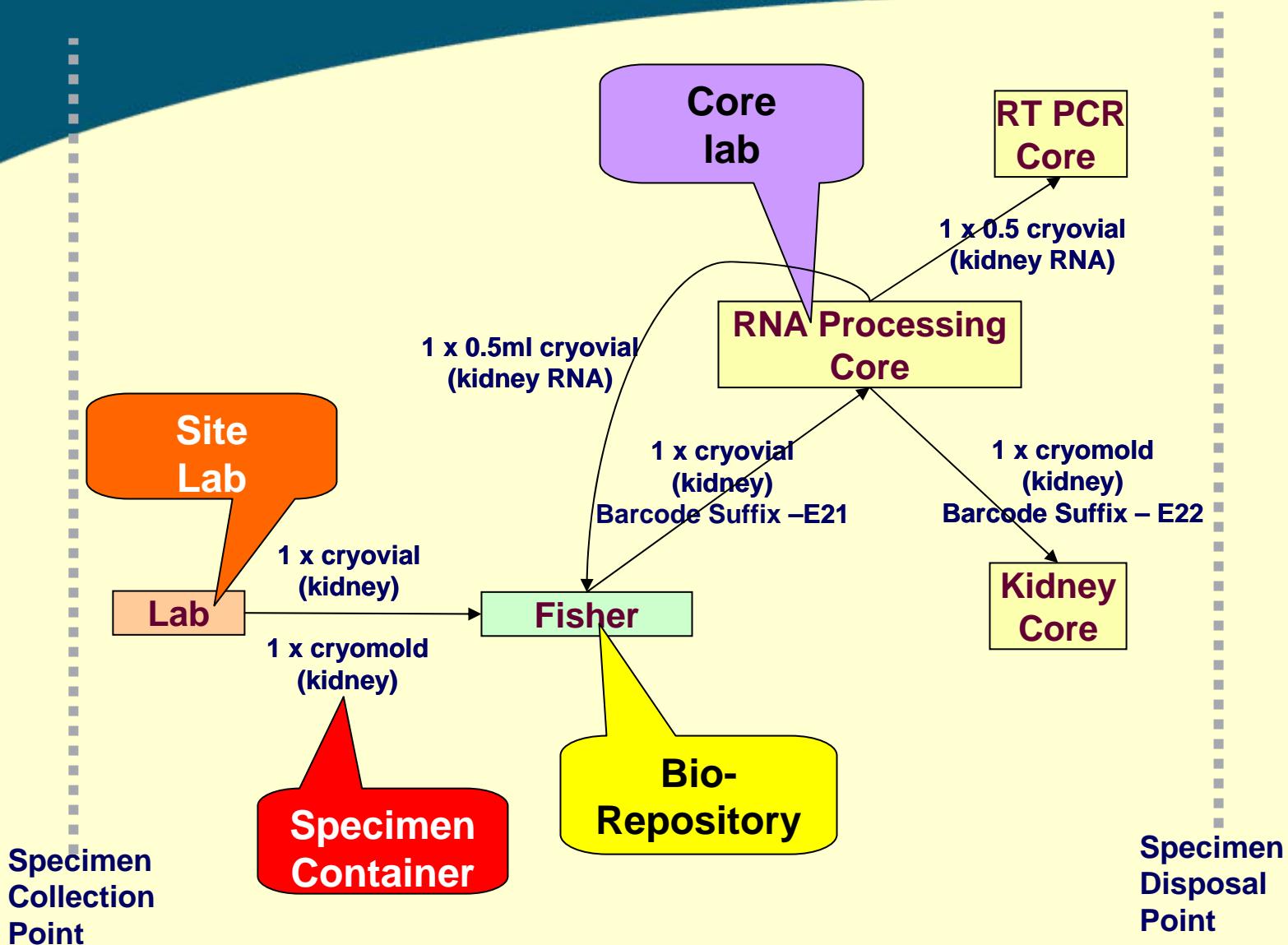
Specimen Table

Mechanistic Study

Specimen Workflow

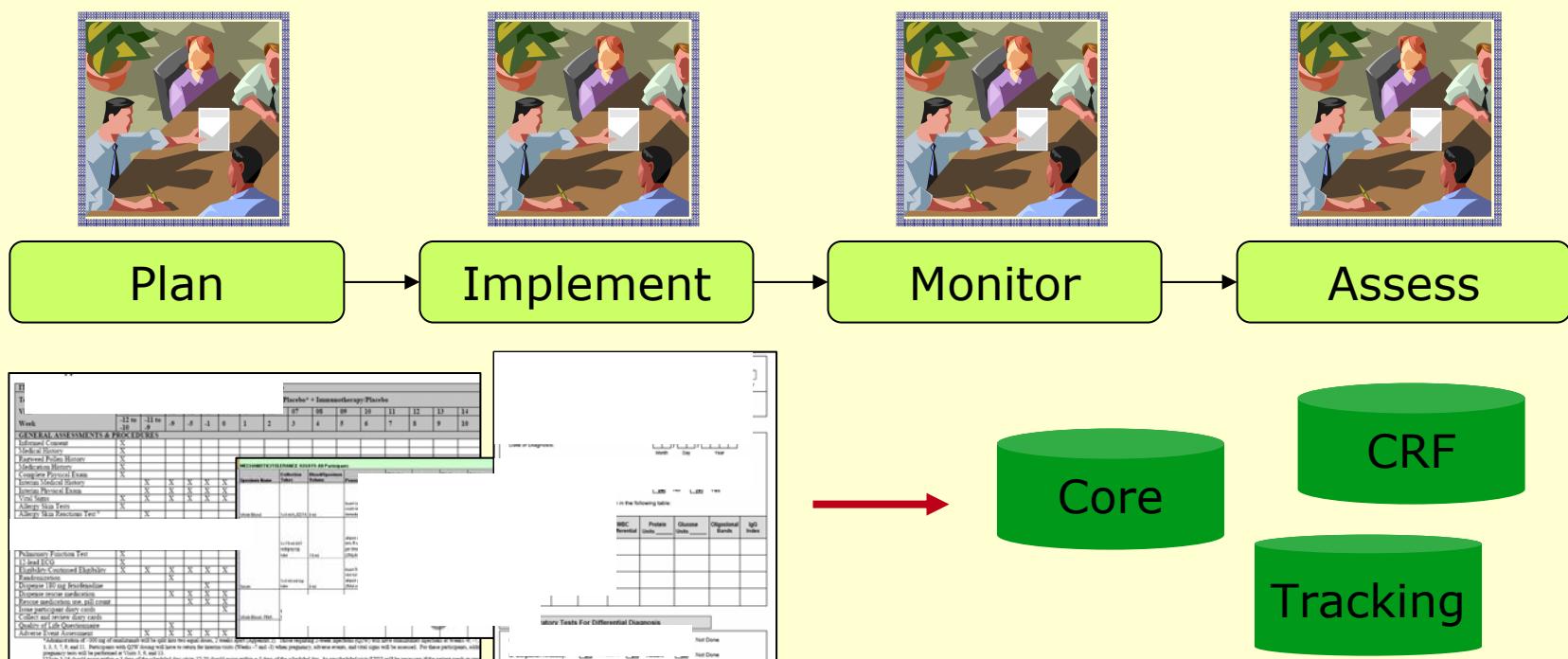


Specimen Workflow



Challenges in Trials Management

- Knowledge about protocols, assays, and specimen flow is captured in documents and spreadsheets



What is in a visit name?

Visit 0, v0, v 0, 0, Day 0, Transplant

Table 7: Summary of Assessments for Subjects

	Screening Pre-MS Review Panel	Screening Post-MS Review Panel	Baseline	Post-mobilization & Pre-conditioning	Day 0 (Transplant)	Day +1 to +28	Week 4 (Day 28)											
Visits	SC1	SC2	-1	PM	0	1 ^a	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 ^b				
Informed Consent																		
Signed Screening Informed Consent	X																	
Initial Informed Consent					X													
					X													
					X													
					X													
					X													
					X													
					X													
					X													
					X													
Exam																		
Medical History	X																	
Physical Exam and Health Assessments ^a	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Post-Mobilization or Post-Transplant Acute Toxicity Assessment					X			X	X	X								
Clinical Procedures & Assessments																		
CBC with diff and platelets			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				

^aClinical assessments are required twice a week until Day 28 or discharge from hospital (see MOP).

^bThe point evaluation visit and the Study Completion Visit. Subjects who meet the primary endpoint (see Section 6.3.7.2), and will, in addition, continue to undergo a complete end of study evaluation at the time of meeting the primary endpoint (see Section 6.3.7.2). Study subjects withdrawn from the trial for any reason prior to meeting the primary endpoint (see Section 6.3.7.2) will undergo a complete end of study evaluation if possible (see Section 6.3.7.2).

What is in a visit name? Visit 0, v0, v 0, 0, Day 0, Transplant

Protocol Group 0

Assay Group

Specimen Tables

Page

What is in a visit name?

Visit 0, v0, v 0, 0, Day 0, Transplant

CRO Day 0, Transplant

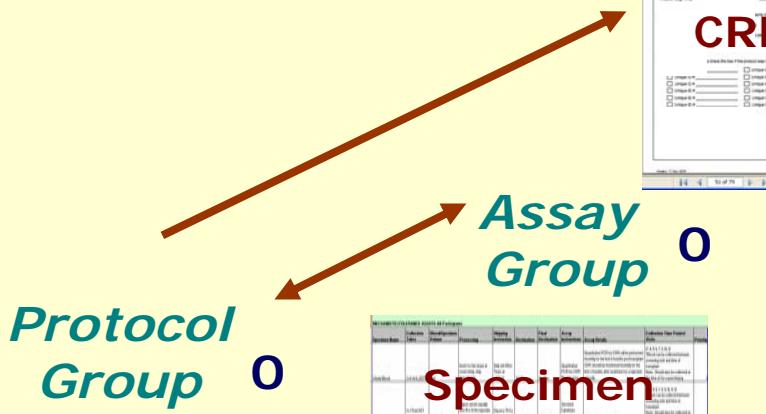
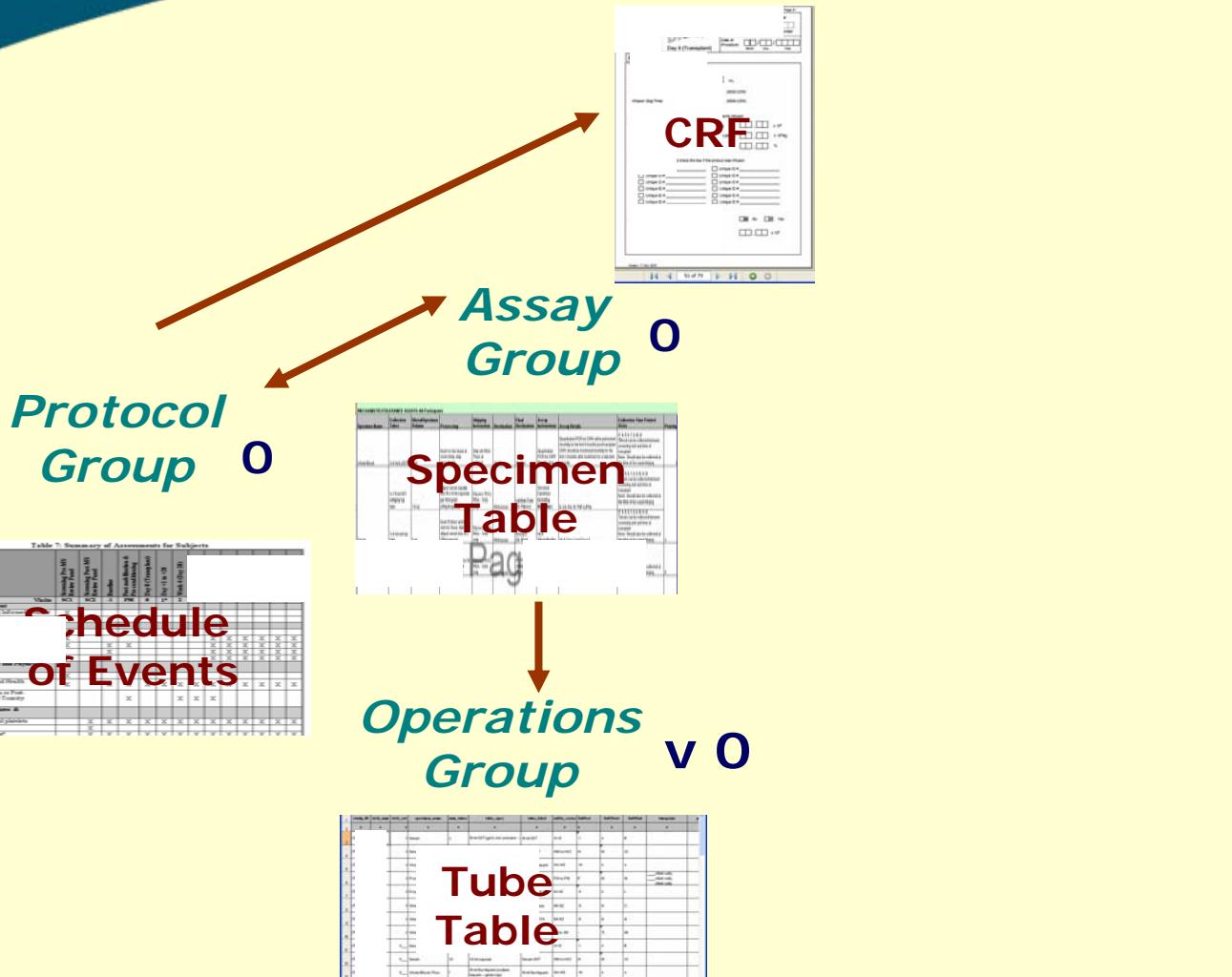


Table 7: Summary of Assessments for Subjects											
Subject	Visit	Assessments	Initial Assessment			Assessments			Final Assessment		
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Subject 1	V1	Assessment 1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Subject 2	V2	Assessment 2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Subject 3	V3	Assessment 3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Subject 4	V4	Assessment 4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Subject 5	V5	Assessment 5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Subject 6	V6	Assessment 6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Subject 7	V7	Assessment 7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Subject 8	V8	Assessment 8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Subject 9	V9	Assessment 9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Subject 10	V10	Assessment 10	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Schedule of Events

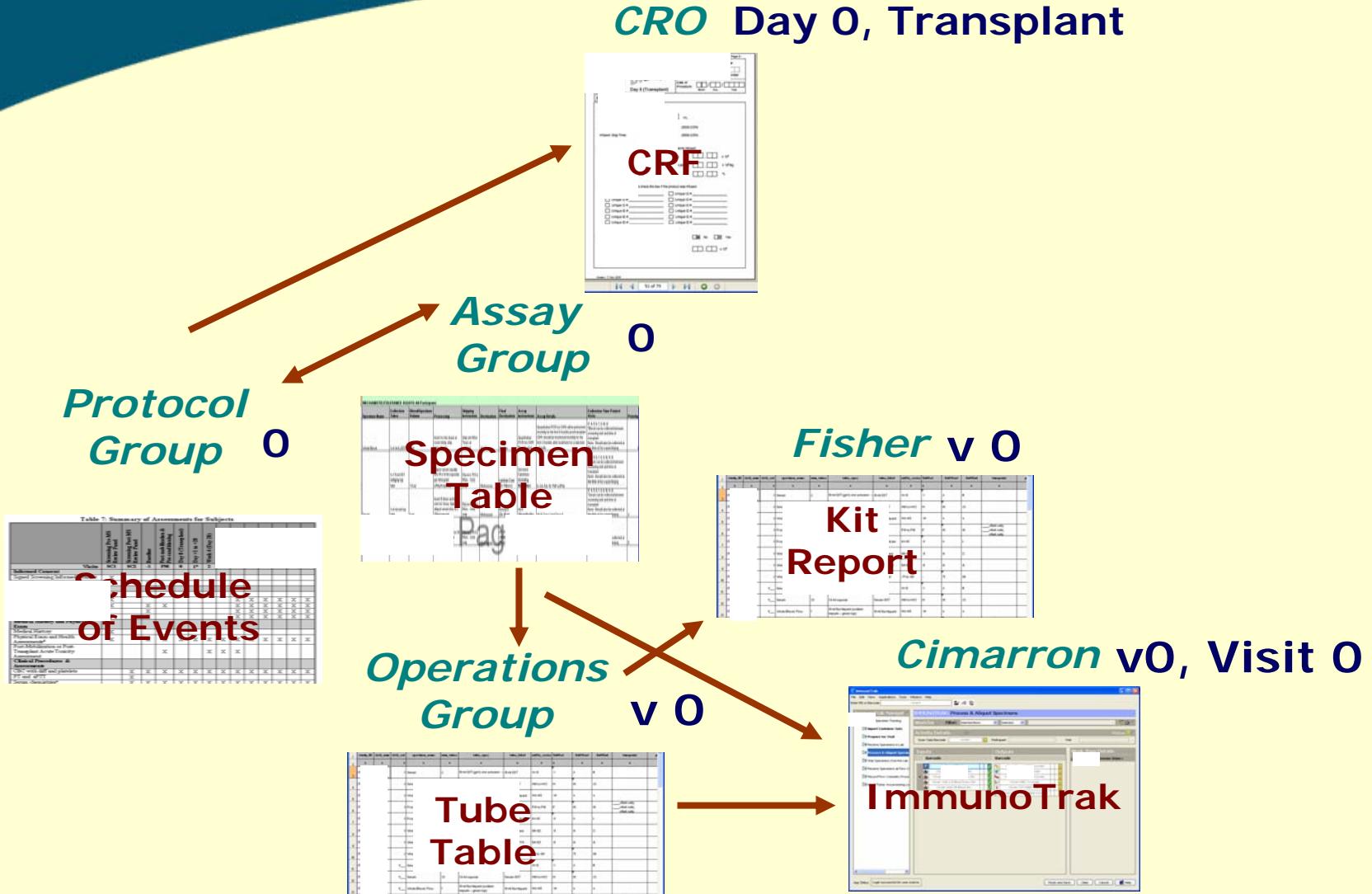
What is in a visit name? Visit 0, v0, v 0, 0, Day 0, Transplant

CRO Day 0, Transplant

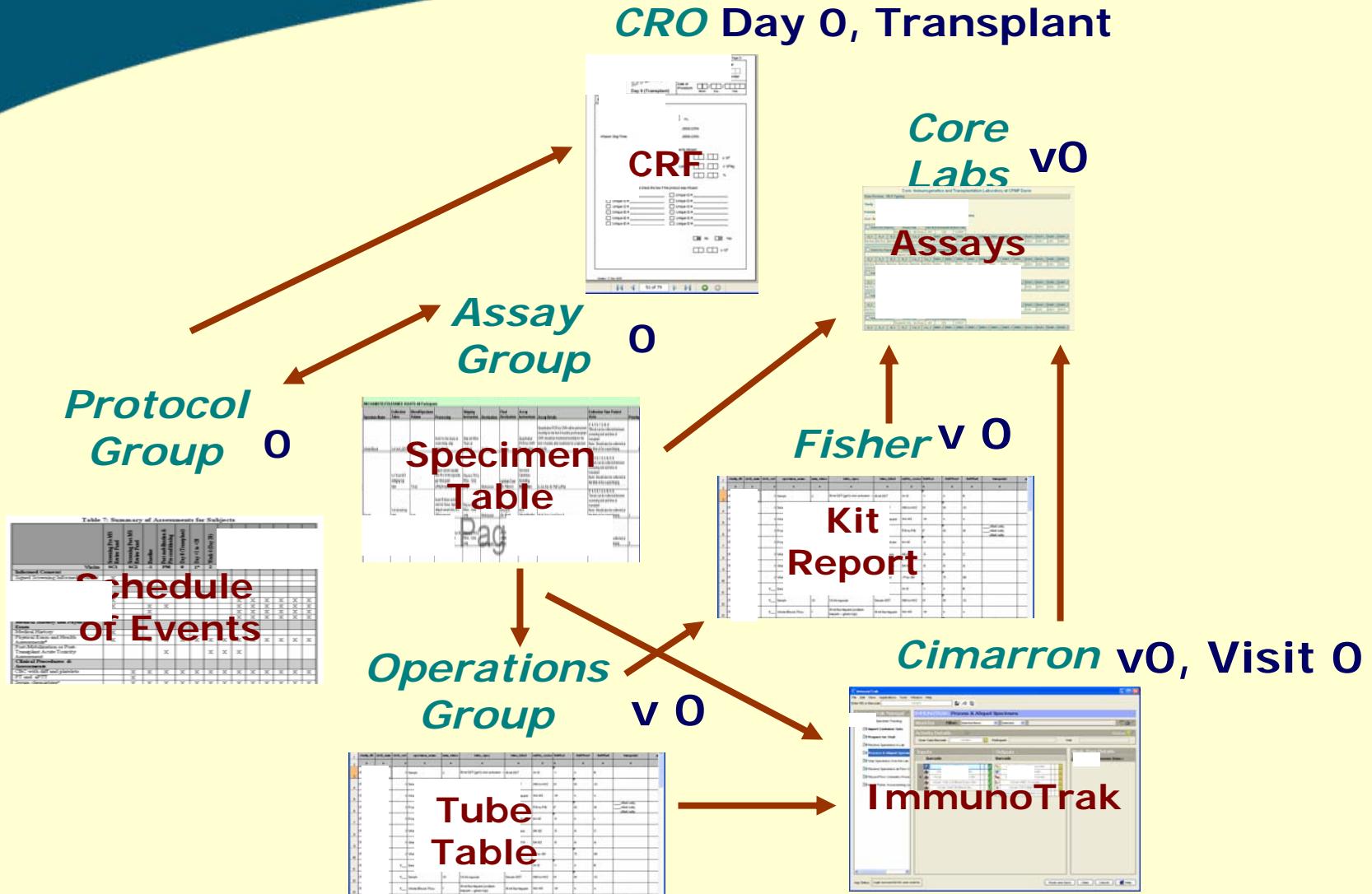


What is in a visit name?

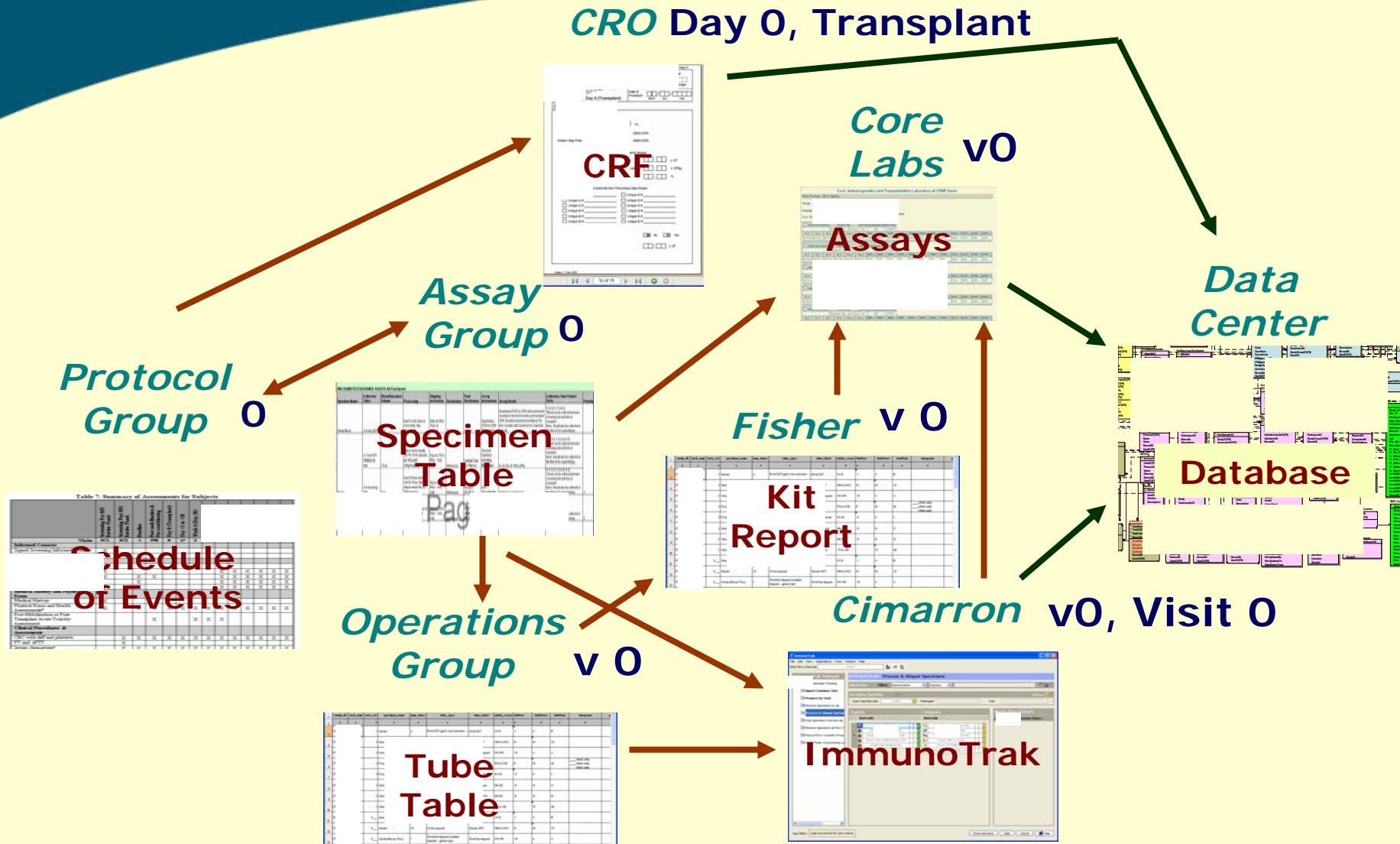
Visit 0, v0, v 0, 0, Day 0, Transplant



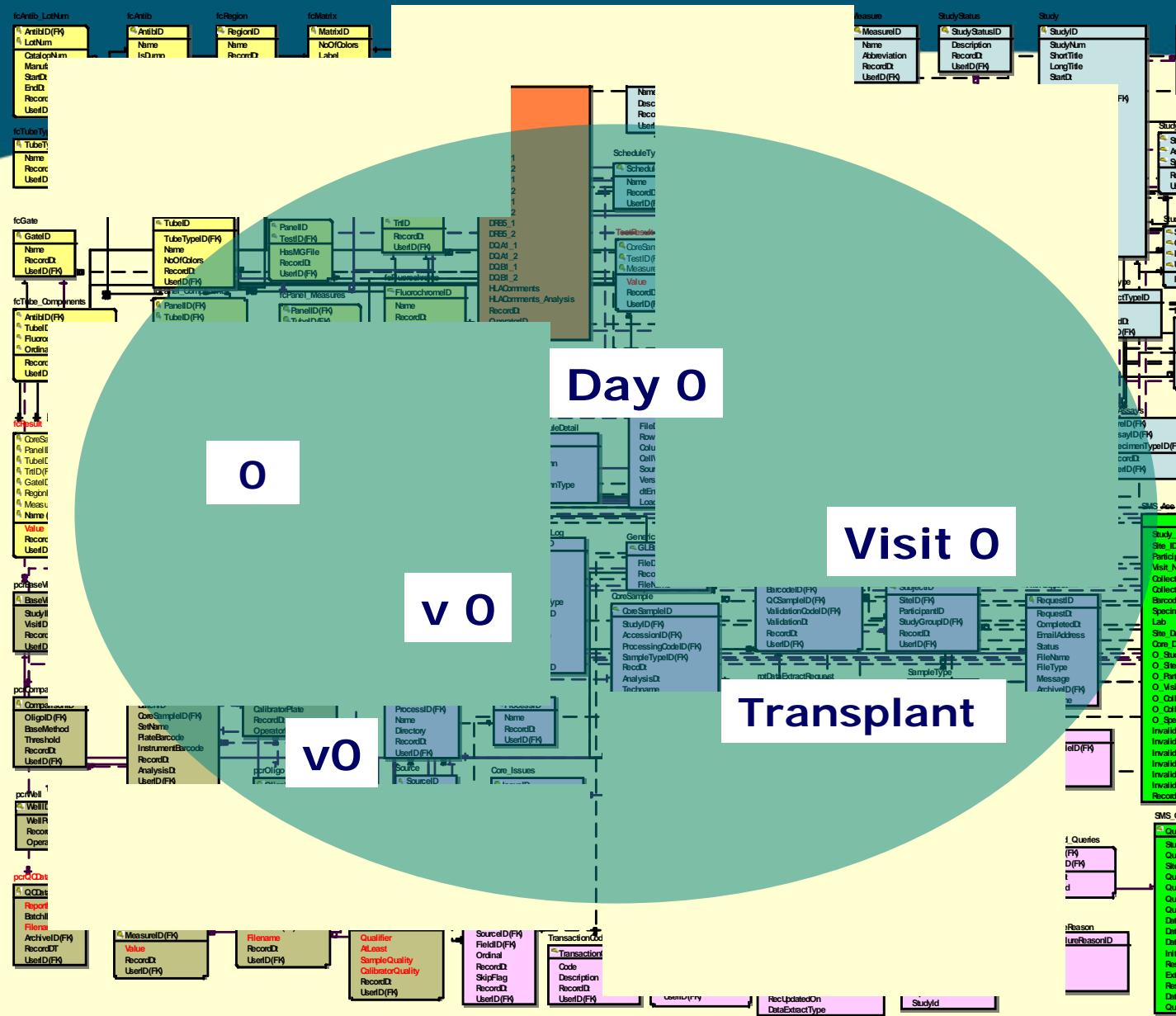
What is in a visit name? Visit 0, v0, v 0, 0, Day 0, Transplant



What is in a visit name? Visit 0, v0, v 0, 0, Day 0, Transplant

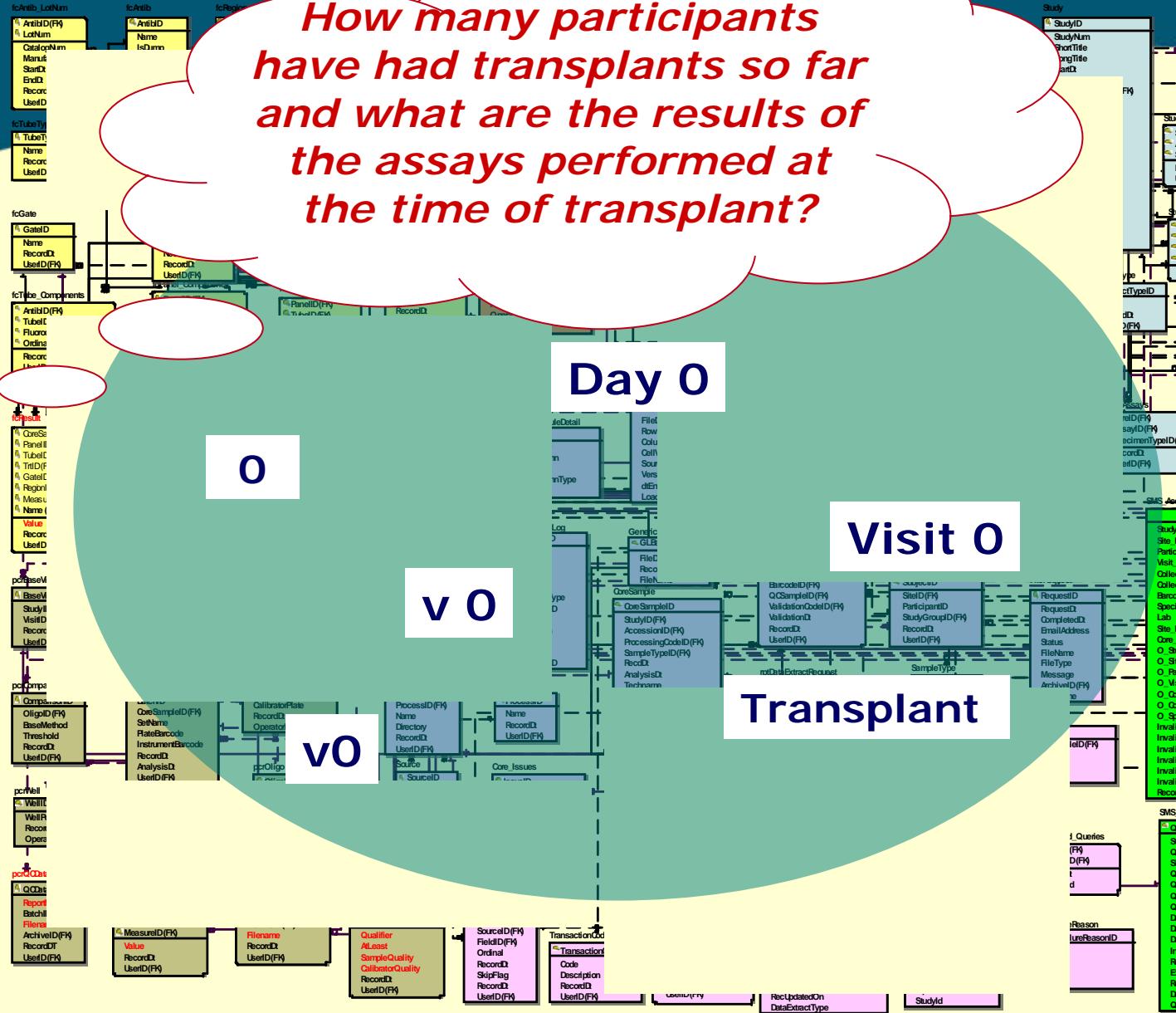


What is in a visit name?



What is in a visit name?

*How many participants
have had transplants so far
and what are the results of
the assays performed at
the time of transplant?*



Challenges in Trials Management

- Enterprise-wide knowledge about trials management is not formally encoded, leading to challenges in
 - Standardization
 - Data integrity
 - Data analysis
 - Data integration
- Significant efforts may be needed to resolve inconsistencies after a trial has started

ITN Informatics Core at Stanford

Epoch

An Ontological Framework for Clinical Trials Management

ITN Informatics Core at Stanford

The goals of our collaboration are to

- Design tools to help acquire and maintain knowledge about protocol and assay designs
- Use this knowledge to drive data collection during a trial
- Implement querying methods to support trial management, and ad hoc data analysis

Building Ontologies for ITN – Epoch

Table 7: Summary of Assessments for Subjects

Visits	Screening Pre-MS Review Panel	Screening Post-MS Review Panel	-1	Baseline	Post-mobilization & Pre-conditioning	Day 0 (Transplant)	Day +1 to +28	Week 4 (Day 28)	1 x 0.5ml cryovial
	SCI	SC2	PM	0	1 ^a	2	3		
Informed Consent									
Signed Screening Informed Consent	X								
Signed Treatment Informed Consent			X						
		X							
	X					X	X	X	X
	X		X			X	X	X	X
	X				X	X	X	X	X
	X				X	X	X	X	X
						X	X	X	X
						X	X	X	X
Medical History									
Physical Exam	Specimen Name	Collection Tubes			Blood/Specimen Volume	Processing/ Shipping			
Assessments	1	Serum-Archive			20 ml	Invert several times to mix. Allow to clot 30 min. Freeze <-70°C.			
Post-Mobiliz		2 x 10 ml SST red/gray top							
Transplant A									
Assessment	2	Whole Blood - Flow Cytometry Panel Stainin			10 ml	Invert to mix; leave at room temp. until shipped			
Clinical Pro	3	1 x 10 ml glass Na Heparin (sodium heparin--green top)							
Assessments	4	Frozen PBMC-Archive			98 ml	pt 10 cryo			
CBC with dil		2 x 10 ml MNC				pt into 8			
Clincial ass		3 x 3 ml Temp				and freeze			
bThe Month		Collection tub				cryovial			
the primary		(sent locally)				structured			
primary end									
6.3.7.1. Stu		5 x 10 ml K2 EDTA							
complete en		estination							
		Fisher							
		Fisher							
		Archive							
		-1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9							
		5							
		2							
		3							
		event of a							
		6							
		4							
		an event of a							
		1							
		1							
		6							
		Dry Ice Mon - Wed only							
		Fisher							
		Fisher							
		Archive							
		-1							
		6							
		previously met endpoint) reaches the 5-year end of study mark, they will have another end of study visit.							

RT PCR Core

1 x 0.5 cryovial
(kidney RNA)

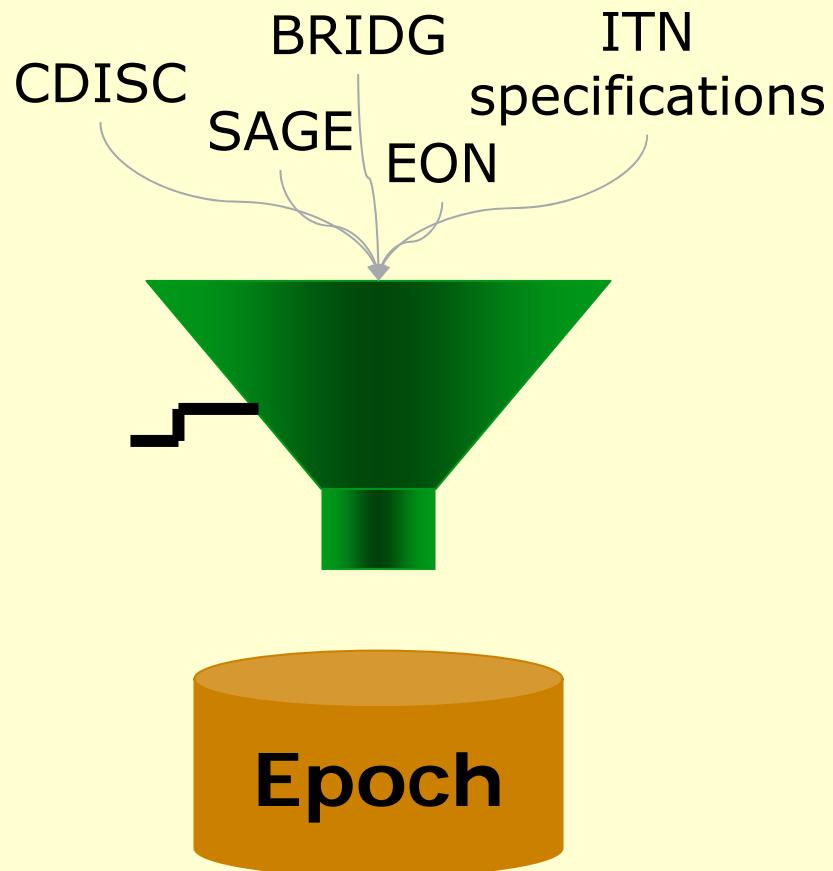
RNA Processing Core

1 x cryomold
(kidney)
Barcode Suffix – E22

Kidney Core

Specimen Disposal Point

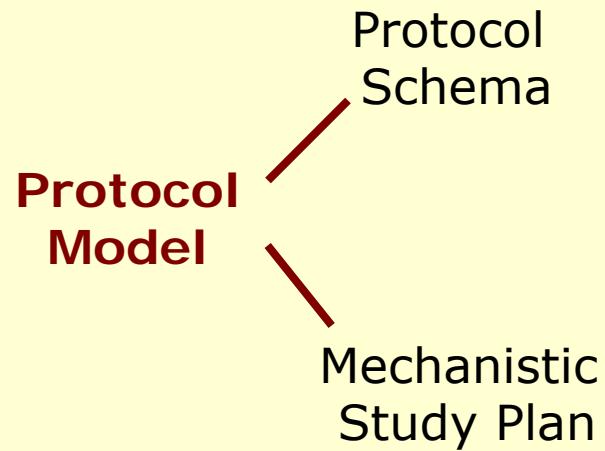
Building Ontologies for ITN – Epoch



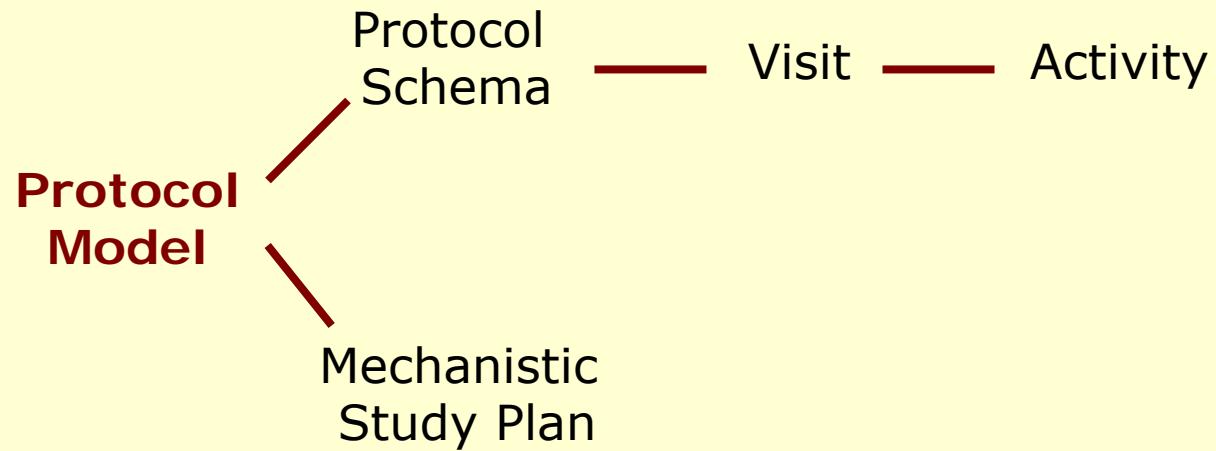
Epoch Ontologies

**Protocol
Model**

Epoch Ontologies



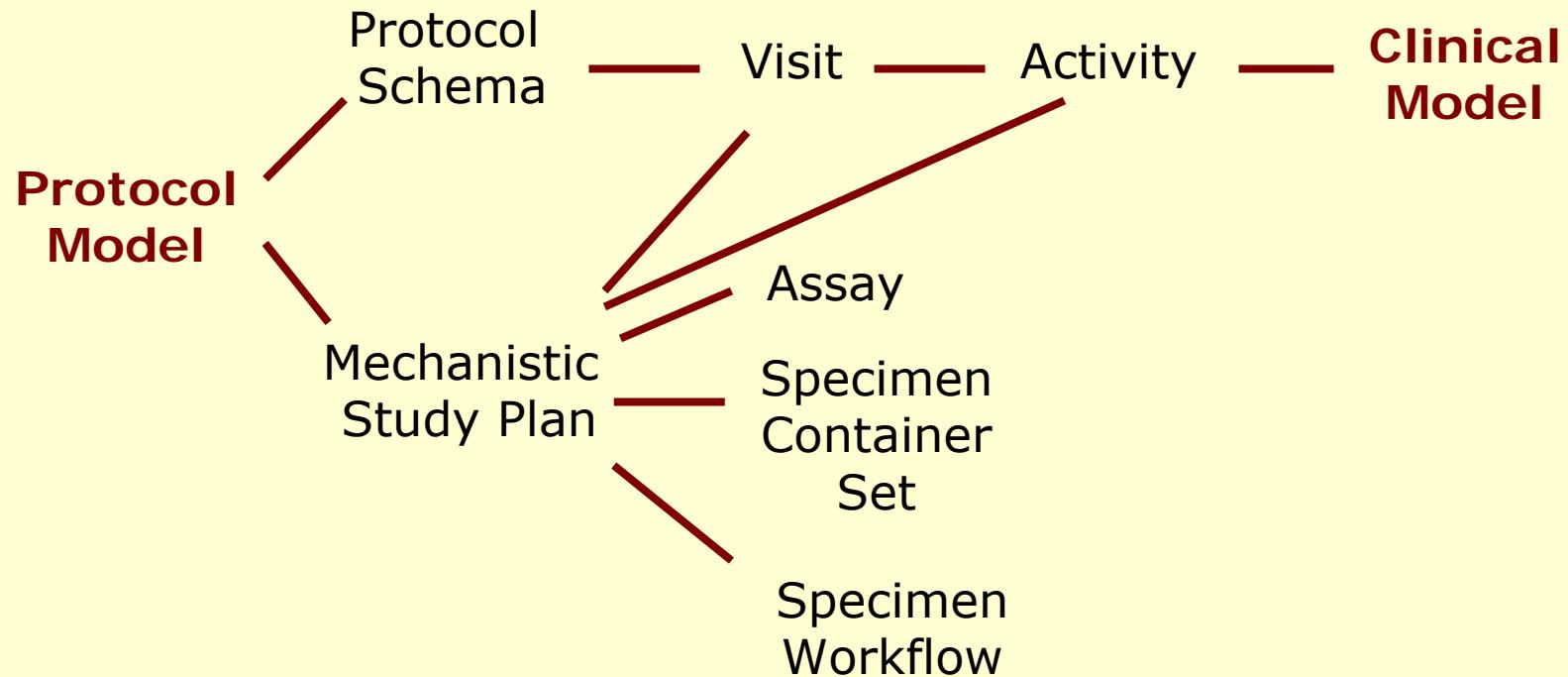
Epoch Ontologies



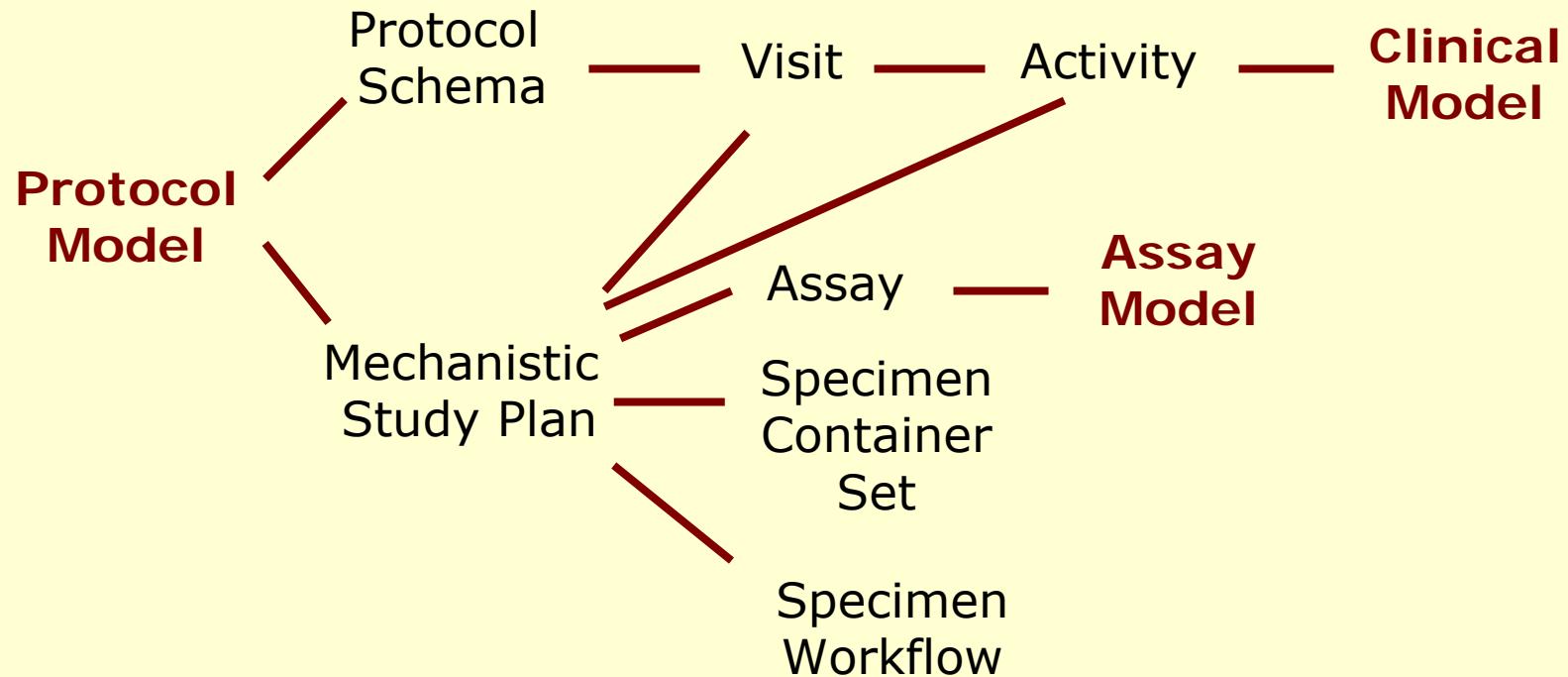
Epoch Ontologies



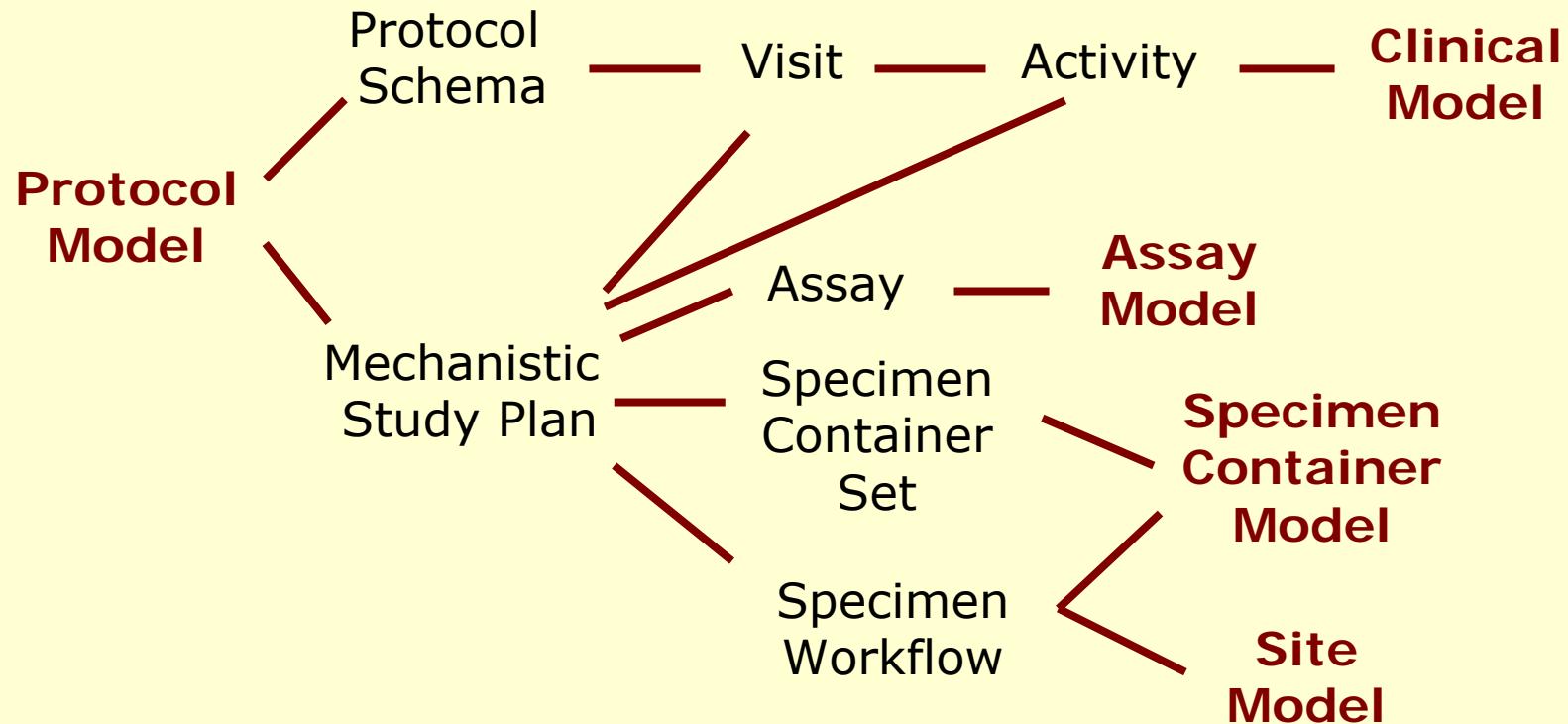
Epoch Ontologies



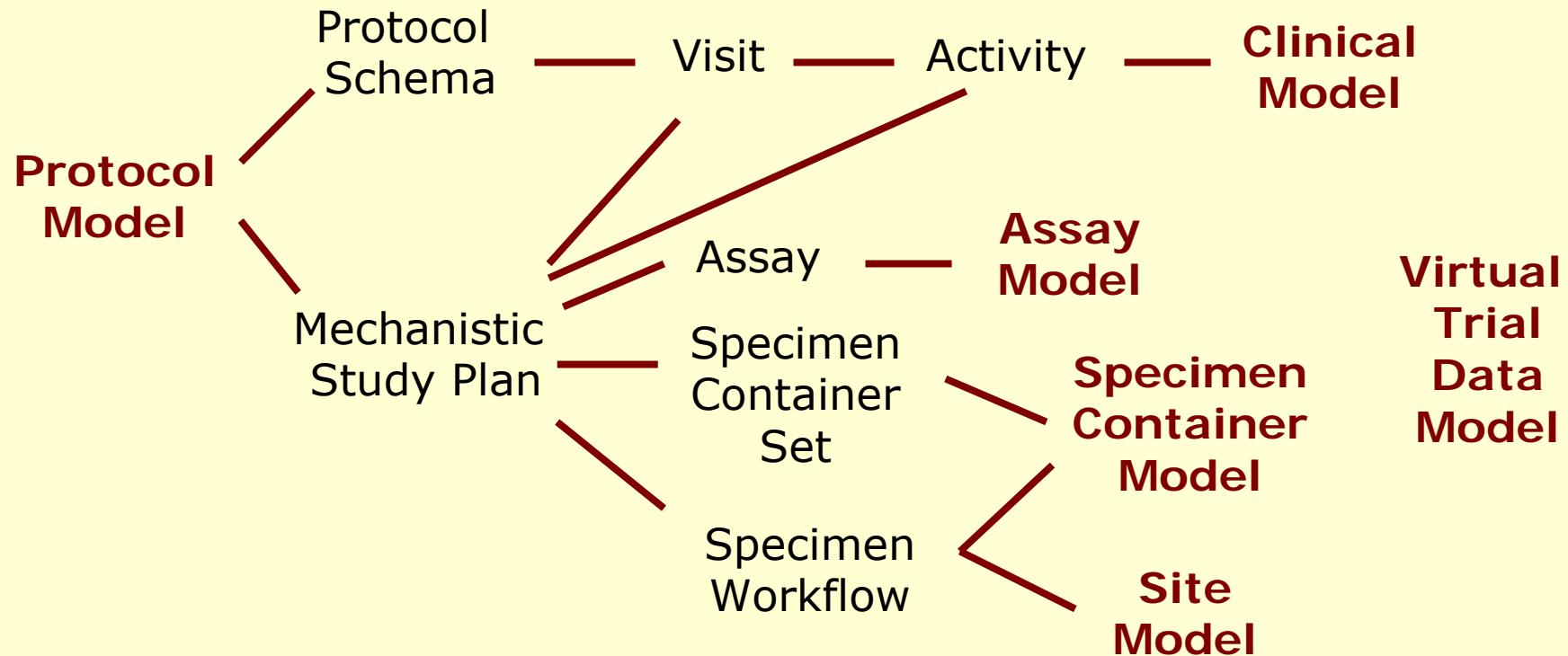
Epoch Ontologies



Epoch Ontologies



Epoch Ontologies



Knowledge-Acquisition Environment

OWL (the Web Ontology Language proposed by W3C)

SWRL (the Semantic Web Rule Language) to specify constraints and queries

Protégé-OWL editor to enter ontologies in OWL and SWRL

Epoch Protocol Model

The screenshot displays the Protégé 3.2 beta interface for the Epoch Protocol Model. The title bar indicates the file path: D:\Ravi\Projects\ITN\kb\Epoch\EpochProtocolModel.pprj, OWL / RDF Files.

The menu bar includes: File, Edit, Project, OWL, Code, Tools, Window, Help.

The toolbar contains various icons for file operations, search, and navigation.

The top navigation bar features tabs: Metadata (EpochProtocolModel.owl), OWLClasses, Properties, Individuals, Forms, and Knowledge Tree.

SUBCLASS EXPLORER: For Project: EpochProtocolModel. Asserted Hierarchy:

- org:PersonConcept
- org:SiteModelConcept
- scm:LabWare
- scm:ProcessingRequirement
- scm:SpecimenType
- scm:StorageRequirement
- asy:Assay
- DataModel
- Expression
- ProtocolModelConcept
 - Protocol
 - SitePlanConcept
 - StudyInformation
- StudyPlanConcept
 - MechanisticStudyConcept
 - ParticipantStatesConcept
 - StudyPlan
- StudySchemaConcept
 - Arm
 - StudyPhase
 - StudySchemaDiagram
 - StudySchemaNode
 - StudySchemaTransition

CLASS EDITOR: For Class: StudyPlan (instance of owl:Class)

Properties

Property	Value	Lang
rdfs:comment		

Properties and Restrictions

- hasArms (multiple Arm)
- hasMechanisticStudyPlan (single MechanisticStudyPlan)
- hasParticipantStateDiagram (single ParticipantStateDiagram)
- hasStudySchemaDiagram (single StudySchemaDiagram)

Superclasses: StudyPlanConcept

Disjoins

View Selection: Logic View (radio button selected) and Properties View.

Epoch Protocol Model

▪ StudyPlan

● StudyPlan

- **hasArms** (multiple Arm)
- **hasMechanisticStudyPlan** (single MechanisticStudyPlan)
- **hasParticipantStateDiagram** (single ParticipantStateDiagram)
- **hasStudySchemaDiagram** (single StudySchemaDiagram)

Schedule of Events

Summary of Assessments for Subjects											
	Screening Pre-MIS Review Panel	Screening Post-MIS Review Panel	Baseline	Post-mobilization & Pre-conditioning	Day 0 (Transplant)	Day +1 to +28	Week 4 (Day 28)	Day 56			
Visits	SC1	SC2	-1	PM	0	+1	+28	56			
Informed Consent											
Signed Screening Informed Consent	X										
Signed Treatment Informed Consent											
<i>Visit</i>											
	X										
	X										
	X		X								
		X									
			X								
				X							
					X						
						X					
							X				
								X			
									X		
										X	
											X
Exam	<i>Activity</i>										
Medical History	X										
Physical Exam and Health Assessments ^a		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Post-Mobilization or Post-Transplant Acute Toxicity Assessment				X			X	X	X		
Clinical Procedures & Assessments											
CBC with diff and platelets		X	X				X	X	X	X	X

^aClinical assessments are required twice a week until Day 28 or discharge from hospital (see MOP).

bThe point evaluation visit and the Study Completion Visit. Subjects who meet the primary endpoint (see Section 6.3.7.2), and will, in addition, continue to undergo a complete end of study evaluation at the time of meeting the primary endpoint (see Section 6.3.7.2). Study subjects withdrawn from the trial for any reason prior to meeting the primary endpoint (see Section 6.3.7.2) will undergo a complete end of study evaluation if possible (see Section 6.3.7.2).

Protocol Model – Study Schema

- ▼ ● StudySchemaConcept
 - Arm
 - ● StudyPhase
 - StudySchemaDiagram
- ▼ ● StudySchemaNode
 - Period
 - StudySchemaTransition
 - TransitionRestriction
 - VisitFlow
- ▼ ● VisitFlowNode
 - Context
 - Decision
 - Visit
 - VisitFlowTransition

Study Schema

Screenshot of the Protégé knowledge editor interface showing a study schema.

The Knowledge Tree panel on the left shows the following hierarchy under the `epoch` namespace:

- `epoch:hasStudyInformation`
- `epoch:hasSitePlan`
- `epoch:hasStudyPlan`
 - `epoch:hasMechanisticStudyPlan`
 - `epoch:hasStudySchemaDiagram`
 - `epoch:hasStudySchemaTransit`
 - `epoch:hasStudySchemaNodes`
 - `epoch:hasStartStudySchemaNode`
 - `rdfs:member`
 - `rdfs:isDefinedBy`
 - `rdfs:seeAlso`
 - `owl:differentFrom`
 - `owl:sameAs`
 - `protege:inferredType`
 - `epoch:hasPeriods`
 - `epoch:hasSite`
 - `epoch:hasParticipantState`
 - `epoch:hasArms`
 - `epoch:hasParticipantStateDiagram`
 - `rdfs:member`
 - `rdfs:isDefinedBy`
 - `rdfs:seeAlso`
 - `owl:differentFrom`
 - `owl:sameAs`
 - `protege:inferredType`
 - `epoch:hasPeriods`
 - `epoch:hasSite`
 - `epoch:hasParticipantState`
- `rdfs:member`
- `rdfs:isDefinedBy`
- `rdfs:seeAlso`
- `owl:differentFrom`
- `owl:sameAs`
- `protege:inferredType`
- `epoch:hasPeriods`
- `epoch:hasSite`
- `epoch:hasParticipantState`

The INSTANCE EDITOR panel on the right displays the properties and value for the `Schema` instance:

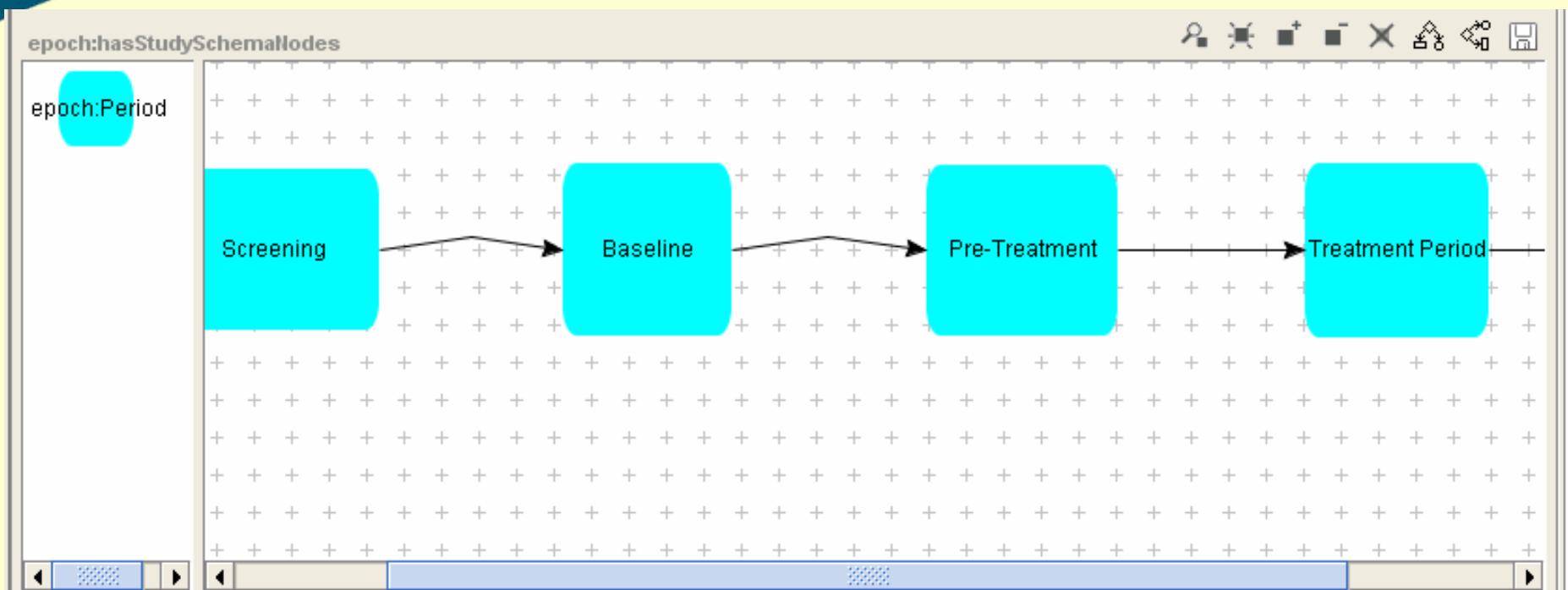
Property	Value
<code>rdfs:comment</code>	
<code>rdfs:label</code>	Schema

Below the properties, the `epoch:hasStartStudySchemaNode` property is expanded to show the value `Screening`, which is highlighted in red.

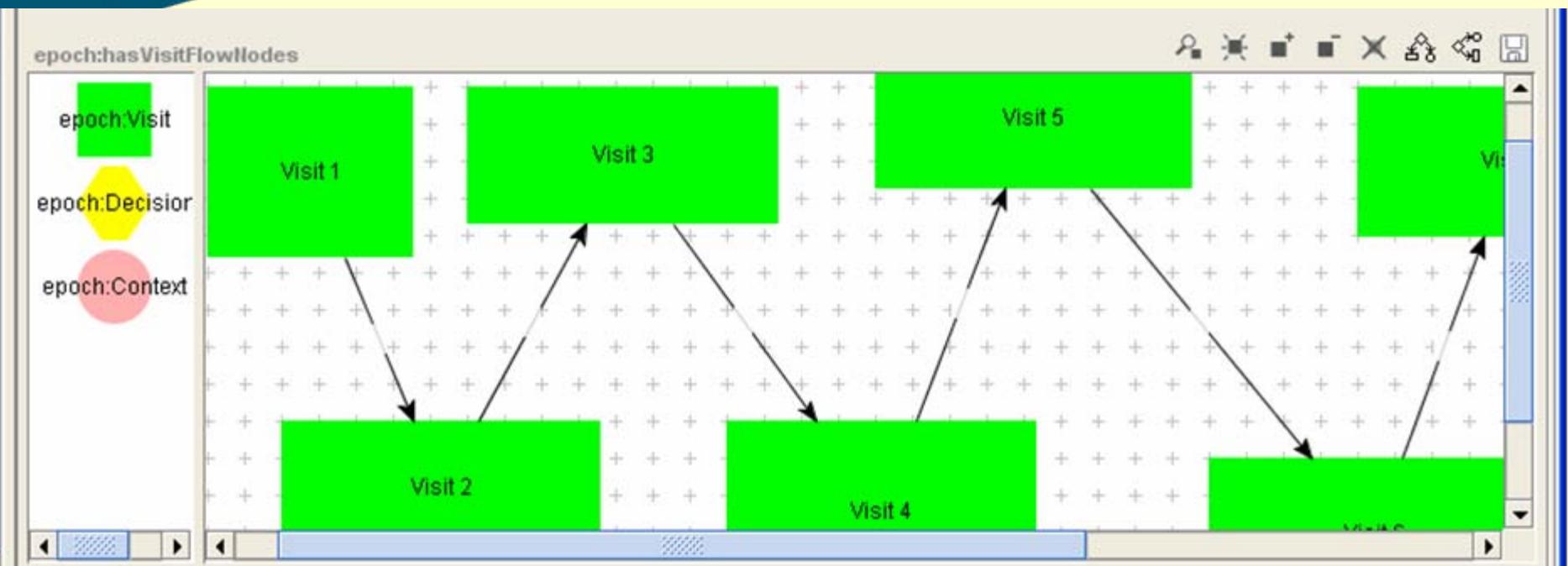
The `epoch:hasStudySchemaNodes` property is shown with a grid diagram illustrating the flow from Screening to Baseline to Pre-Treatment.

```
graph LR; Screening --> Baseline; Baseline --> PreTreatment
```

Study Schema – a Temporal Sequence of Periods



Visit Flow – a Temporal Sequence of Visits



Visit

Visit 1 (instance of epoch:Visit, internal name is Visit_22)

INDIVIDUAL EDITOR

For Individual: Visit 1 - Internal name: Visit_22 (instance of epoch:Visit)

Annotations

Property	Value	Lang
rdfs:comment		
rdfs:label	Visit 1	

epoch:hasVisitId epoch:hasRepeatSpecification
1 ♦ twice weekly until day 28 or discharge

epoch:hasVisitType epoch:hasStartCondition
Scheduled ♦ Transplant Day +1

epoch:involvesMechanisticStudy epoch:hasTransitionRestriction
false

epoch:hasEndCondition

Annotations

Visit – different Visit names

Visit 1 (instance of epoch:Visit, internal name is Visit_22)

INDIVIDUAL EDITOR

For Individual: Visit 1 Internal name: Visit_22 (instance of epoch:Visit)

Annotations

Property	Value	Lang
rdfs:comment		
rdfs:label	Visit 1	

epoch:hasVisitId: 1

epoch:hasVisitType: Scheduled

epoch:involvesMechanisticStudy: false

epoch:hasEndCondition:

epoch:hasRepeatSpecification: twice weekly until day 28 or discharge

epoch:hasStartCondition: Transplant Day +1

epoch:hasTransitionRestriction:

Specimen Table

Mechanistic Study

Processing Instruction

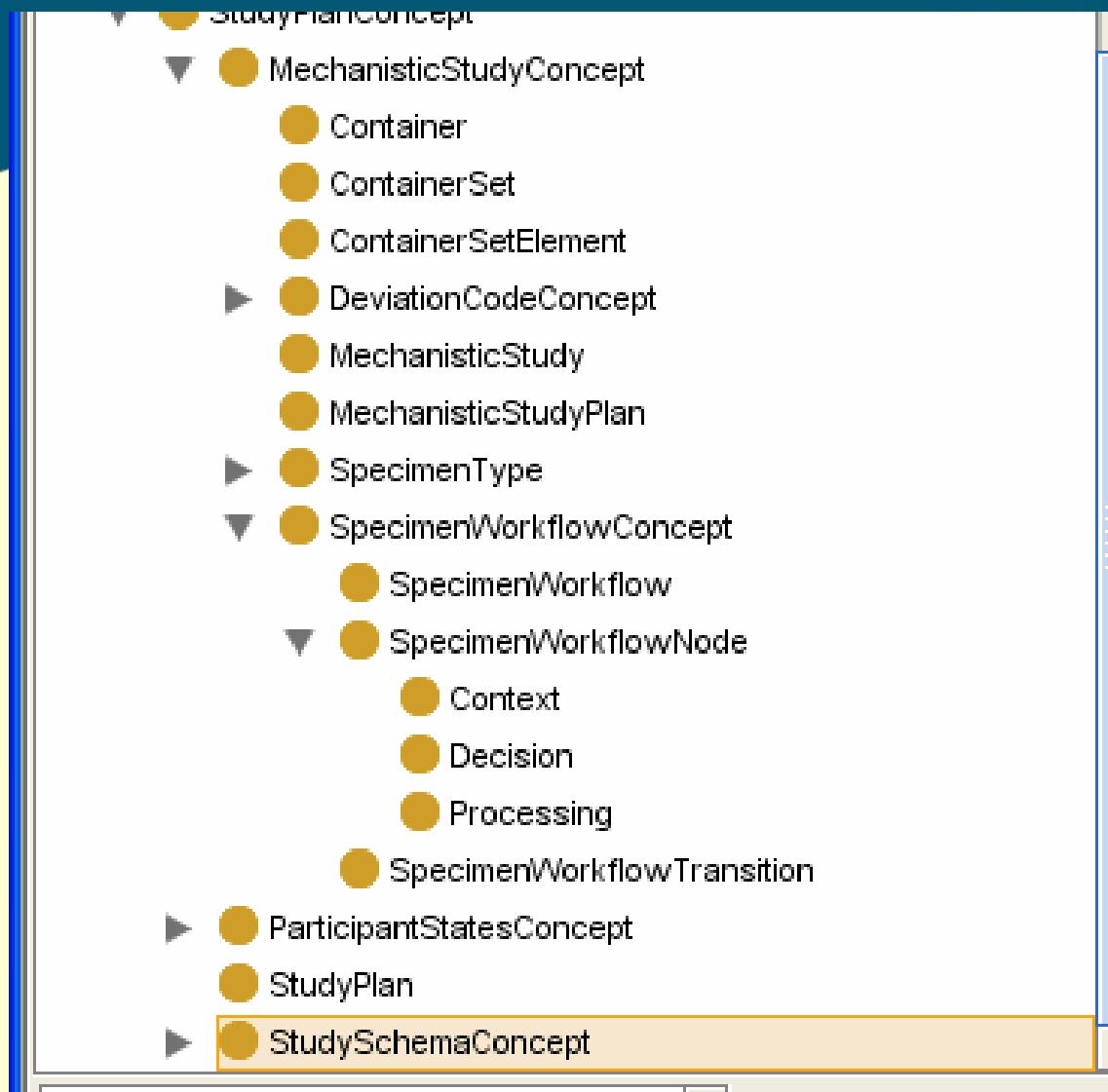
Specimen Container

Specimen Workflow

Assay

		B	C		
		Collection Tubes	Blood/Specimen Volume	Processing/Shipping Instructions	
1	Serum-Archive	2 x 10 ml SST red/gray top	20 ml	Invert several times to mix. Allow to clot 30 min. Freeze <-70°C.	
2					
3	Whole Blood - Flow Cytometry Panel Stainin	1 x 10 ml glass Na Heparin (sodium heparin-green top)	10 ml	Invert to mix; leave at room temp. until shipme	
4	Frozen PBMC-Archive	12 x 8 ml CPT (sodium citrate gel and dens	10 ml	Freeze immediately at -70°C. Ship in dry ice	10 cryo vials
5	Leukaphereses WBC-Archive	2 x 10.9 MNC	10 ml	Ship in dry ice. Add 1 ml RNase inhibitor to each tube. Add 1 ml RNA stabilization solution to each tube. Add 1 ml preservative to each tube.	into 8 vials and freeze at -70°C. Protect from light
				Specimens provided by site (sample ID)	
11	Shipping Instruction	DTA lavender top tube	10 ml	DO NOT SPIN. aliquot equally into 10 x 1.8 ml conical tubes.	
12	Destination	Final Destination	Assay Instructions	Assay Details	Collection Time Points/Visits
NOTE:	Dry Ice Mon - Wed only	Fisher	Fisher	Archive	-1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9
	Ship ambient within 24 hours	Flow Cytometry	Flow Cytometry		4,5,6,7,8,9
	Dry Ice Mon-Wed only	Fisher	Flow Cytometry	Flow Cytometry	4,5,6
	Dry Ice Mon - Wed only	Fisher	Flow Cytometry	Flow Cytometry	coll
	Dry Ice Mon - Wed only	Fisher	Flow Cytometry	Flow Cytometry	4,5,6
	Dry Ice Mon - Wed only	Fisher	Flow Cytometry	Flow Cytometry	SC2, 6, 8 (relapse)
	Dry Ice Mon - Wed only	Fisher	Flow Cytometry	Flow Cytometry	
	Dry Ice Mon - Wed only	Fisher	Archive		-1
previously met endpoint) reaches the 5-year end of study mark, they will have another end of study visit.					

Protocol Model - Mechanistic Study Plan



Mechanistic Study Plan

The screenshot shows the Protégé knowledge base editor interface. The title bar reads "Mechanistic Study Plan (instance of epoch:MechanisticStudyPlan, internal name: Mechanistic Study Plan)". The menu bar includes File, Edit, Project, OWL, Code, Tools, Window, and Help. The toolbar contains icons for file operations like Open, Save, and Print, along with navigation arrows and a search icon.

The main window has tabs at the top: Metadata, OWLClasses (selected), Properties, Individuals, Forms, and Knowledge Tree. The Knowledge Tree tab shows a hierarchical tree of ontology classes, with "epoch:hasStudyInformation", "epoch:hasSitePlan", and "epoch:hasStudyPlan" expanded. "epoch:hasStudyPlan" further branches into "Study Plan" and "Mechanistic Study Plan". The "Mechanistic Study Plan" node is selected and expanded, showing properties like "rdfs:comment" and "rdfs:label".

The INSTANCE EDITOR panel displays the properties and values for the selected instance:

Property	Value
rdfs:comment	
rdfs:label	Mechanistic Study Plan

Below the properties, there are two lists of associated resources:

- epoch:hasContainerSets**:
 - Visit -1 Blood Draw Kit
 - Leukapheresis Kit
- epoch:hasMechanisticStudies**:
 - Whole Blood - Flow Cytometry Panel Staining
 - Frozen PBMC-Archive

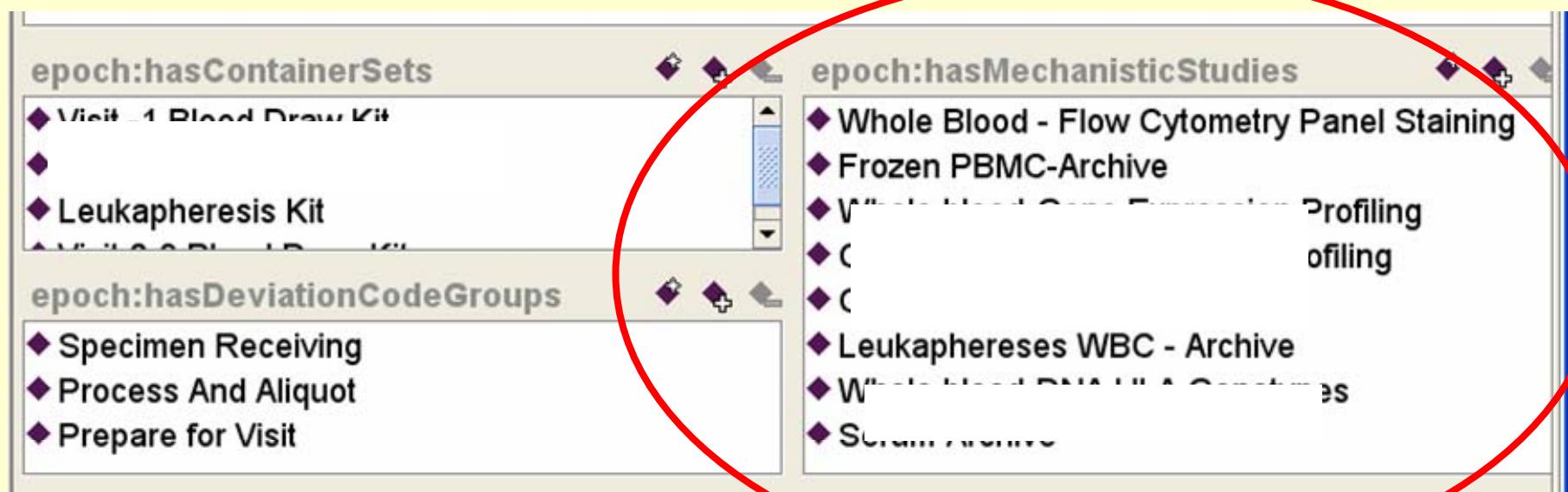
On the right side of the editor, there are additional lists:

- Specimen Receiving
- Process And Aliquot
- Prepare for Visit
- Serum-Archive

Mechanistic Study Plan

epoch:hasContainerSets ◆ Visit -1 Blood Draw Kit ◆ ◆ Leukapheresis Kit	  	epoch:hasMechanisticStudies ◆ Whole Blood - Flow Cytometry Panel Staining ◆ Frozen PBMC-Archive ◆ Visit -1 WBC - Profiling ◆ C ◆ C ◆ Leukaphereses WBC - Archive ◆ W ◆ S	  
epoch:hasDeviationCodeGroups ◆ Specimen Receiving ◆ Process And Aliquot ◆ Prepare for Visit	  		

Mechanistic Study Plan



A Mechanistic Study

◆ Leukaphereses WBC - Archive

epoch:hasPriority	epoch:studyVisits
	6 Visit 8 Baseline Visit 6
epoch:hasSpecimenWorkflow	Leukaphereses WBC workflow
epoch:hasAssay	Leukaphereses WBC .

A Mechanistic Study

◆ Leukaphereses WBC - Archive

epoch:hasPriority	epoch:studyVisits
	6 Visit 8 Baseline Visit 6
epoch:hasSpecimenWorkflow	 Leukaphereses WBC workflow
epoch:hasAssay	 Leukaphereses WBC .

Specimen Workflow

File Edit Project OWL Code Tools Window Help

Metadata (OWLClasses Properties Individuals Forms Knowledge Tree)

Knowledge Tree

INSTANCE EDITOR

For Instance: ♦ Leukaphereses WBC workflow (instance of epoch:SpecimenWorkflow)

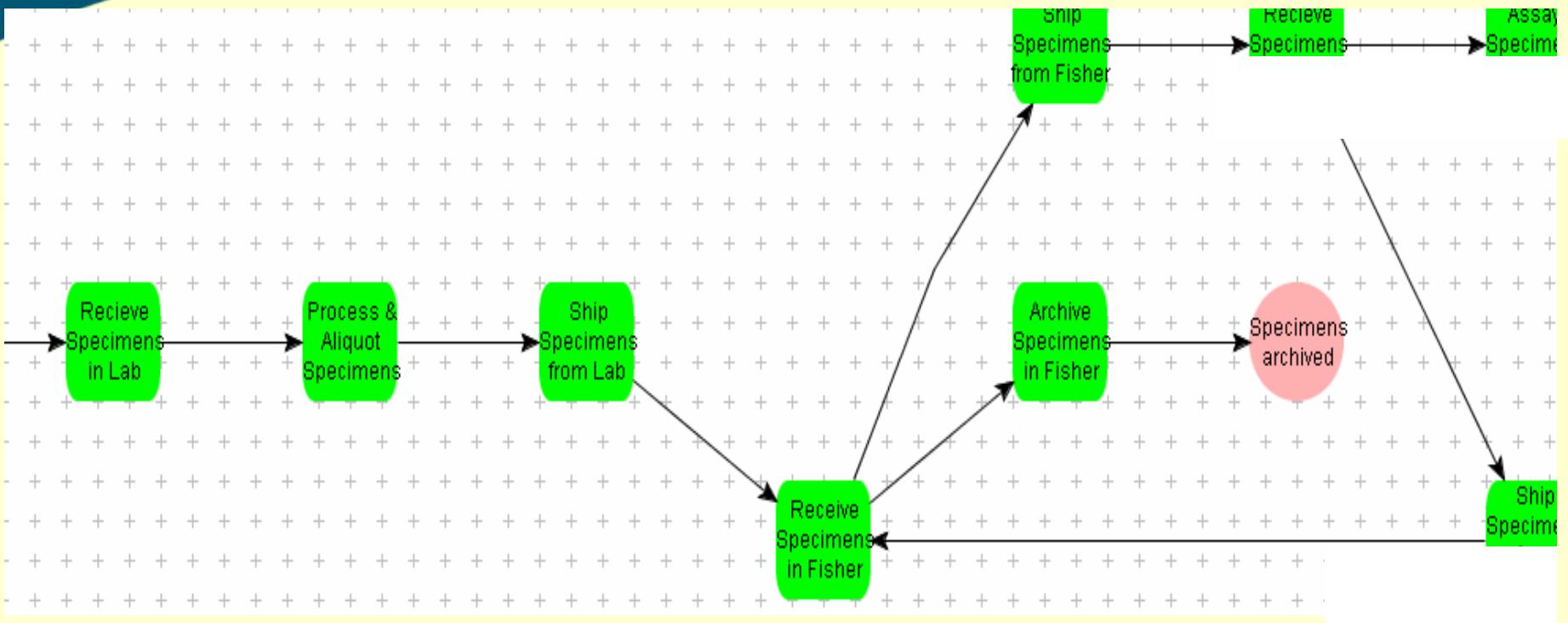
Property	Value
rdfs:comment	
rdfs:label	Leukaphereses WBC workflow

epoch:hasStartSpecimenWorkflowN ♦ Specimen Collected at Visit

epoch:hasSpecimenWorkflowNodes

```
graph LR; A[Process & Aliquot Specimens] --> B[Ship Specimens from Lab]; B --> C[Archive Specimens in Fisher]; B --> D[Specimens in NIP]
```

Specimen Workflow



Mechanistic Study Plan

The screenshot shows a study plan interface with two main sections:

- epoch:hasContainerSets**: This section contains items related to specimen collection and preparation:
 - Visit -1 Blood Draw Kit
 - (empty item)
 - Leukapheresis Kit
- epoch:hasMechanisticStudies**: This section contains items related to laboratory analysis:
 - Whole Blood - Flow Cytometry Panel Staining
 - Frozen PBMC-Archive
 - V (partially visible)
 - C
 - C
 - Leukaphereses WBC - Archive
 - W (partially visible)
 - S (partially visible)

Specimen Container Set

epoch:hasContainerSetName  

Visit - 1 Blood Draw Kit

epoch:hasDescription  

epoch:hasContainerSetElement   

Primary Tempus Tube (2)

◆ Primary - 03ml Tempus Tube (3)

◆ Primary - 10ml Na Heparin Tube (1)

◆ Primary - 10ml K2EDTA Tube (1)

epoch:visitsWhenUsed

◆ Baseline

Specimen Container Set

epoch:hasContainerSetName Ⓜ ✖

Visit - 1 Blood Draw Kit

epoch:hasDescription Ⓜ ✖

epoch:hasContainerSetElement ⚡ ♦ + ♦

Primary Tempus Tube (2)

♦ Primary - 03ml Tempus Tube (3)

♦ Primary - 10ml Na Heparin Tube (1)

♦ Primary - 10ml K2EDTA Tube (1)

epoch:visitsWhenUsed

♦ Baseline

Specimen Container Set

epoch:hasContainerSetName
Visit -1 Blood Draw Kit

epoch:hasDescription

epoch:hasContainerSetElements

- Primary - 03ml Tempus Tube (2)
- ◆ Primary - 10ml Na Heparin Tube
- ◆ Primary - 10ml K2EDTA Tube (1)

epoch:hasDescription

epoch:hasCount 1

epoch:hasContainerName

- 10ml K2EDTA Tube

epoch:hasSpecimenType

- Whole Blood

Specimen Container Set

epoch:hasContainerSetName
Visit -1 Blood Draw Kit
epoch:hasDescription
epoch:hasContainerSetElement
Primary - 03ml Tempus Tube (2)
◆ Primary - 10ml Na Heparin Tube
◆ Primary - 10ml K2EDTA Tube (1)

epoch:hasDescription

epoch:hasCount

epoch:hasContainerName

10ml K2EDTA Tube

epoch:hasSpecimenType

Whole Blood

Specimen Container Ontology – using OWL Full meta model

The screenshot shows the Protege 4.3 interface for editing the SpecimenContainerModel.owl ontology.

SUBCLASS EXPLORER (Left Panel): Lists asserted hierarchy nodes. Key entries include:

- owl:Thing
- rdfs:Class
- owl:Class
 - ContainerMetaClass (selected)
 - SpecimenTypeMC
- LabWare
- Container
 - Tube
 - ABI
 - block
 - ACD
 - cryomold
 - FACS round bottom
 - K Oxalate
 - K2 EDTA
 - K3 EDTA
 - Li Heparin
 - Na Citrate
 - polypropylene tube
 - Serum
 - slide
 - SST
 - syringe

CLASS EDITOR (Main Panel): For Class: ContainerMetaClass (instance of owl:Class). The rdfs:comment property is listed with an empty value.

Properties (Bottom Panel): A table showing properties of the ContainerMetaClass class.

Property	Cardinality	Type
additives	Multiple	owl:oneOf["RNA s"]
closureColor	Single	owl:oneOf["blue"]
closureType	Single	owl:oneOf["Hemoc"]
comments	Single	string
discontinued	Single	boolean
discontinuedDate	Single	date
drawVolume	Single	string
insertColor	Single	string
labelType	Single	owl:oneOf["paper"]
longName	Single	string
manufacturer	Single	owl:oneOf["Applie"]
manufacturerId	Single	string
material	Single	owl:oneOf["glass"]
processingRequirements	Single	ProcessingRequirement
specimenTypes	Multiple	SpecimenTypeMC
storageRequirements	Single	StorageRequirement
suffixSeries	Single	string
tubeGroup	Single	string
tubeSize	Single	owl:oneOf["primar"]

Specimen Container Ontology – using OWL Full meta model

The screenshot shows the Protege 4.3 interface with the following details:

- Subclass Explorer (Left Panel):** Shows the asserted hierarchy of classes. A red circle highlights the node **ContainerMetaClass**, which is selected in the Class Editor.
- Class Editor (Right Panel):** Displays properties and values for the selected class **ContainerMetaClass**.
 - Properties Tab:** Shows the property **rdfs:comment** with an empty value.
 - Annotations Tab:** Shows an empty table.
- Properties View (Bottom Right):** Shows the properties of the **owl:Class** class, including:

Property	Cardinality	Type
additives	Multiple	owl:oneOf["RNA s"]
closureColor	Single	owl:oneOf["blue"]
closureType	Single	owl:oneOf["Hemoc"]
comments	Single	string
discontinued	Single	boolean
discontinuedDate	Single	date
drawVolume	Single	string
insertColor	Single	string
labelType	Single	owl:oneOf["paper"]
longName	Single	string
manufacturer	Single	owl:oneOf["Applie"]
manufacturerId	Single	string
material	Single	owl:oneOf["glass"]
processingRequirements	Single	ProcessingRequirement
specimenTypes	Multiple	SpecimenTypeMC
storageRequirements	Single	StorageRequirement
suffixSeries	Single	string
tubeGroup	Single	string
tubeSize	Single	owl:oneOf["primar"]
		string

Specimen Container Ontology – using OWL Full meta model

Asserted Hierarchy

The screenshot shows the Protégé OWL editor interface. On the left, the 'Asserted Hierarchy' pane displays a tree structure of classes. The root node is 'owl:Thing'. Below it are 'rdfs:Class' and 'owl:Class'. Under 'owl:Class', two nodes are shown: 'ContainerMetaClass' (selected and highlighted in orange) and 'SpecimenTypeMC'. The main workspace is titled 'Properties' and contains a table listing various properties and their details.

Property	Cardinality	Type
additives	Multiple	owl:oneOf("RNA s", "DNA s", "saline", "anticoagulant")
closureColor	Single	owl:oneOf("blue", "clear", "white")
closureType	Single	owl:oneOf("Hemocytometer", "Syringe", "Tube", "Vial", "Microtube", "Test tube", "Petri dish")
comments	Single	string
discontinued	Single	boolean
discontinuedDate	Single	date
drawVolume	Single	string
insertColor	Single	string
labelType	Single	owl:oneOf("paper", "plastic", "silicone", "cotton")
longName	Single	string
manufacturer	Single	owl:oneOf("Applied Biosystems", "Qiagen", "Thermo Fisher Scientific", "Sigma-Aldrich", "Becton Dickinson", "Cochlear", "GE Healthcare", "Wilmad", "Fisher Scientific", "FugeMaster", "VWR International", "Brand")
manufacturerId	Single	string
material	Single	owl:oneOf("glass", "plastic", "stainless steel", "ceramic")
processingRequirements	Single	ProcessingRequirement
specimenTypes	Multiple	SpecimenTypeMC
storageRequirements	Single	StorageRequirement
suffixSeries	Single	string
tubeGroup	Single	owl:oneOf("primary", "secondary", "tertiary")
tubeSize	Single	string

Specimen Container Ontology

SUBCLASS EXPLORER CLASS EDITOR

For Project: SpecimenContainerModel

Asserted Hierarchy

- owl:Thing
- rdfs:Class
- owl:Class
 - ContainerMetaClass
 - SpecimenTypeMC
- LabWare
- Container
 - Tube
 - ABI
 - block
 - ACD
 - cryomold
 - FACS round bottom
 - K Oxalate
 - K2 EDTA
 - 10ml K2EDTA Tube
 - K3 EDTA
 - Li Heparin
 - Na Citrate
 - polypropylene tube
 - Serum
 - slide
 - SST

For Class: 10ml K2EDTA Tube - Internal name:

Inferred View

Properties

Property	Cardinality	Type

closureColor: lavender

longName: 10 ml K2 EDTA (K2 EDTA -- la)

discontinued: false

closureType: Hemogard

manufacturer: Becton Dickinson

processingRequirer: k2_edta_processing_instr

comments:

manufacturerId: 366643

storageRequirements: k2_edta_storage_inst.

discontinuedDate:

material: plastic

additives: K2 EDTA

Value: K2 EDTA

Type: string

drawVolume: 10 ml

suffixSeries: -5A to -5Z

insertColor: see thru

tubeGroup: primary

specimenTypes: Whole Blood

labelType: see thru

tubeSize: 16 x 100 mm

A Hierarchy of Specimen Containers

- ▼ ● LabWare
- ▼ ● Container
- ▼ ● Tube
 - ABI
 - block
 - ACD
 - cryomold
 - FACS round bottom
 - K Oxalate
- ▼ ● K2 EDTA
 - 10ml K2EDTA Tube
 - K3 EDTA
 - Li Heparin
 - ● Na Citrate
 - polypropylene tube
 - Serum
 - slide
 - ● SST
 -

A Specimen Container

K2 EDTA

10ml K2EDTA Tube

K2 EDTA

closureColor	x	longName	x	discontinued				
lavendar		10 ml K2 EDTA (K2 EDTA -- la)		false				
closureType	x	manufacturer	x	processingRequirer				
Hemogard		Becton Dickinson		♦ k2_edta_processing_instr				
comments	x	manufacturerId	x	storageRequirements				
		366643		♦ k2_edta_storage_inst.				
discontinuedDate	+ x	material	x	additives				
		plastic		<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Type</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>K2 EDTA</td><td>string</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Type	K2 EDTA	string
Value	Type							
K2 EDTA	string							
drawVolume	x	suffixSeries	x	specimenTypes				
10 ml		-5A to -5Z		♦ Whole Blood				
insertColor	x	tubeGroup	x					
		primary						
labelType	x	tubeSize	x					
see thru		16 x 100 mm						

Assay Ontology – using OWL Full meta model

The screenshot shows the Protege 4.3.0 interface for editing the AssayMC class. The top navigation bar includes tabs for Metadata (assaymodel.owl), OWLClasses, Properties, Individuals, and Forms. Below the tabs are two panes: SUBCLASS EXPLORER on the left and CLASS EDITOR on the right.

SUBCLASS EXPLORER: Shows the asserted hierarchy for the AssayModel project. The tree structure includes owl:Thing, rdfs:Class, owl:Class (with AssayMC selected), and various Assay subtypes like Whole Blood - Flow Cytometry, AlloELISPOT, HLA, etc.

CLASS EDITOR: For Class: AssayMC (instance of owl:Class). The properties and restrictions pane lists the following:

Property	Type
analysisTimeline	(single string)
background	(single string)
batchingRequirements	(single string)
collectionTimepoints	(single string)
description	(single string)
patientSets	(single string)
performedBy	(single string)
specimenCollectionRequirements	(single string)
specimenContainerRequirements	(single string)
turnaroundTime	(single string)
validationOfResults	(single string)
owl:equivalentClass	(list)
protege:abstract	(single boolean)
protege:classificationStatus	(list)
protege:inferredSubclassOf	(list)
protege:inferredSuperclassOf	(list)

Below the properties and restrictions pane are buttons for Superclasses, Disjoins, and owl:Class.

Assay Ontology – using OWL Full meta model

The screenshot shows the Protege 4.3 interface with the following details:

- Asserted Hierarchy (Left Panel):** Shows the class hierarchy:
 - owl:Thing
 - rdfs:Class
 - owl:Class
 - AssayMC (selected)
 - Assay
- Properties and Restrictions (Right Panel):** Shows the properties defined for the selected class (AssayMC).
 - analysisTimeline (single string)
 - background (single string)
 - batchingRequirements (single string)
 - collectionTimepoints (single string)
 - description (single string)
 - patientSets (single string)
 - performedBy (single string)
 - specimenCollectionRequirements (single string)
 - specimenContainerRequirements (single string)
 - turnaroundTime (single string)
 - validationOfResults (single string)
 - owl:equivalentClass
 - protege:abstract (single boolean)
 - protege:classificationStatus
 - protege:inferredSubclassOf
 - protege:inferredSuperclassOf

Assay Ontology

Metadata (assaymodel.owl) OWLClasses Properties Individuals Forms

SUBCLASS EXPLORER CLASS EDITOR + - F T

For Project: AssayModel

Asserted Hierarchy

- owl:Thing
- rdfs:Class
- owl:Class
- AssayMC
- Assay
- Whole Blood - Flow Cytometry Panel Staining
- AlloELISPOT
- HLA
- Gene expression in urine
- Leukaphereses WBC
- Whole Blood - DNA HLA Genotypes
- Whole Blood - Gene Expression Profiling
- CSF Pellet - Gene Expression Profiling
- Flow Cytometry
- Trans-vivo Delayed Type Hypersensitivity (DTH)
- Serum Alloantibodies and HLA cross-match
- Histologic Assessment of Allograft - Kidney Biop

For Class: Whole Blood - Flow Cytometry Panel Staining - Internal Inferred View

background

Process and achievement of tolerance may be closely related to the types and relative frequencies of different immune cell

specimenCollectionRequirements

6-10 ml whole blood within 36 hours of blood draw

specimenContainerRequirements

10 ml glass Na Heparin Gre tube

batchingRequirements

None - Real time assay

turnaroundTime

3 days

validationOfResults

1 month for validation from Data Center and Assay group

analysisTimeline

6 months (can take longer on type of analysis)

collectionTimepoints

0,3,6,7,8,9,10,11,12

patientSets

Assay Ontology

▼ ● Assay

- Whole Blood - Flow Cytometry Panel Staining
- AlloELISPOT
- HLA
- Gene expression in urine
- Leukaphereses WBC
- Whole Blood - DNA HLA Genotypes
- Whole Blood - Gene Expression Profiling
- CSF Pellet - Gene Expression Profiling
- Flow Cytometry
- Trans-vivo Delayed Type Hypersensitivity (DTH)
- Serum Alloantibodies and HLA cross-match
- Histologic Assessment of Allograft – Kidney Biop

An Assay

Whole Blood - Flow Cytometry Panel Staining

background

Process and achievement of tolerance may be closely related to the types and relative frequencies of different immune cell

specimenCollectionRequirements

6-10 ml whole blood within 36 hours of blood draw

batchingRequirements

None – Real time assay

validationOfResults

1 month for validation from Data Center and Assay group

collectionTimepoints

0,3,6,7,8,9,10,11,12

performedBy

description

Examination of PBMC surface molecule expression will be performed using 5 color antibody combinations. The monoclonal

specimenContainerRequirements

10 ml glass Na Heparin Green Top tube

turnaroundTime

3 days

analysisTimeline

6 months (can take longer depending on type of analysis)

patientSets

Virtual Trial Data Model - Observation

epoch:Observation (instance of epoch:DataModelMC)

CLASS EDITOR

For Class: epoch:Observation (instance of epoch:DataModelMC) Inferred View

Annotations

Property	Value	Lang
rdfs:comment		

Properties and Restrictions

- epoch:associatedVisitRecord (single epoch:VisitRecord)
- epoch:hasCode (single string)
- epoch:hasValue (single) (someValuesFrom epoch:Expression)
 - epoch:Expression
- temporal:hasValidTime (multiple temporal:ValidTime) (minCardinality 1)
 - 1 [from temporal:ExtendedProposition]

Superclasses

- epoch:ParticipantRecord
- temporal:ExtendedPrimitiveProposition

Disjoints

Logic View Properties View

Virtual Trial Data Model - VisitRecord

epoch:VisitRecord (instance of epoch:DataModelMC)

CLASS EDITOR

For Class: epoch:VisitRecord (instance of epoch:DataModelMC) Inferred View Annotations

Property	Value	Lang
rdfs:comment		

Properties and Restrictions

- epoch:hasParticipantId (single string)
- epoch:hasSiteId (single string)
- epoch:hasStudyId (single string)
- epoch:hasVisitId (single string)
- temporal:hasValidTime (multiple temporal:ValidTime) (minCardinality 1)
 - 1 [from temporal:ExtendedProposition]

Superclasses

- temporal:ExtendedPrimitiveProposition
- epoch:ParticipantRecord

Disjoins

Logic View Properties View

Anchor Point - Transplant

Transplant (instance of epoch:TemporalAnchorPoint, internal name is epoch:AnchorPoint_1) - □ X

INDIVIDUAL EDITOR + - F T

For Individual: ♦ Transplant - Internal name: epoch:AnchorPoint_1

File Edit View Insert Tools Help Annotations

Property	Value	Lang
rdfs:comment		
rdfs:label	Transplant	

epoch:hasName ✖ + temporal:hasTime ✖ +

Transplant 00 :00 :00

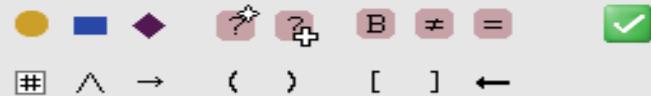
temporal:hasGranularity ✖ epoch:hasMappingRule ✖

days ▼ SetTransplant

Download Import Export

SWRL Rule to set Transplant Time

```
Observation(?o) ∧  
associatedVisitRecord(?o, ?vrecord) ∧  
hasParticipantId(?vrecord, ?pid) ∧  
hasCode(?o, ?code) ∧  
swrlb:equal(?code, "transplant") ∧  
temporal:hasValidTime(?o, ?vtO) ∧  
TemporalAnchorPoint(?a) ∧  
hasName(?a, "Transplant")  
→ temporal:hasValidTime(?a, ?vtO)
```



✓ OK

✗ Cancel

Visit Time Window

◆ Transplant + 28days +/- 3days (instance of temporal:RelativeVariableInterval, internal name is RelativeVar... [-] [x]

INDIVIDUAL EDITOR + - F T

For Individual: ◆ Transplant + 28days +/- 3days - Internal name:

  Annotations

Property	Value	Lang
rdfs:comment		
rdfs:label	Transplant + 28days +/- 3days	

temporal:hasPolarity X temporal:hasLowVariation + -
after ◆ 3 days

temporal:hasAnchor + - temporal:hasOffset + -
◆ Transplant ◆ 28 days

temporal:hasHighVariation + -
◆ 3 days

Visit Time constraint as a SWRL rule

Check if the participant's visits occurred within the visit time window specifications

```
VisitRecord(?vrecord) ∧  
hasVisitId(?vrecord, ?vid1) ∧  
hasParticipantId(?vrecord, ?pid) ∧  
temporal:hasValidTime(?vrecord, ?vtO) ∧  
Visit(?v) ∧|  
hasVisitId(?v, ?vid2) ∧  
swrlb:equal(?vid1, ?vid2) ∧  
hasStartCondition(?v, ?vsc) ∧  
temporal:inside(?vtO, ?vsc)
```

→



∧ → () [] ←

✓ OK

✗ Cancel

Constraints expressed as SWRL rules

On days that both immunotherapy and omalizumab are administered, omalizumab will be injected 60 minutes after the immunotherapy.

```
Patient(?p) ∧  
hasExtendedEvent(?p, ?eevent1) ∧ hasExtendedEvent(?p, ?eevent2) ∧  
temporal:hasValue(?eevent1, ?event1) ∧ temporal:hasValidTime(?eevent1, ?event1VT) ∧  
temporal:hasTime(?event1VT, ?event1Time) ∧ temporal:hasValue(?eevent2, ?event2) ∧  
temporal:hasValidTime(?eevent2, ?event2VT) ∧ temporal:hasTime(?event2VT, ?event2Time) ∧  
hasVisit(?event1, ?v) ∧ hasVisit(?event2, ?v) ∧  
hasActivity(?event1, ?a1) ∧ hasName(?a1, "Omalizumab") ∧  
hasActivity(?event2, ?a2) ∧ hasName(?a2, "Immunotherapy") ∧  
temporalOp:before(?event2Time, ?event1Time) ∧  
temporalOp:durationMinutesLessThan(60, ?event2Time, ?event1Time) → NonconformingPatient(?p)
```



✓ OK

✗ Cancel

ITN Informatics Core at Stanford

The goals of our collaboration are to

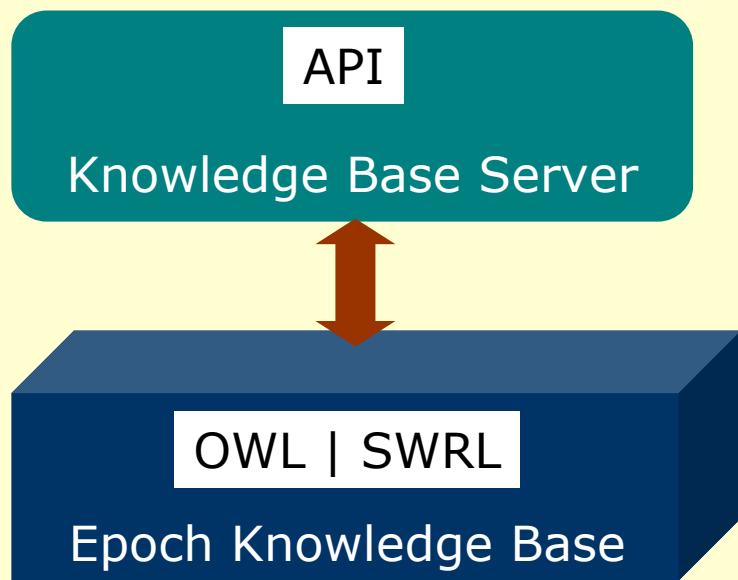
- Design tools to help acquire and maintain knowledge about protocol and assay designs
- Use this knowledge to drive data collection during a trial
- Implement querying methods to support trial monitoring, protocol tracking, and ad hoc data analysis

Epoch Architectural Plan

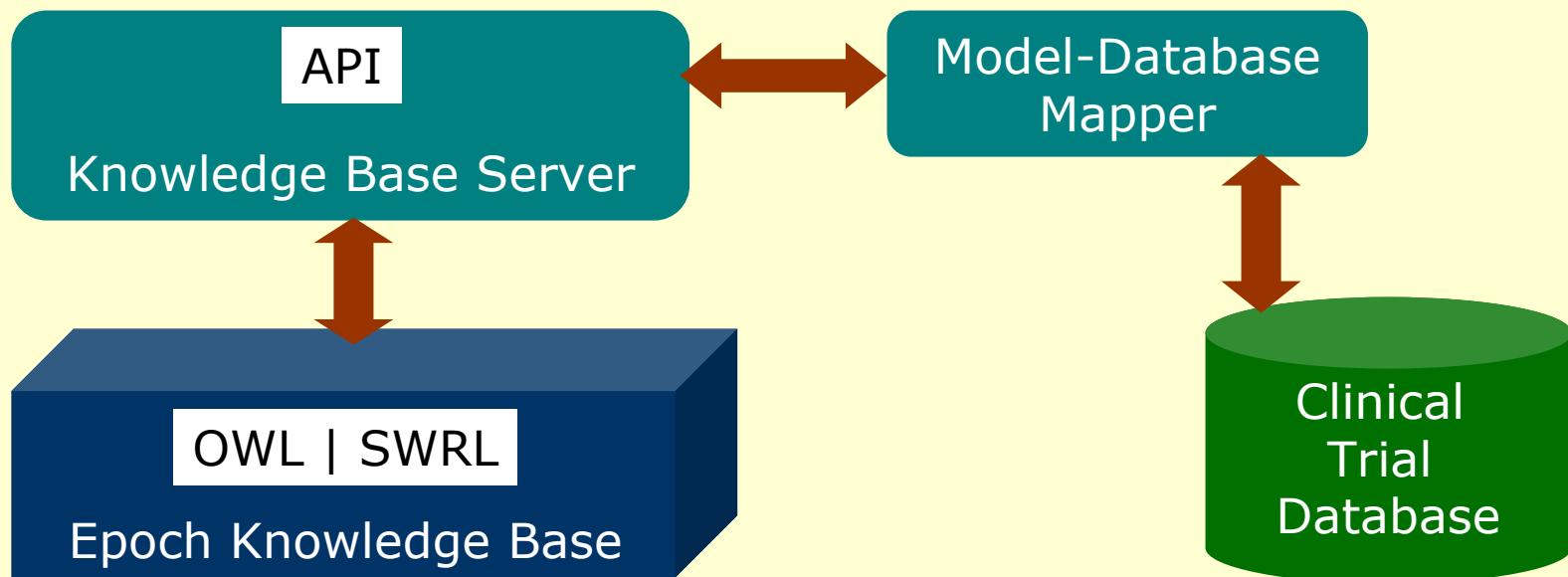
OWL | SWRL

Epoch Knowledge Base

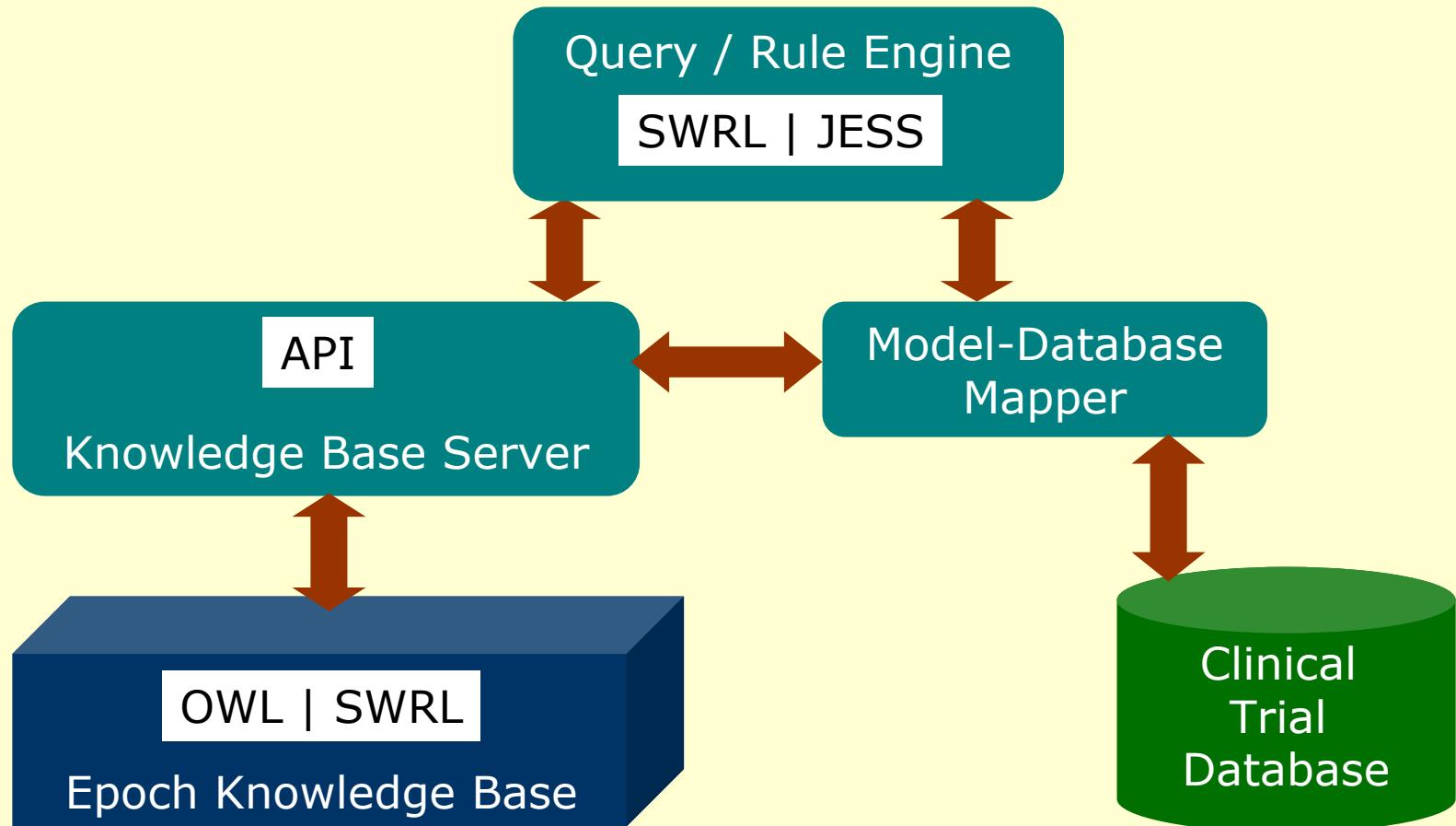
Epoch Architectural Plan



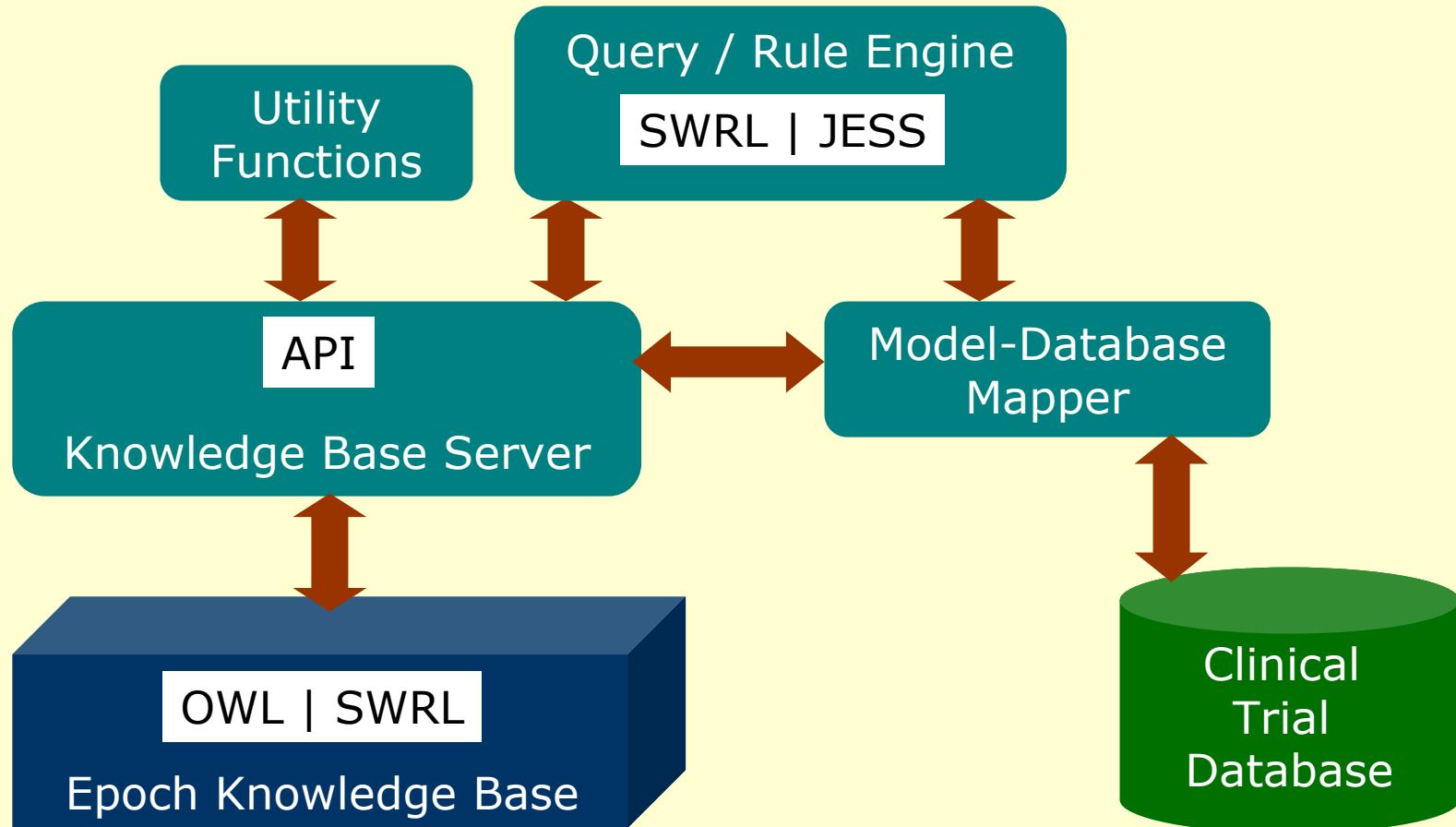
Epoch Architectural Plan



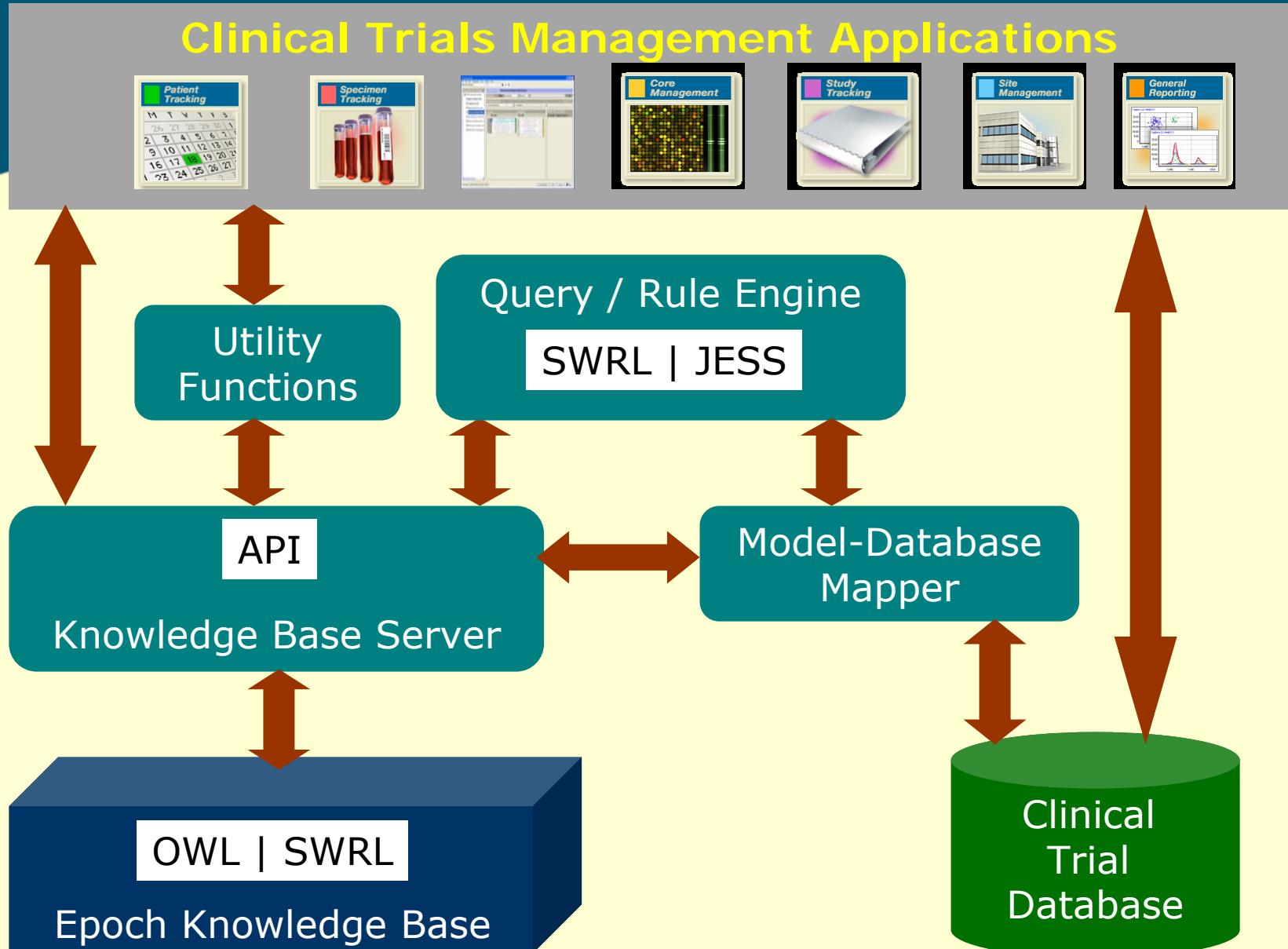
Epoch Architectural Plan



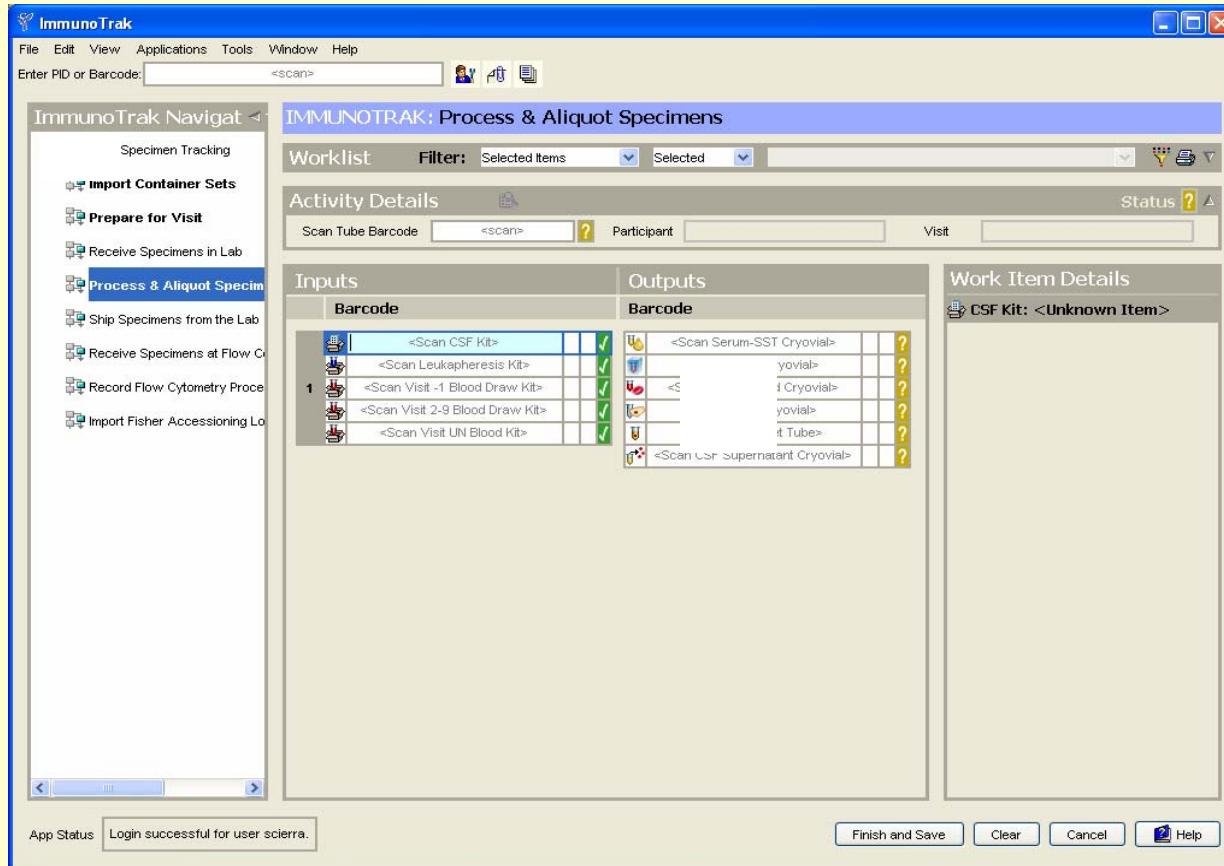
Epoch Architectural Plan



Epoch Architectural Plan



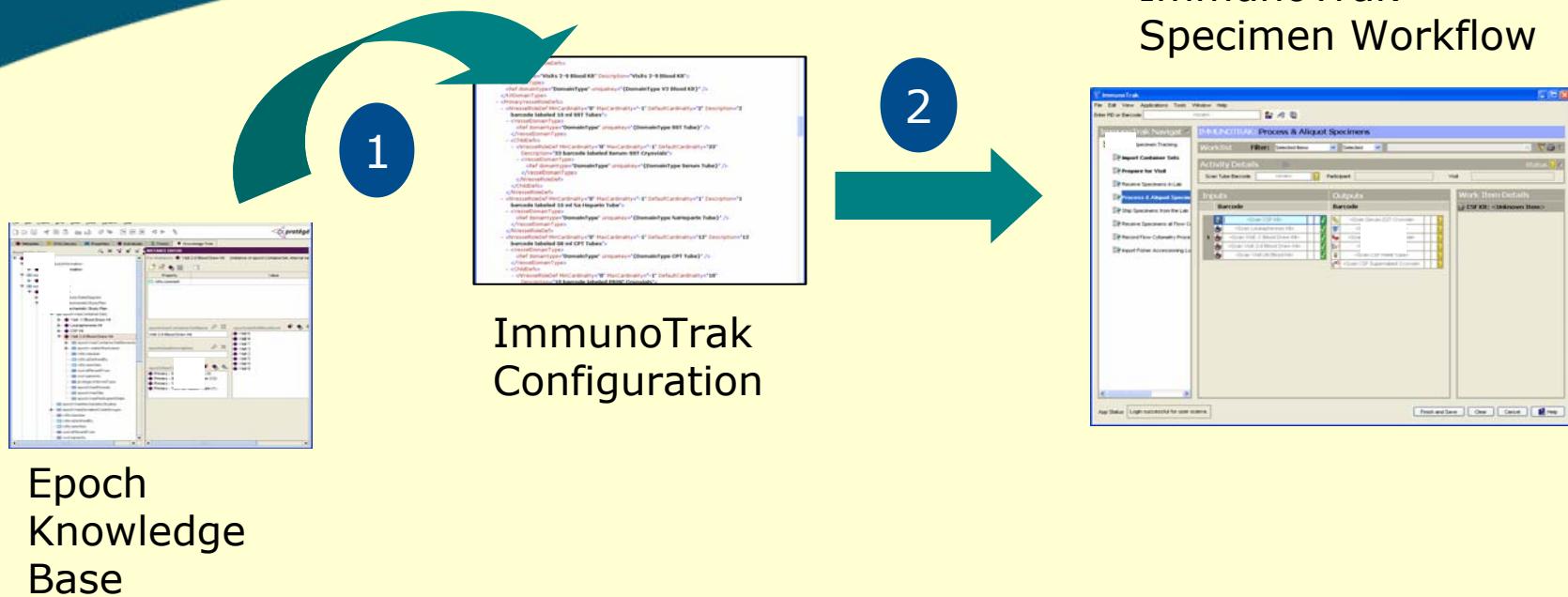
Configuration of ImmunoTrak – the Specimen Workflow Application



ImmunoTrak Configuration File

```
</PrimaryVesselRoleDefs>
</PrimaryVesselRoleDefs>
</NKitType>
- <NKitType Name="Visits 2-9 Blood Kit" Description="Visits 2-9 Blood Kit">
  - <KitDomainType>
    <Ref domaintype="DomainType" uniquekey="{DomainType V2 Blood Kit}" />
  </KitDomainType>
  - <PrimaryVesselRoleDefs>
    - <NVesselRoleDef MinCardinality="0" MaxCardinality="-1" DefaultCardinality="2" Description="2
      barcode labeled 10 ml SST Tubes">
      - <VesselDomainType>
        <Ref domaintype="DomainType" uniquekey="{DomainType SST Tube}" />
      </VesselDomainType>
      - <ChildDefs>
        - <NVesselRoleDef MinCardinality="0" MaxCardinality="-1" DefaultCardinality="33"
          Description="33 barcode labeled Serum-SST Cryovials">
          - <VesselDomainType>
            <Ref domaintype="DomainType" uniquekey="{DomainType Serum Tube}" />
          </VesselDomainType>
        </NVesselRoleDef>
      </ChildDefs>
    </NVesselRoleDef>
    - <NVesselRoleDef MinCardinality="0" MaxCardinality="-1" DefaultCardinality="1" Description="1
      barcode labeled 10 ml Na Heparin Tube">
      - <VesselDomainType>
        <Ref domaintype="DomainType" uniquekey="{DomainType NaHeparin Tube}" />
      </VesselDomainType>
    </NVesselRoleDef>
    - <NVesselRoleDef MinCardinality="0" MaxCardinality="-1" DefaultCardinality="12" Description="12
      barcode labeled 08 ml CPT Tubes">
      - <VesselDomainType>
        <Ref domaintype="DomainType" uniquekey="{DomainType CPT Tube}" />
      </VesselDomainType>
      - <ChildDefs>
        - <NVesselRoleDef MinCardinality="0" MaxCardinality="-1" DefaultCardinality="10"
          Description="10 barcode labeled PBMC Cryovials">
```

Configuration of ImmunoTrak – the Specimen Workflow Application

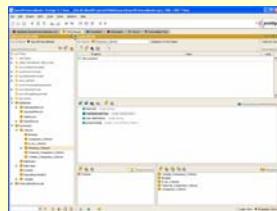


Ontology Mapping to generate XML Document

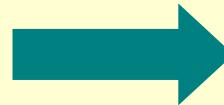


Epoch
Ontology

SWRL

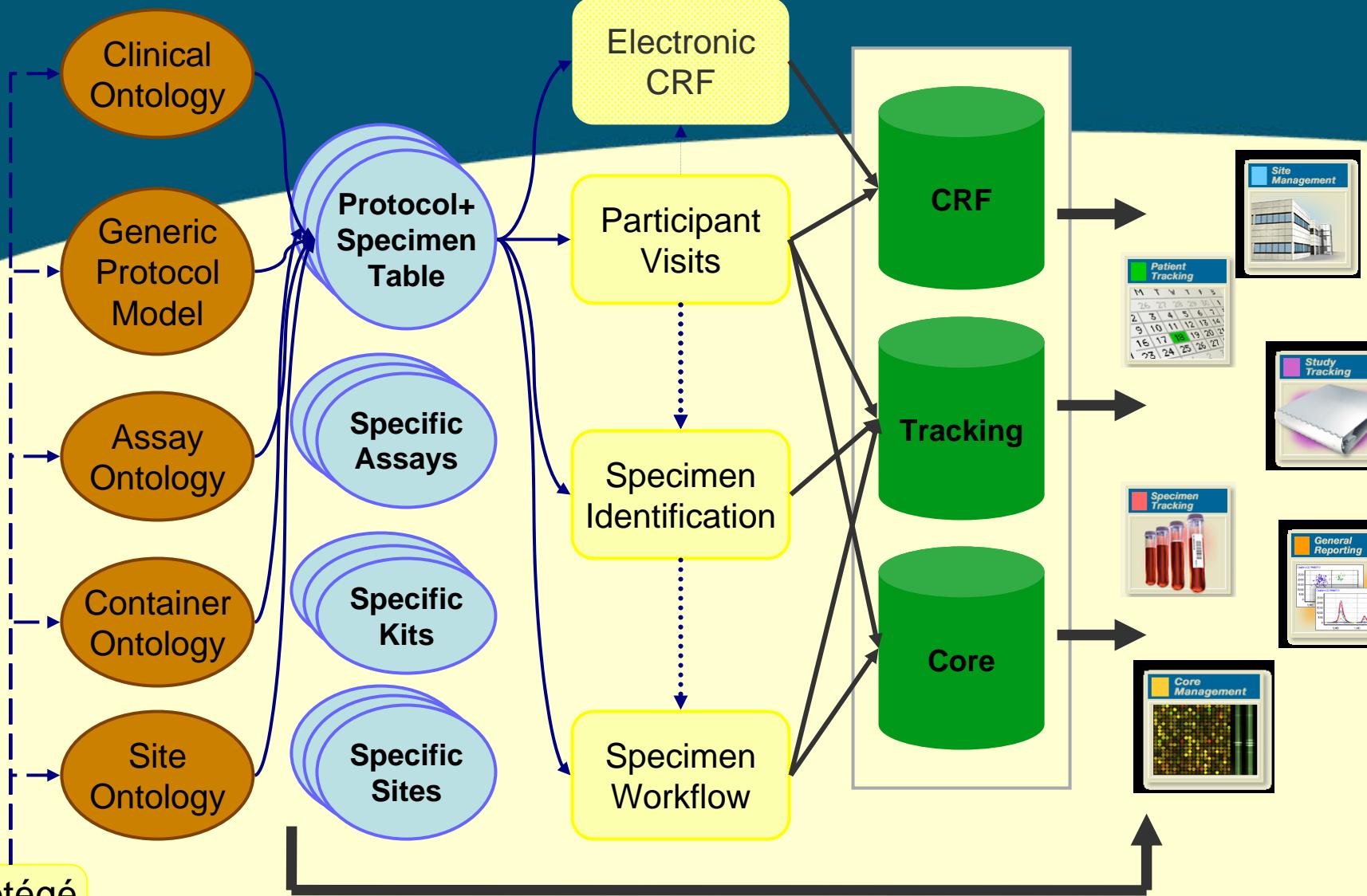


XML Document
Ontology



ImmunoTrak
Configuration XML

```
Protocol(?p) ^ hasSitePlan(?p, ?sp) ^ hasStudySites(?sp, ?site) ^  
hasSiteID(?site, ?siteID) ^ hasParticipant(?site, ?participants) ^  
hasParticipantIDs(?participant, ?participantID) ^  
hasStudyInformation(?sp, ?studyInfo) ^ hasStudyID(?studyInfo,  
?hasStudyID)  
-> XMLDocument(?p) ^ hasnodeName(?p, "Study") ^  
XMLComponent(?participant) ^ hasnodeName(?participant,  
"Participant") ^ hasComponents(?p, ?participant) ^  
hasAttribute(?participant, ?participantID) ^  
hasAttributeName(?participantID, "id">
```



Protégé
OWL

Epoch
Ontologies

Applications for
Knowledge
Specification

Applications for
Data Collection

Data
Repository

Applications for
Clinical Trials
Management

What our approach buys us

- A centralized, modifiable repository of the knowledge to drive site-oriented applications
- The ability to use reference ontologies to structure ITN knowledge
- A scaleable architecture that can lead to computer-supported trial design
- The ability to use logic for inferring relationships among the data