

**Diversity and Standardization in  
the Development of Clinical  
Guideline Models:  
Room for both**

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**Mor Peleg, Ph.D.**

**Dept. Management Information Systems  
University of Haifa**

# Goal: Share Guideline Models

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- Creating a Computer-interpretable guideline model takes much effort
- Interpretation of content is made during that process
- We would like to share the encoded guideline to save effort and enforce consistency

# Approaches for Sharing

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- A repository of guideline models encoded in a guideline formalism
  - DeGeL (Digital Electronic Guideline **Library**) (Shahar)
  - Publets support enactment, encourage review (Fox)
- An interchange format for translating between guideline formalisms
- An execution engine that supports several guideline formalisms (Wang)
- A standard guideline formalism (HL7 Guidelines SIG)
  - With authoring, validation, and execution tools

# Benefits of a Standard formalism

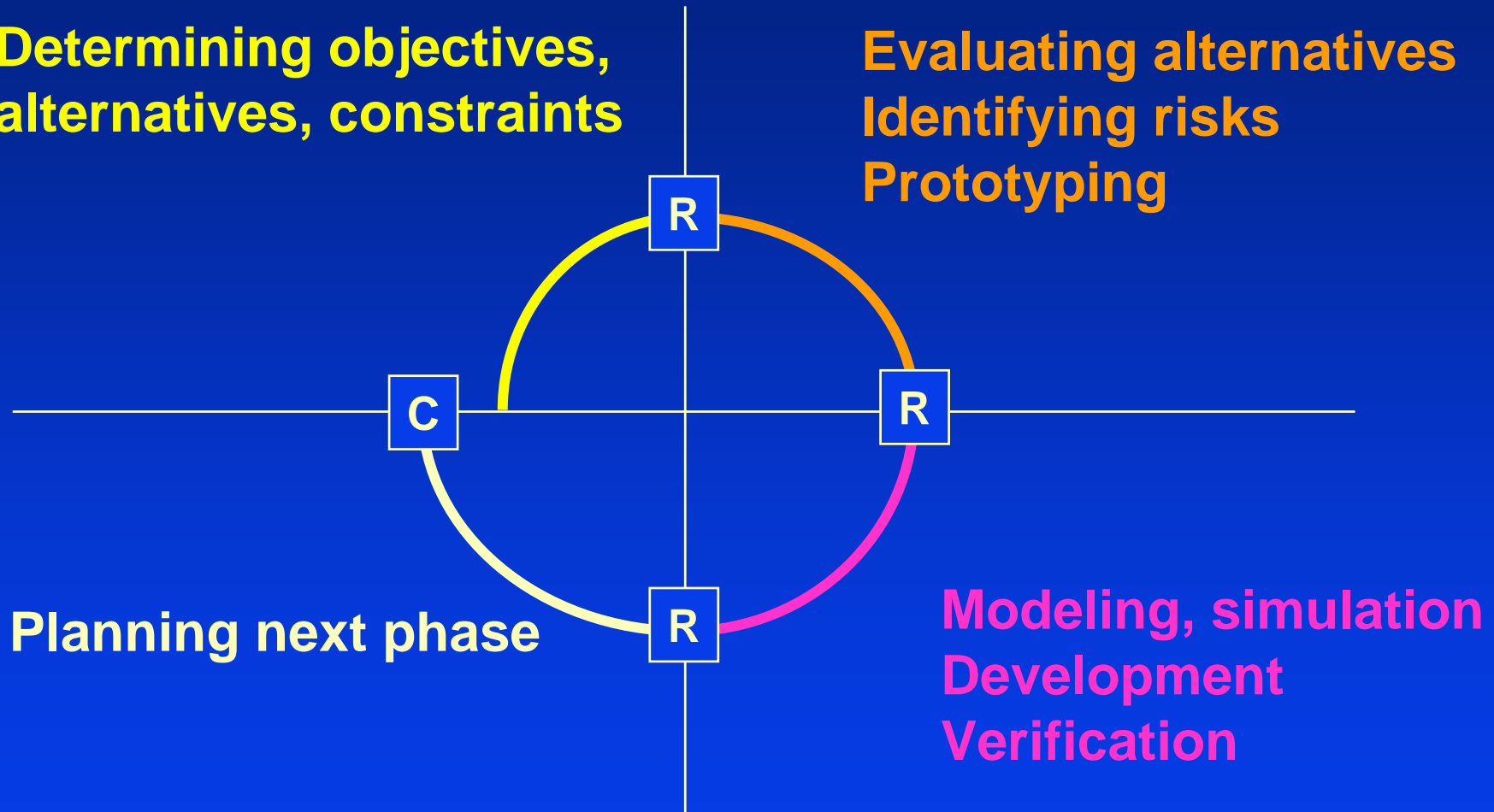
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- Ease sharing of encoded guidelines
- Concentrate efforts on developing
  - better tools for authoring, validating, disseminating, executing & revising GLs in the standard format (vendors)
  - methods to facilitate local adaptation and integration with EMRs and HISs
- Compliance with standards: HL7 standards
- Should developers encode guidelines in the standard or in specialized formalisms?
  - If they will encode in specialized formalisms, then parts of the encoding could be mapped to the common format

# System Development Life Cycle

Determining objectives,  
alternatives, constraints

Evaluating alternatives  
Identifying risks  
Prototyping



**R** Review

**C** Commitment

# Standard Development Life Cycle

