

From Drug Access to Rare Disease Readiness

What Canada has built — and what Phase 2 must deliver



diagnosis • access • care • data • equity

CORD / CRDN Phase 2 readiness session

Professional Experts

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Session promise

By the end of the webinar, participants should be able to name the weakest links and the Phase 2 actions that would make real pathways work.



What are the are practical gaps and what must change next?

Opening: How has the question has changed?

Phase 1 asked whether more drugs could be funded. Phase 2 must ask whether patients can move through the system.

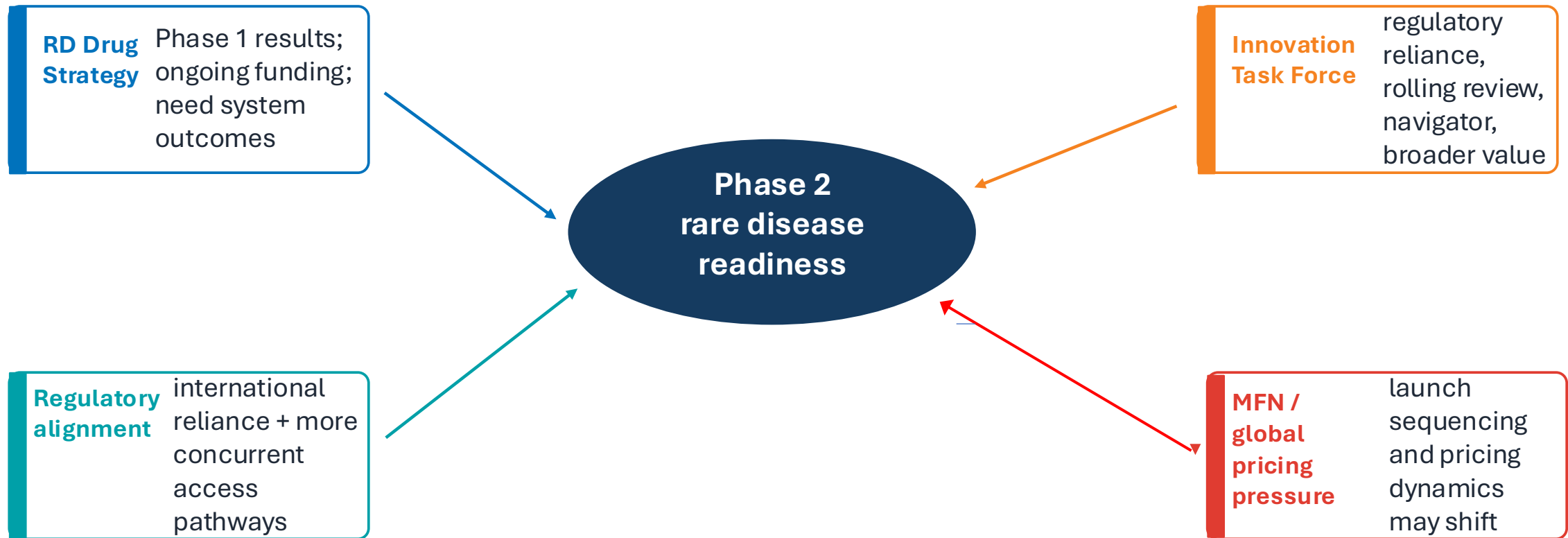


Readiness means the whole pathway works — not only that a drug is listed.

Exercise: identify where the pathway breaks, and what RDDS Phase 2 should fix first.

2026 context: policy is moving on several fronts at once

Four current and emerging frameworks create an opening for a broader rare-disease readiness agenda.



Session takeaway: these reforms only matter if they shorten and strengthen real patient pathways.

Provincial systems are beginning to take shape

Quebec and Alberta show two different stages: implementation and design/consultation.



Quebec

Plan d'action 2023–2027 now includes a national clinical navigation network for suspected rare disease and designated expertise centres.

Alberta

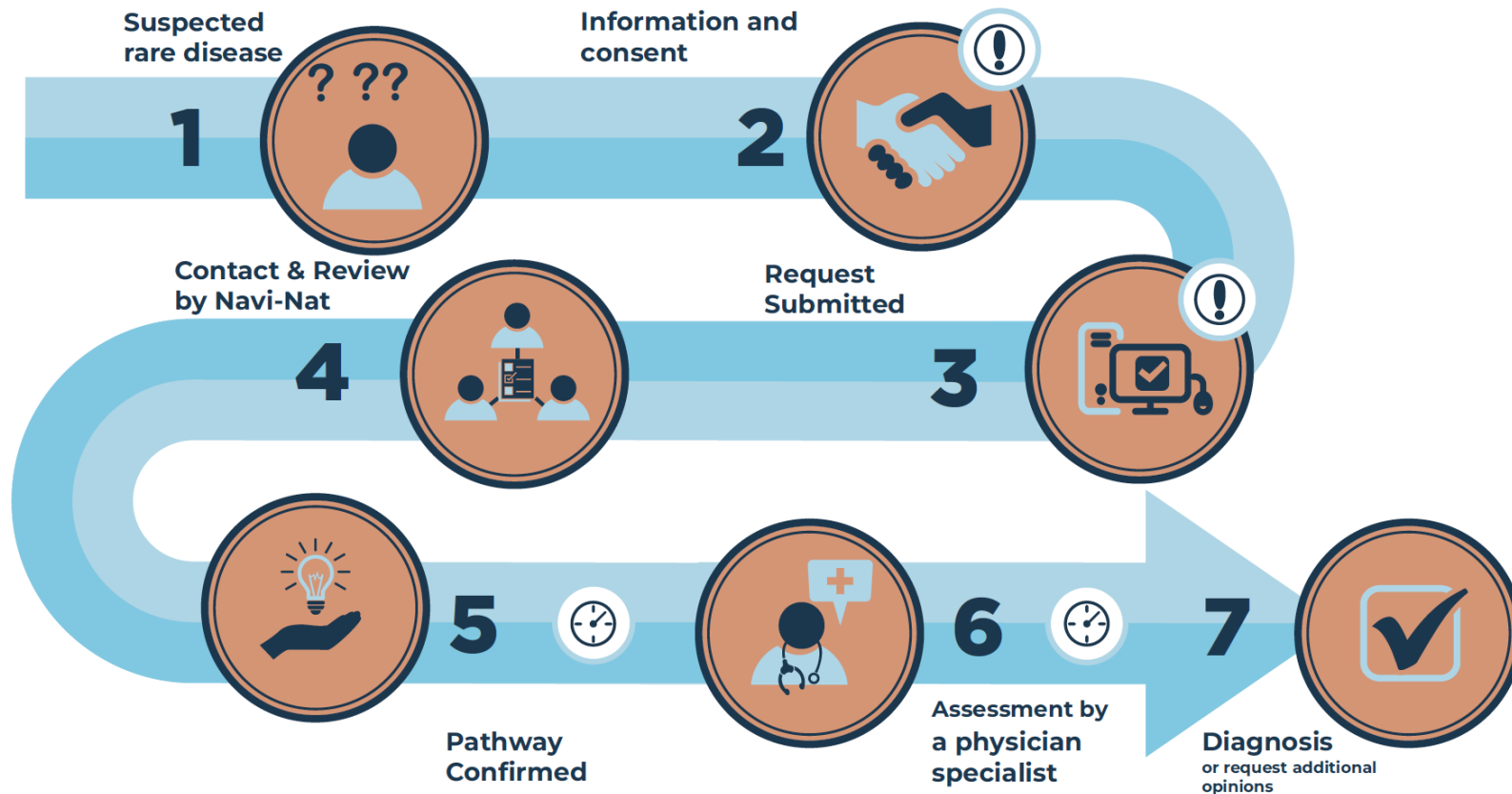
Disease Summit materials focus on gaps in diagnosis, treatment approvals, data/RWE, navigation, coordination and practical next steps.



Au Québec,
700 000 personnes
vivent avec une
maladie rare.

Navi-Nat, le premier réseau
national de navigation
clinique en maladies rares
au Canada, aide à orienter
les personnes chez qui une
maladie rare est
soupçonnée.

Request pathway within the Navi-Nat



Wait time varies (specialty waitlists, request complexity, etc.)



Required action by the referring professional

Alberta report-back: what participants heard

Participant report-back prompt

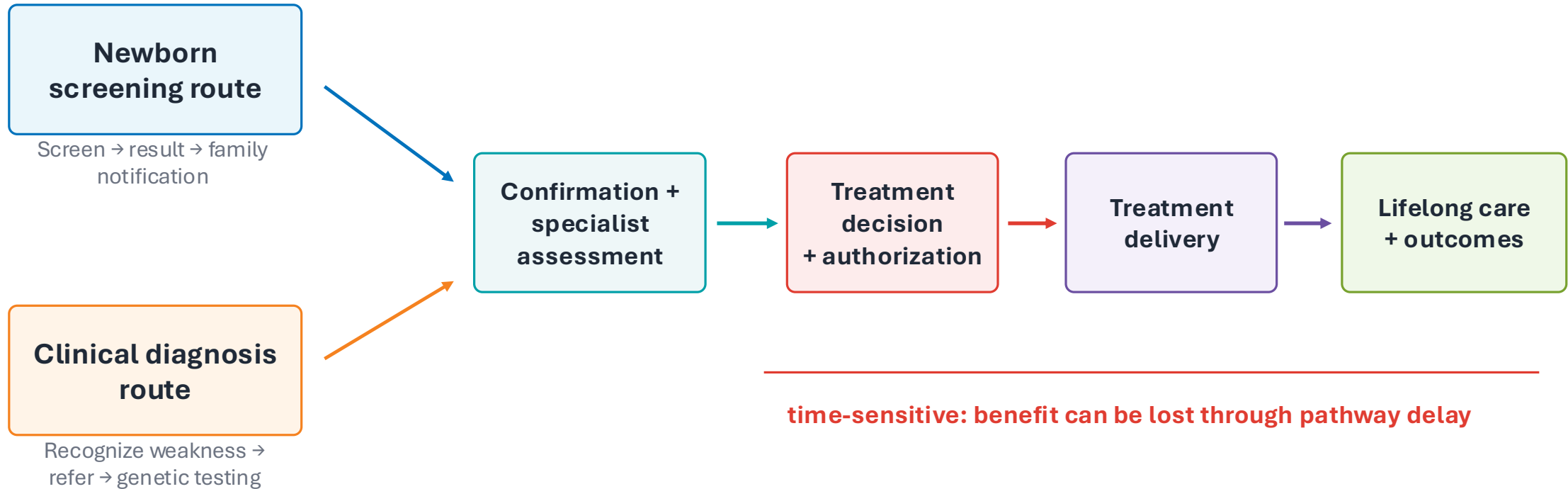
- 1 What did government ask stakeholders to solve?
- 2 Which two or three gaps had the strongest consensus?
- 3 Where did participants see quick wins versus structural change?
- 4 What should be watched when the outcomes summary is released?

Summit objectives reflected the readiness lens

- expedite drug availability
- expand navigation supports
- reduce administrative burden
- streamline care pathways
- improve coordination and RWE/data

Pathway test 1: SMA

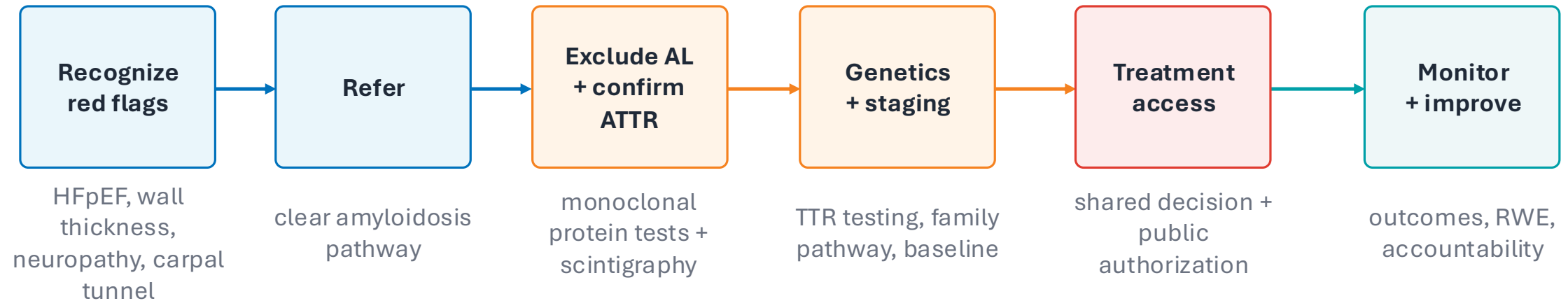
A readiness test for urgent newborn screening, clinical diagnosis across the lifespan, treatment access and lifelong care.



Central question: can early identification become timely treatment and lifelong equitable care at every age?

Pathway test 2: ATTR-CM

A readiness test for recognition, diagnostic coordination, public authorization and long-term monitoring.



**Contrast with
SMA**

SMA tests whether a known patient moves fast enough. ATTR-CM tests whether the system finds the patient early enough.

Central question: can Canada shorten the distance from suspicion to confirmed diagnosis to treatment?

Panel: where do the frameworks meet the patient pathway?

- **Policy promise** Which reforms could actually reduce patient-level delay?
- **Pathway reality** Where do patients and clinicians still experience fragmentation?
- **Evidence + outcomes** What data are needed without overburdening families or clinics?
- **Phase 2 action** What should be built nationally versus provincially?

Live Readiness Pulse

A. Overall pathway readiness

How ready is your jurisdiction to deliver this pathway reliably?

Mostly ready

**Uneven / depends
where you live**

Major gaps

Don't know

B. Weakest link

Pick the one pathway component most likely to prevent timely, equitable care.

**SMA: screening-
to-action**

**SMA:
adult/lifelong
care**

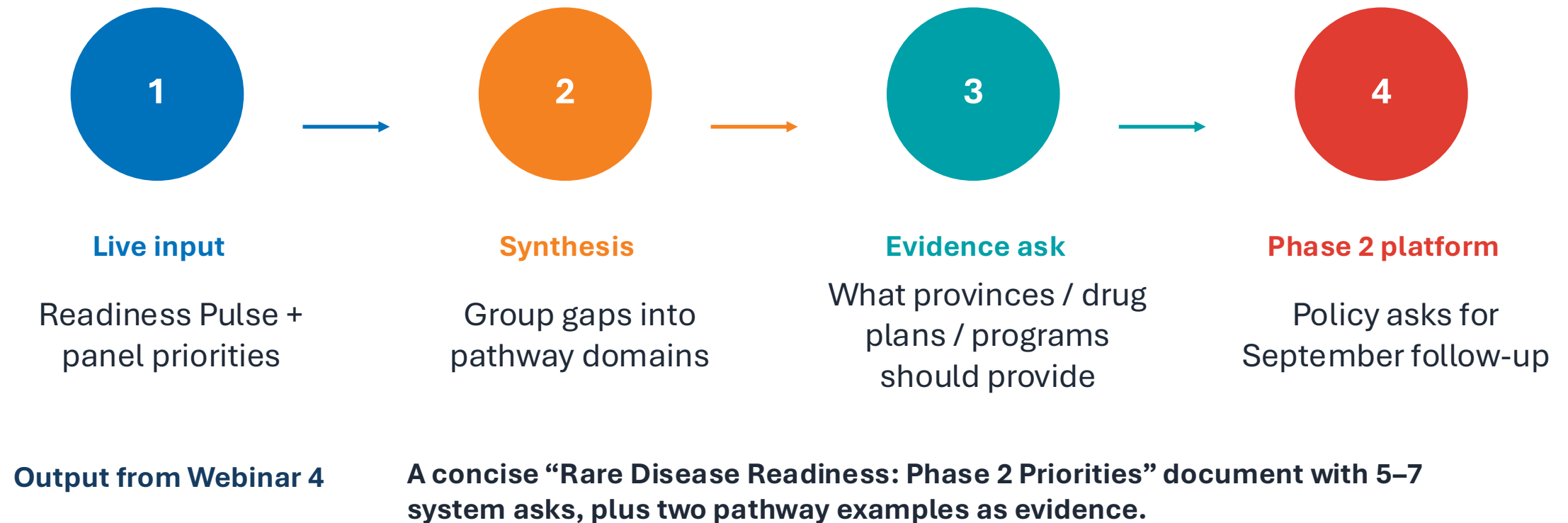
**ATTR-CM:
recognition/referr
al**

**ATTR-CM:
diagnostic testing**

**Both:
authorization +
outcomes**

Final poll: What should RDDS Phase 2 do first to make these pathways work?

Turning webinar input into Phase 2 priorities



Close: What Phase 2 must deliver

A rare-disease-ready system finds patients earlier, moves them faster, supports them longer and learns from outcomes.

1

Confirm poll results and panel priorities

3

Refine SMA + ATTR-CM diagrams for final materials

2

Alberta summit outcomes

4

Convert findings into RDDS Phase 2 asks

Thank you!