



HTA challenges in developing countries

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Functions and Goals of Health System

FUNCTIONS THE SYSTEM PERFORMS

I
N
P
U
T
S

Stewardship
(direction & oversight)

Resource generation
(physical, human,
knowledge)

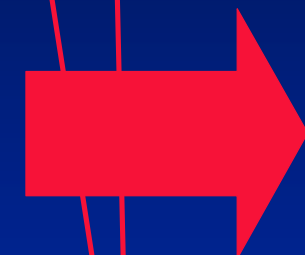
Service provision
(individual &
collective)

Financing
(collecting, pooling
and purchasing)

INTERMEDIATE GOALS

Quality

Coverage



Efficiency

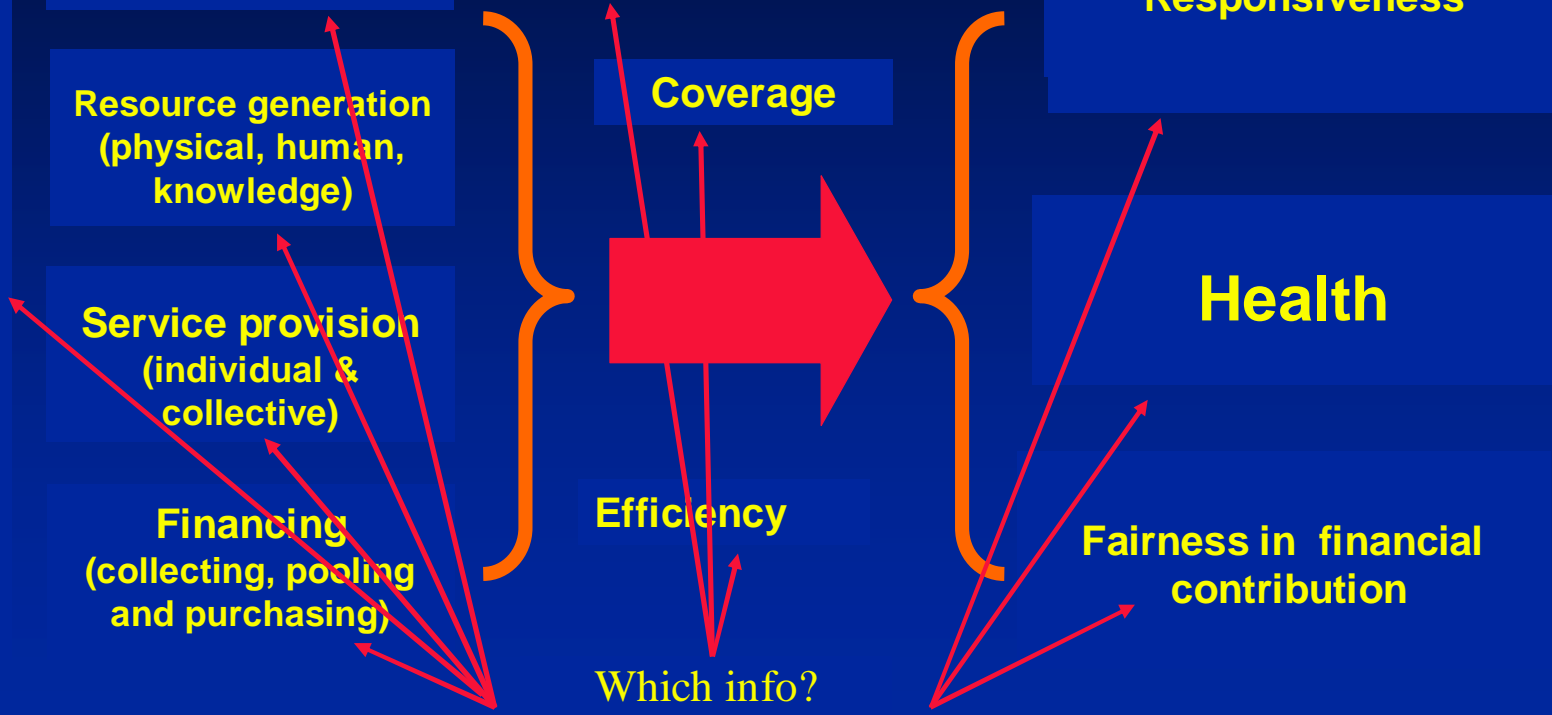
Which info?
Which knowledge?
Which evidence?

GOALS OF THE SYSTEM

Responsiveness

Health

Fairness in financial
contribution





- **HTA provides critical input into policy- and decision-making by offering evidence-based information on policy and practice alternatives**
- **There are multiple solutions and a wide spectrum of strategies for most health problems**
- **Health sector generally has to do more with less resources**



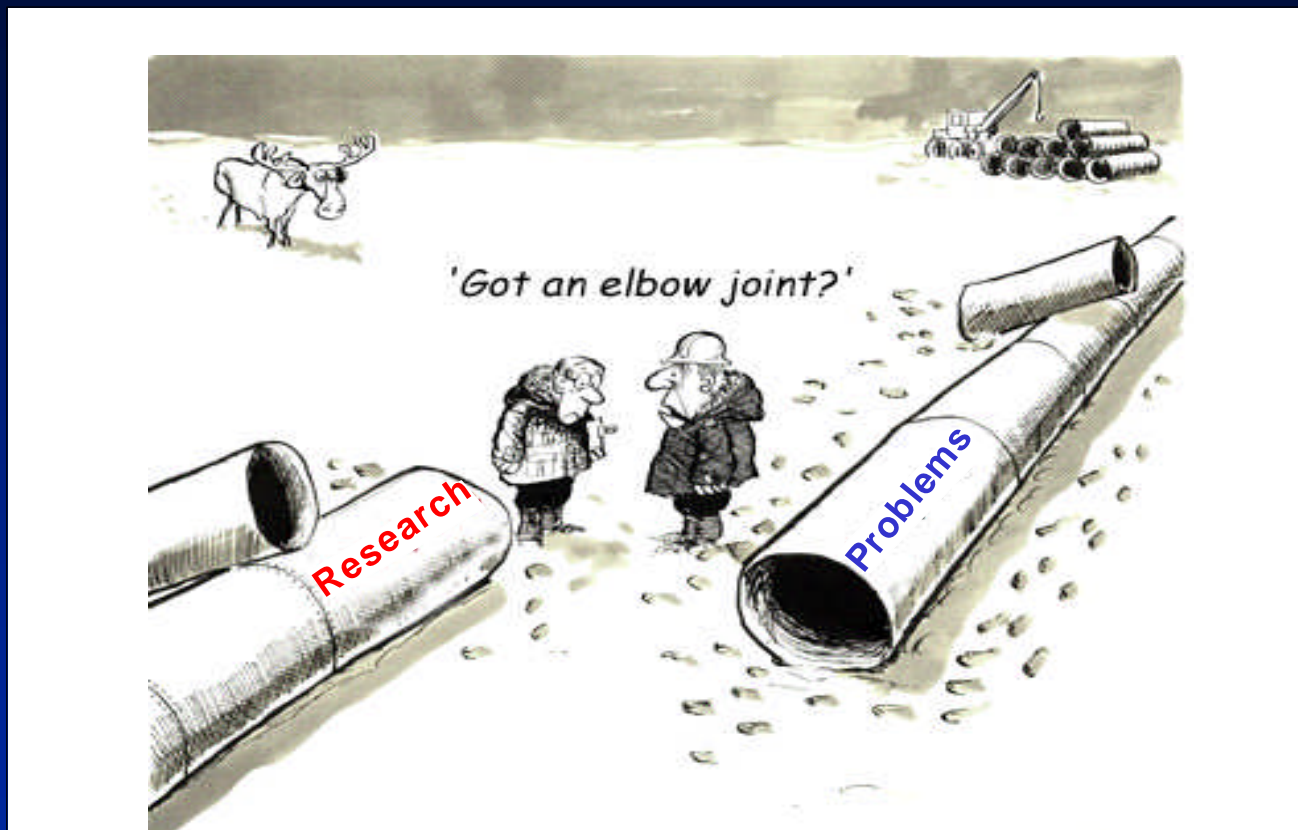
- **Dedicated and coordinated approaches to implementing HTA are still rare in developing countries despite clear and overwhelming need**
- **Policies, decisions and practices are based on evidence to a limited extent**
- **Priority setting is poor**
- **Results are disseminated on a small scale, and implementation is not adequately supported**



- **Drowning in data!**
- **Just too much of it and often not what is needed**
- **Multiple parallel demands**
- **Information goes up and never comes down**
- **Key consumers of information not being served:**
 - **Policy makers**
 - **Health Managers**
 - **Service Providers**
 - **General public**



- "Know-do" gap





- **Limited awareness among policy-makers and health professionals - lack of conducive policy environment**
- **Scant expertise, and financial and technical resources to obtain evidence and translate data into policy and clinical practice**
- **Scarce data & research on local practices, local feasibility and acceptability**
- **Conservative academia and medical establishment - vested interests and resistance to change**
- **Consumer lobby (professional societies, watch dog groups, informed public, media, ...) doesn't exist or lacks influence**



- **Profound changes are needed in the way how HTA is organized, and HTA findings and recommendations are disseminated, implemented and converted into evidence-based policies and clinical practice**
- **Implementation of evidence-based policies and guidelines requires incentives to change behaviour**
- **Local feasibility often requires system changes, hence high level of awareness and political will is needed**



- **Promote awareness and buy-in opinion leaders who should become the champions of HTA**
- **Gain greater acceptability for HTA, influencing and changing current thinking and behaviour of policy-makers and health professionals**
- **Institutionalize and build capacity for HTA**
- **Promote and facilitate the incorporation of HTA results and recommendations into decision-making at policy, managerial and clinical levels**
- **Incorporate HTA principles, concepts and practices into undergraduate and postgraduate curricula for health professionals and health care managers**



- **Link these efforts to broad health systems strengthening**
- **Build on existing experiences, initiatives and success stories**
- **Global & regional advocacy by WHO, HTAi, INAHTA, EUnetHTA, WHO Collaborating Centres for HTA, World Bank, ...**
- **Mainstream professional development and capacity building through fostering international exchanges, involvement in international fora, organizing targeted workshops, etc.**
- **Support the identification of needs, problems, priorities, solutions, and appropriate tools or methodologies**
- **Strengthen and expand international and regional networks, and foster partnerships and collaboration with leading international and national HTA institutions/organizations**
- **Facilitate the link of existing and emerging national institutions to international HTA hubs (HTAi, INAHTA, EUnetHTA, WHO Collaborating Centres)**
- **Increase accessibility of available tools through international sources (WHO, INAHTA, HTAi, EUnetHTA, World Bank, ...), and encourage their update, renewal, web availability,**