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Health Technology Management

Stefano Severi
University of Bologna



AFYA MOJA
PROJECT



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Stefano Severi

Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering

University of Bologna – Cesena Campus

- MSc (1992) and PhD (1998), University of Bologna
- Teaching:
 - Bioengineering
 - Computational Cardiology
 - Context-sensitive Design of Medical Devices
- Research areas:
 - Computational Cardiology
 - Hemodialysis
 - Bioengineering for Low Resource Settings



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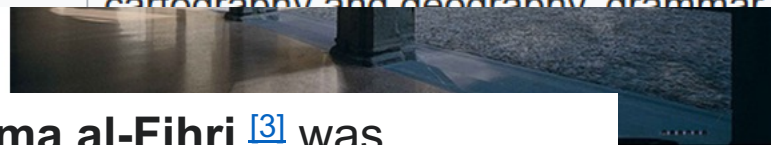


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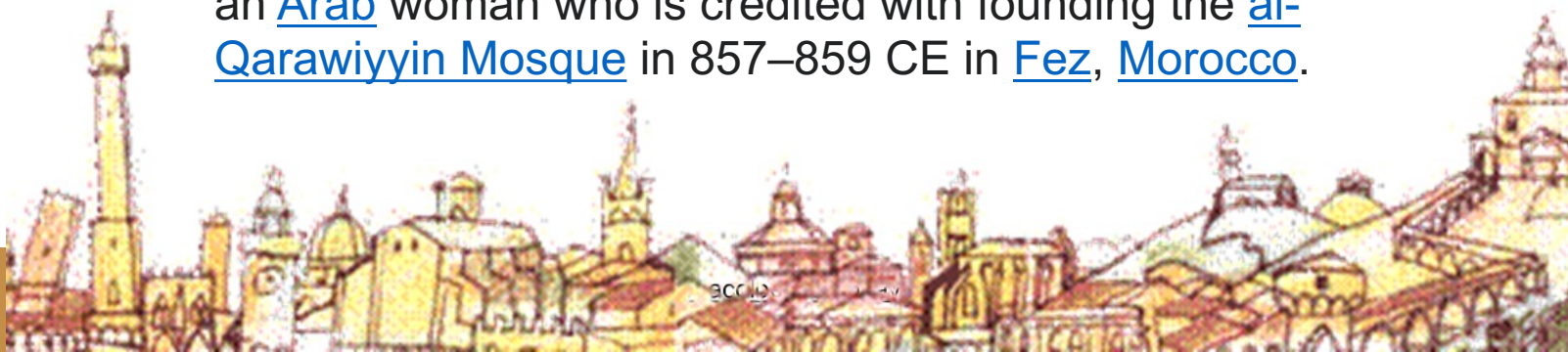
The University of Bologna

Still existing [\[edit\]](#)

Year ↕	University ↕	Location		Notes ↕
		Original ↕	Current ↕	
ca. 1040-1147 ^{[3][a]}	University of al-Qarawiyyin	Almoravid dynasty	Morocco	The university's curriculum included but was not limited to Quranic exegesis (<i>tafsir</i>), Islamic jurisprudence, algebra, astronomy, botany, cartography and geography, grammar, history,



Fatima al-Fihriya^[2] or **Fatima al-Fihri**,^[3] was an [Arab](#) woman who is credited with founding the [al-Qarawiyyin Mosque](#) in 857–859 CE in [Fez](#), [Morocco](#).





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Biomedical Engineering Courses and Laboratory



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HTM and One Health

- In practice?



St. Luke Hospital
Wolisso – Ethiopia
November 2024



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Disclaimer

- My vision of One Health is quite human-centered
- Humans as 'Caretakers' of the environment
- One Health recognizes that the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and interdependent.

Source: <https://www.who.int/health-topics/one-health>



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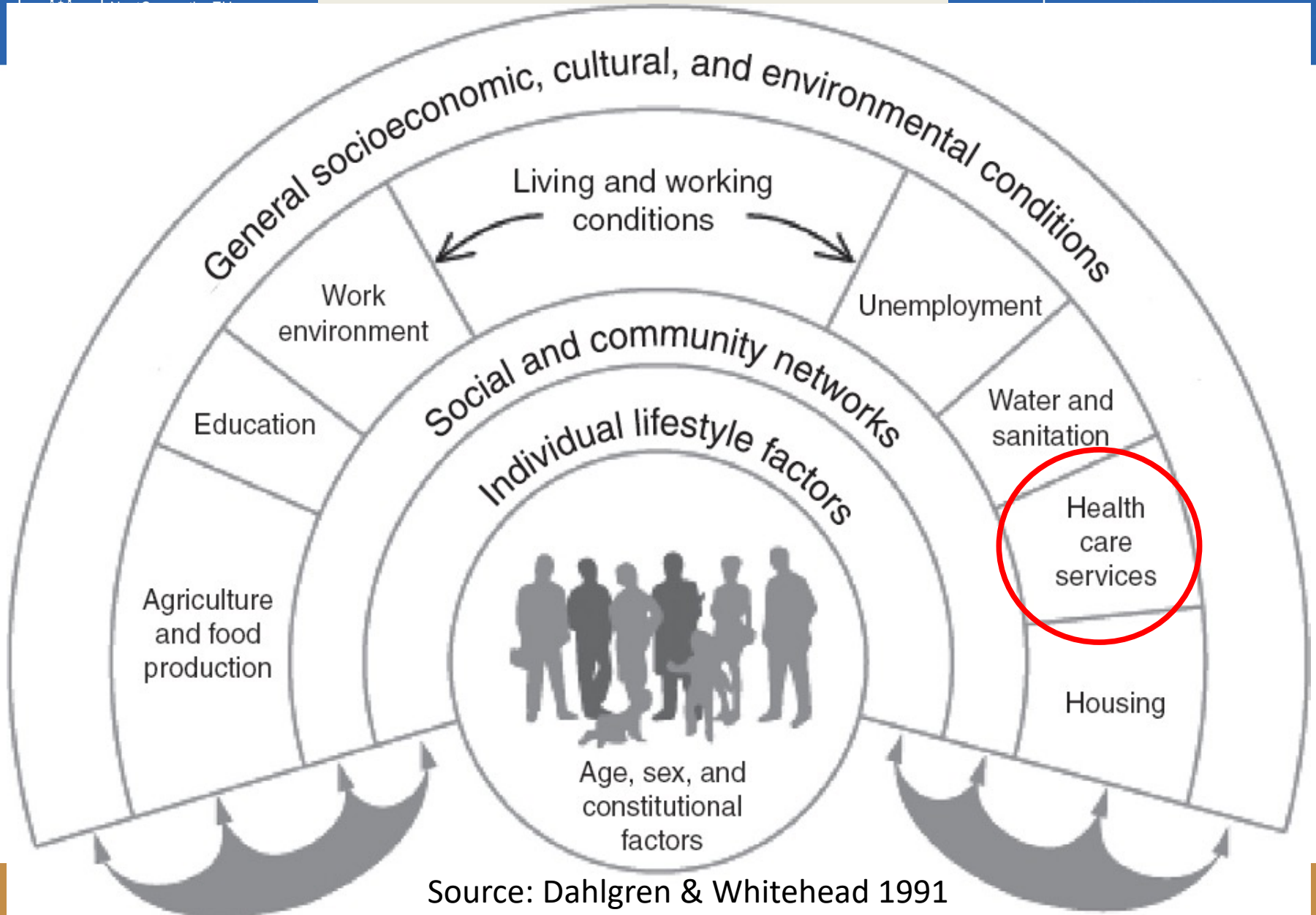
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Logo ente
beneficiario

Kibera (1:15 h 'Uber distance')

- the largest urban slum in all of Africa.
- the total population may be 500,000 to well over 1,000,000
- the average Kibera slum resident lives in extreme poverty, earning less than US\$ 2 per day





Source: Dahlgren & Whitehead 1991



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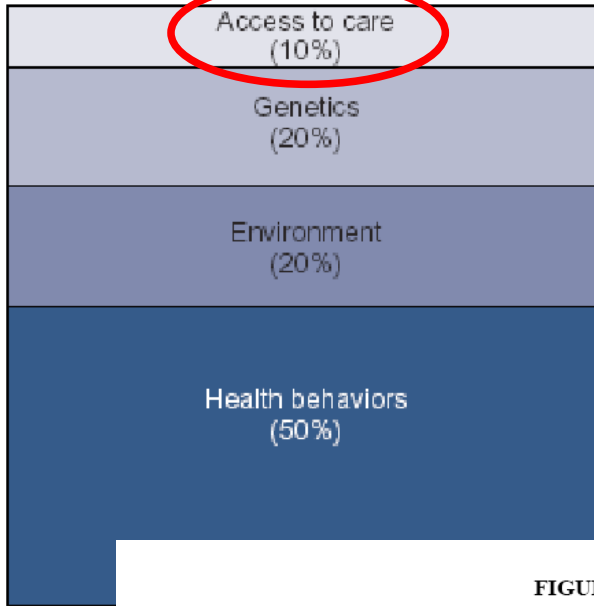


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Logo



Proportional Contribution to Premature Death

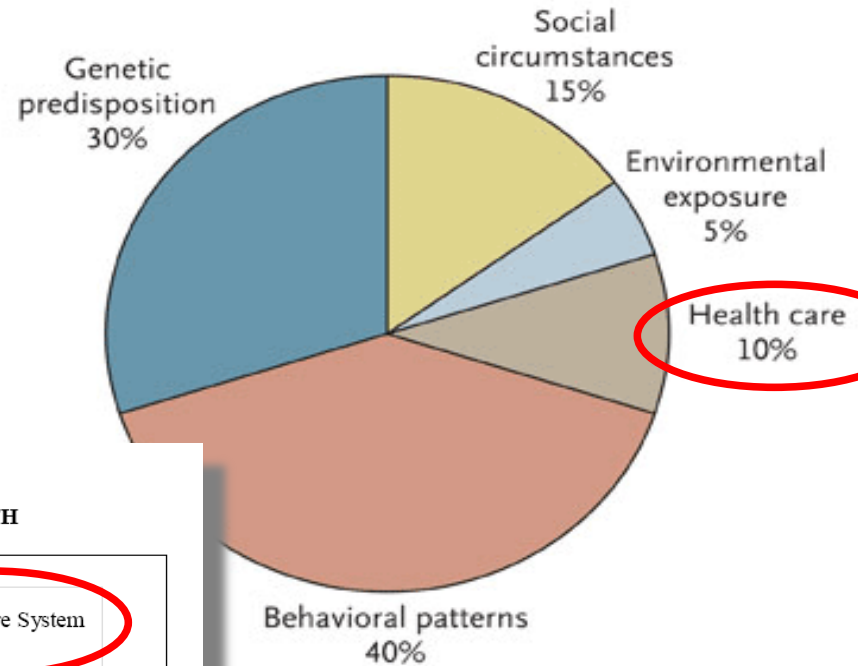
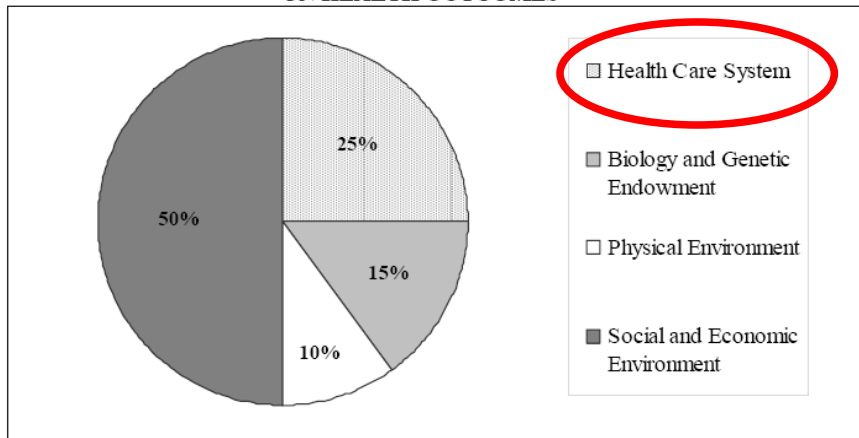


FIGURE 1
ESTIMATED IMPACT OF DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH ON HEALTH OUTCOMES

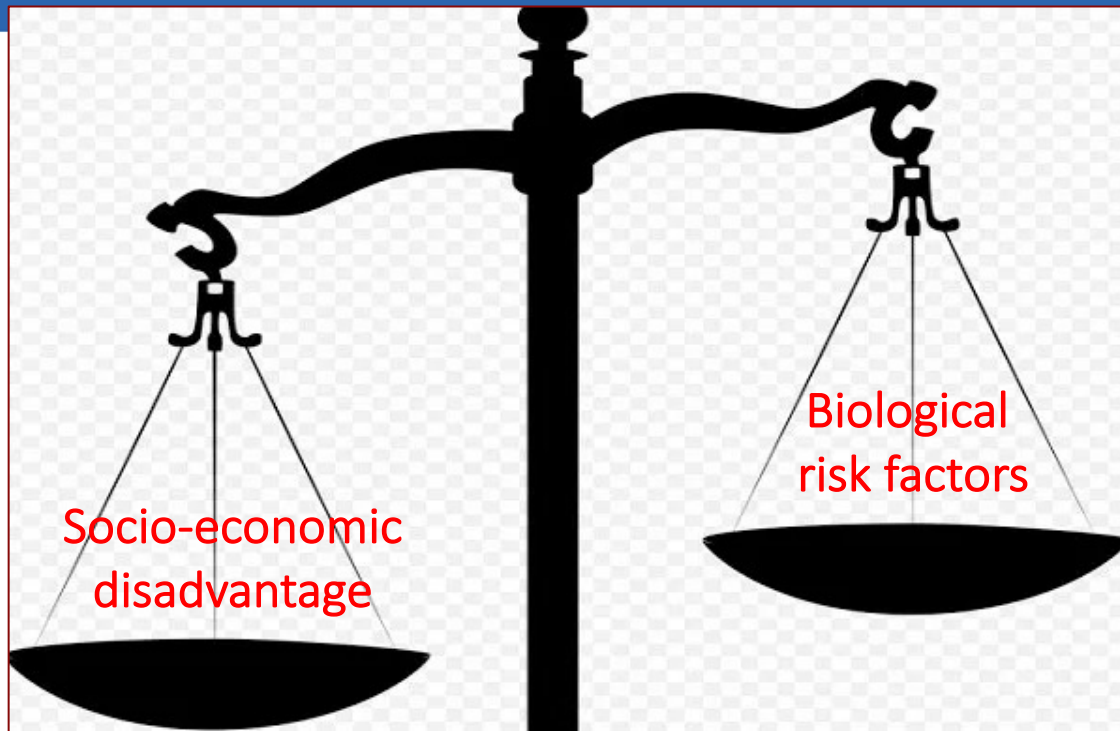
Source: IF Prevention



Source: Estimation by the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research. Graph reproduced from the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology, *The Health of Canadians - The Federal Role, Volume One: The Story so Far*, March 2001.



Influence on Health



No biological risk factor, considered individually, has an influence on health comparable to that of socio-economic disadvantage.

The Social Determination of ... Death

TITANIC: Percentage of passengers who perished by class.

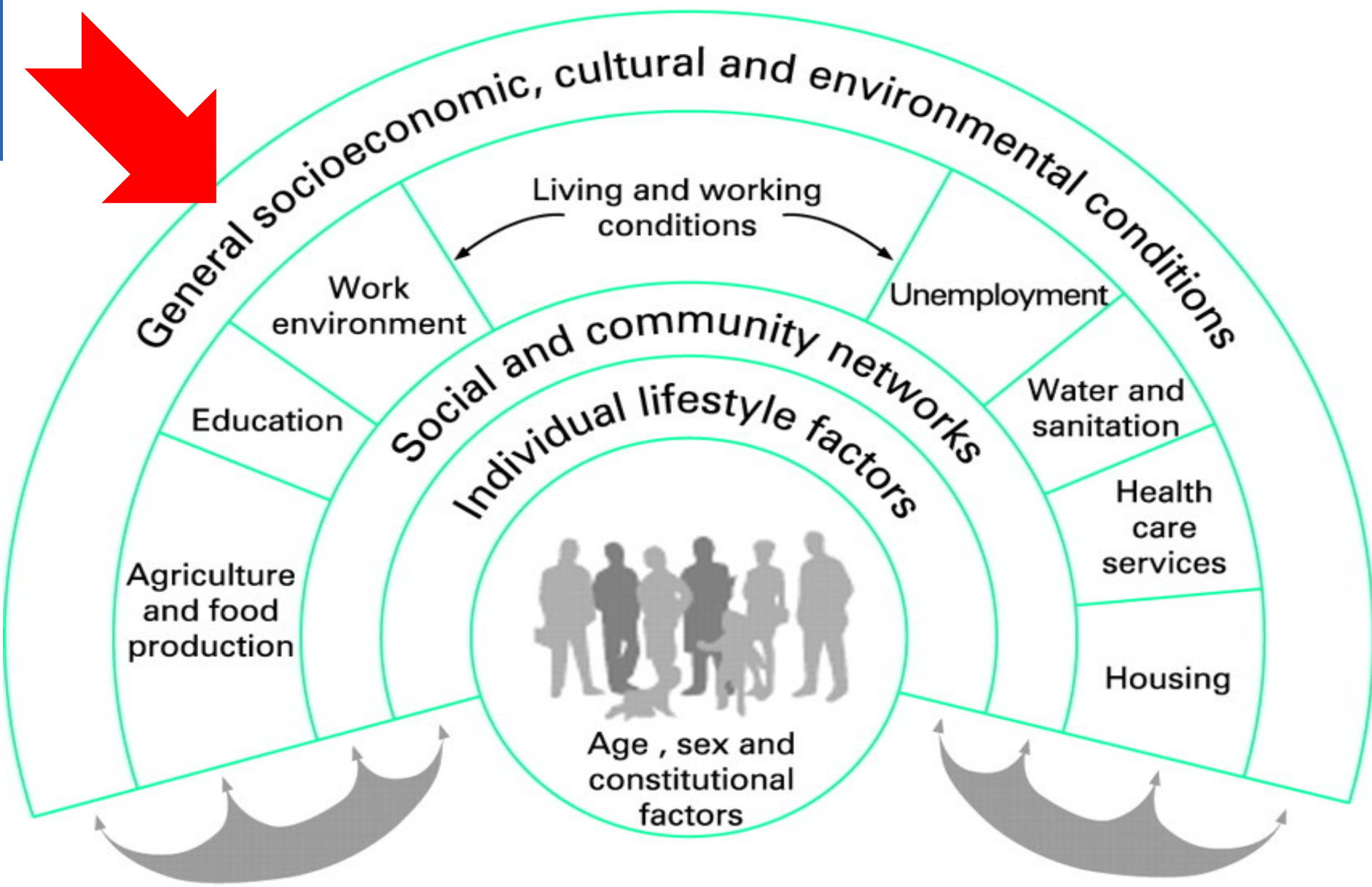
CLASS

I 40%

II 58%

III 86%

TITANIC, April 1912



Life expectancy, 2000



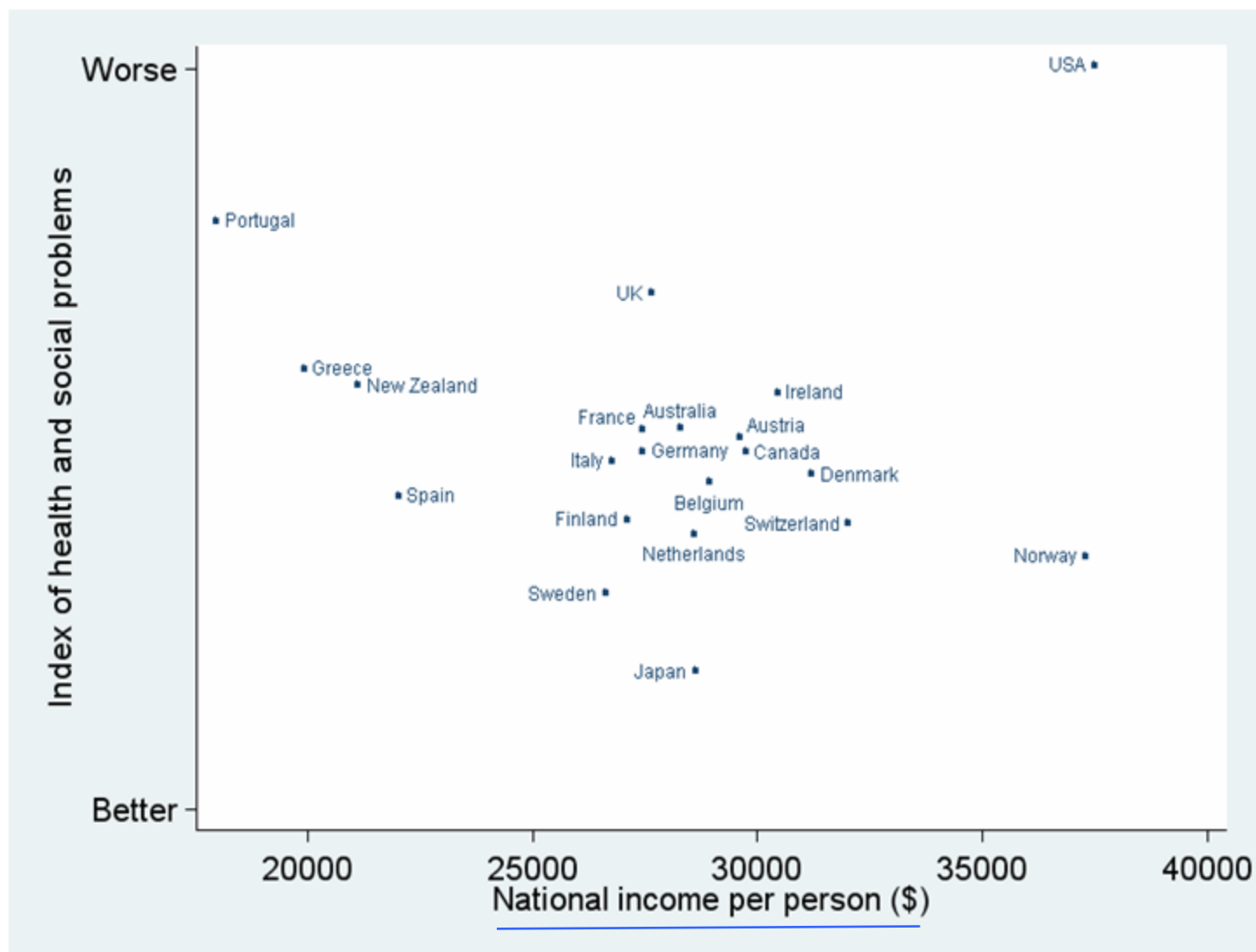
Growth (and wealth)
are not enough

Figure 2.4 The Preston curve for the year 2000. Reproduced with the permission of the author and the American Economics Association, from Deaton (2003, p. 116).

Health and Social Problems are not Related to Average Income in Rich Countries

Index of:

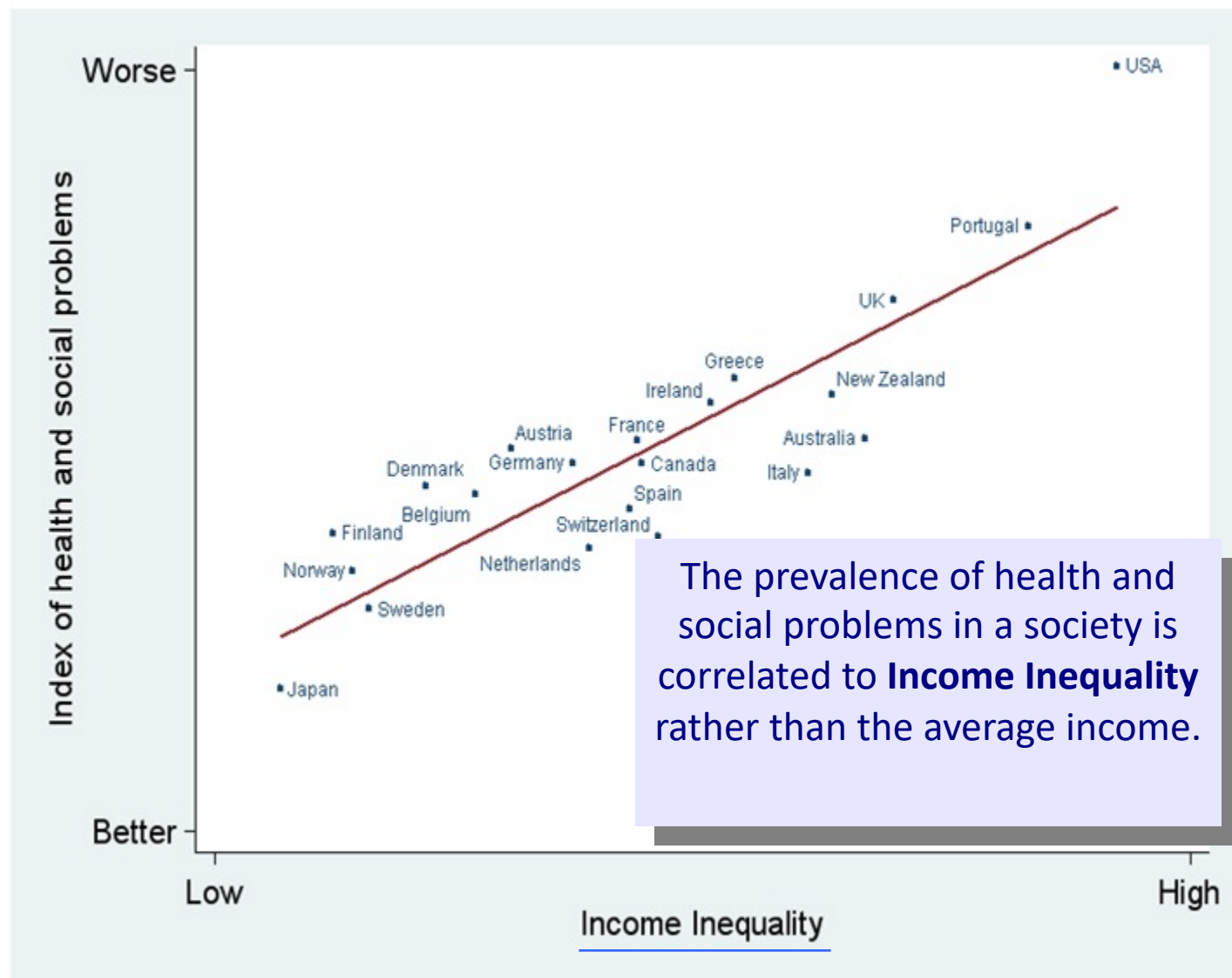
- Life expectancy
- Math & Literacy
- Infant mortality
- Homicides
- Imprisonment
- Teenage births
- Trust
- Obesity
- Mental illness – incl. drug & alcohol addiction
- Social mobility



Health and Social Problems are Worse in More Unequal Countries

Index of:

- Life expectancy
- Math & Literacy
- Infant mortality
- Homicides
- Imprisonment
- Teenage births
- Trust
- Obesity
- Mental illness – incl. drug & alcohol addiction
- Social mobility



INCOME LEVELS ▶

LEVEL 1

LEVEL 2

LEVEL 3

LEVEL 4

Gapminder World 2015

HEALTHY ↑
HEALTH
SICK ↓

Life expectancy (years)


← POOR INCOME RICH →

GDP per capita (\$ adjusted for price differences, PPP 2011)

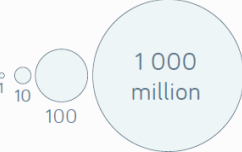
HEALTH & INCOME OF NATIONS IN 2015

This graph compares Life Expectancy & GDP per capita for all 182 nations recognized by the UN.

COLOR BY REGION



SIZE BY POPULATION



www.gapminder.org
a free fact-based worldview



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Take home messages

- Let's take care of our (real) world!
- Health technologies are important... but not the most important factor
- → please, work against inequalities!
- Look carefully to the data!
- ...and now... let's talk about HTM!



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HTA: A Practical Framework

For African Clinical Engineers

Managing Technology in Low-Resource Settings

Rigorous Methods • Practical Solutions • Sustainable Impact

Courtesy of:

Giovanni Arcuri - *General Manager of Isola Tiberina Hospital, Roma*

Claudio Conti - *Head of HTA and Technology Innovation Unit at*

Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS, Roma



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The "Graveyard" Reality

We face a stark reality in many of our facilities.

The Statistic

Up to **40-70%** of medical equipment in low-resource settings is out of service.

Why?

- ✓ Lack of spare parts.
- ✓ Incompatible power supply.
- ✓ Missing user manuals.





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What is HTA? (The Bridge)

Definition

Health Technology Assessment (HTA) is the systematic evaluation of properties, effects, and impacts of health technology.

It is a multidisciplinary process to evaluate the social, economic, organizational, and ethical issues of a health intervention or health technology.

For Us: It is the evidence-based process of deciding *"Is this machine right for OUR hospital, right NOW?"*

HTA bridges the gap between **Technical Possibility** and **Policy Reality**.



World of Technology

Innovation, Specs, Gadgets, "What is Possible?"

HTA (You)



World of Decisions

Budgets, Policy, Ethics, "What is Needed?"



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The 4 Pillars for Africa



1. Clinical Need

Does the epidemiology of our region demand this? Is it a "want" or a "need"?



2. Technical Fit

Can it survive our environment? (Heat, Dust, Power Fluctuations, Water).



3. Economic (TCO)

Can we afford the *lifecycle*? Consumables, maintenance, disposal?



4. Social/Ethical

Is it safe? Is it equitable? Who benefits? How do we dispose of it?

Total Cost of Ownership



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Technical Feasibility

The Infrastructure Reality Check

- ✓ **Power Stability:** Is the voltage compatible (220V vs 110V)? Do we need a UPS or stabilizer?
- ✓ **Environment:** Can the device handle 35°C+ heat and 90% humidity? Is it dust-proof?
- ✓ **Utilities:** Does it need medical-grade oxygen, treated water, or compressed air?
- ✓ **Spare Parts:** Is there a local distributor? Or do we have to import a \$5 fuse for \$100 shipping?





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The Economic Reality (TCO)

The Iceberg Effect

The **Acquisition Cost** (Purchase Price) is just the tip of the iceberg.



Hidden Operational Costs (OPEX):

- Consumables (Reagents, filters, paper)
- Spare parts & Maintenance contracts
- Staff training & retraining
- Electricity & Water consumption
- Decommissioning & Disposal

In 5 years, OPEX can exceed CAPEX by 3-5 times.

Capital Expenditures



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Ethical & Social Responsibility



E-Waste

Africa is not a dumping ground. Accepting broken equipment harms our environment. We must ensure proper disposal plans are in place.



Equity

Does this technology serve the majority? Or does it divert resources from basic care (e.g. maternal health) to high-cost elite care?



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The Donation Dilemma



"There is no such thing as a free lunch."

The Risks

- Dumping of obsolete technology.
- No manuals or accessories.
- Unknown history (broken on arrival).
- Creates a disposal burden for YOU.

The HTA Defense

- **Policy:** "We do not accept unsolicited equipment."
- **Standard:** "Equipment must have 50% life remaining."
- **Manuals:** "Must come with technical & user manuals in English/French."



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Case Study: The Oxygen Concentrators

The Scenario

A rural hospital receives 10 used oxygen concentrators donated from the USA.

The Failure:

- Input: 110V / 60Hz. Local grid: 220V / 50Hz.
- Step-down transformers were bought cheaply.
- Overheating caused compressors to fail within 2 months.
- Filters were clogged with dust (no spares).

HTA Lesson: Technical Feasibility Assessment would have flagged voltage and environmental conditions (dust)





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Case Study: The Imaging Trap

Scenario: A teaching hospital is offered a high-end CT Scanner. "Just pay for shipping."

The Hidden Reality

- **Installation:** Requires lead-lined walls (Cost: \$20k).
- **Tube Life:** The X-ray tube was near end-of-life. Replacement cost: \$60k.
- **Service:** No engineer in the country trained on this specific model.





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The "Wild West" of Regulation

The Missing Mark

Weak border enforcement allows uncertified equipment to flood our markets.

The Risks of Non-Certification:

- **Electrical Shock:** Devices may lack proper isolation (Type B vs BF vs CF).
- **Inaccuracy:** A cheap BP monitor giving false readings is a "silent killer".
- **No Traceability:** If there is a global recall, you will never know.



The "China Export" Confusion: Be aware of deceptive logos that look like the CE mark but simply stand for "China Export".



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Comunidad Europea



China Export





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Mitigating Regulatory Risk



1. Verify Paperwork

Demand a "Declaration of Conformity" (DoC). Do not just look at the sticker. Verify the "Notified Body" number (e.g., CE 0123).



2. Trust but TEST

Mandatory: Perform Electrical Safety Testing (IEC 62353) on arrival. If it fails leakage tests, reject it immediately.

3. Global Research

Use the internet. Is this model sold in Europe or the USA? Check the FDA MAUDE database for recalls.

"In the absence of a strong regulator, the Clinical Engineering Department IS the regulator."



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"Technology alone does not save lives.
Managed technology saves lives."



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Health Technology Management

Winter School Kenyatta University

Caterina Giuliani - University of Bologna



pair



The Right to Repair in the Medical Device Industry

Carmelo De Maria
University of Pisa



DI Dipartimento
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Overview

- Fundamentals of Healthcare Technology Management (HTM)
- Health technologies life cycle
- Case study



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What is HTM?

Healthcare Technology Management (HTM) is the set of technical and managerial activities that ensure that health technologies are safe, effective, appropriate, and sustainable during their entire life cycle



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HTM Benefits

- improved equipment availability,
- patient safety,
- cost efficiency,
- better use of resources,
- improved clinical outcomes,
- data-driven decision making,
- regulatory compliance,
- sustainability



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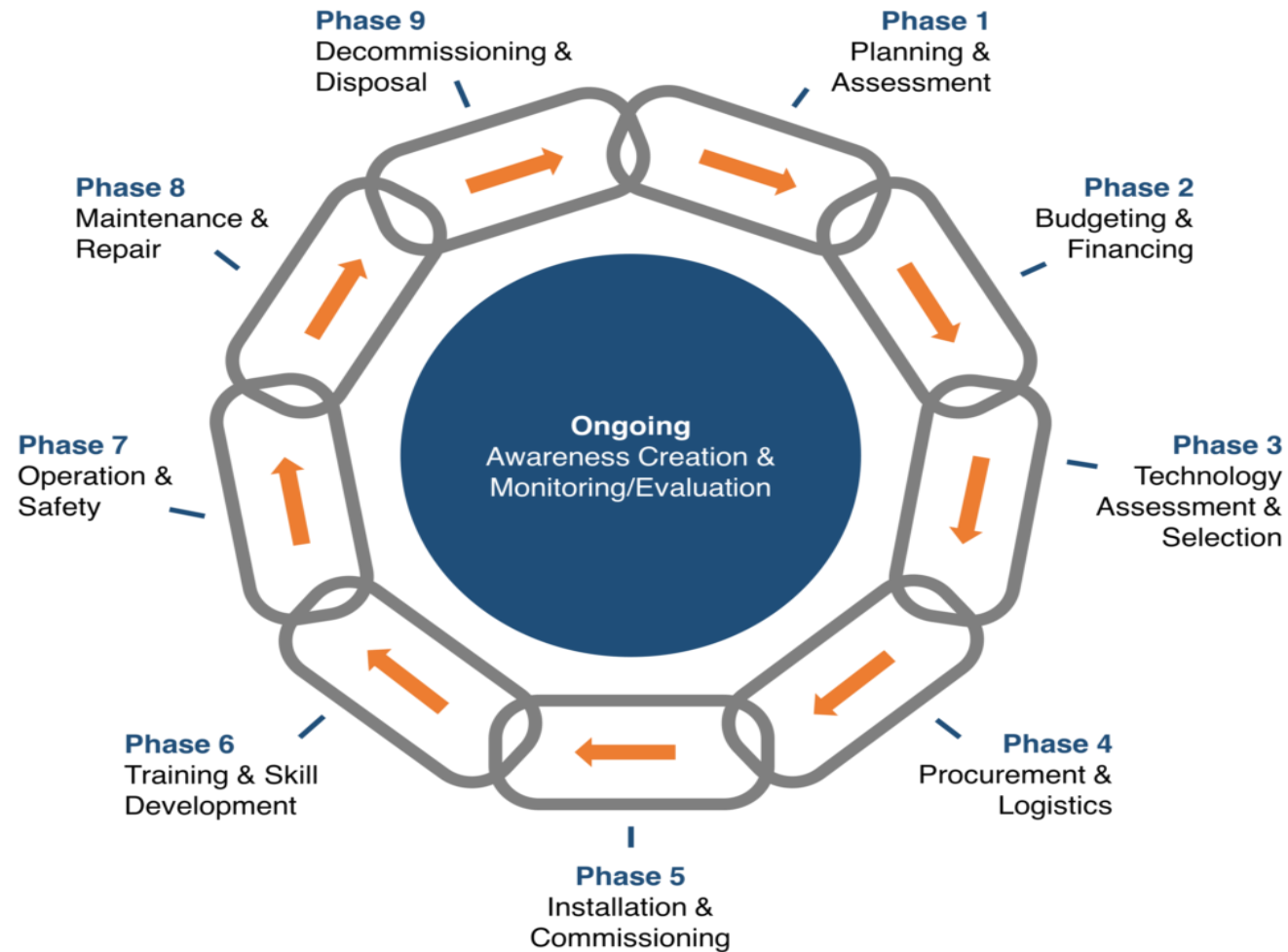


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Health Technology Management Lifecycle





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Availability of resources

- Workshop
- Tools
- Spare parts
- Dedicated personnel



Resources



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Types of staff

- Equipment users
- Technicians
- Biomedical engineers
- HTM Managers
- Support staff



Resources



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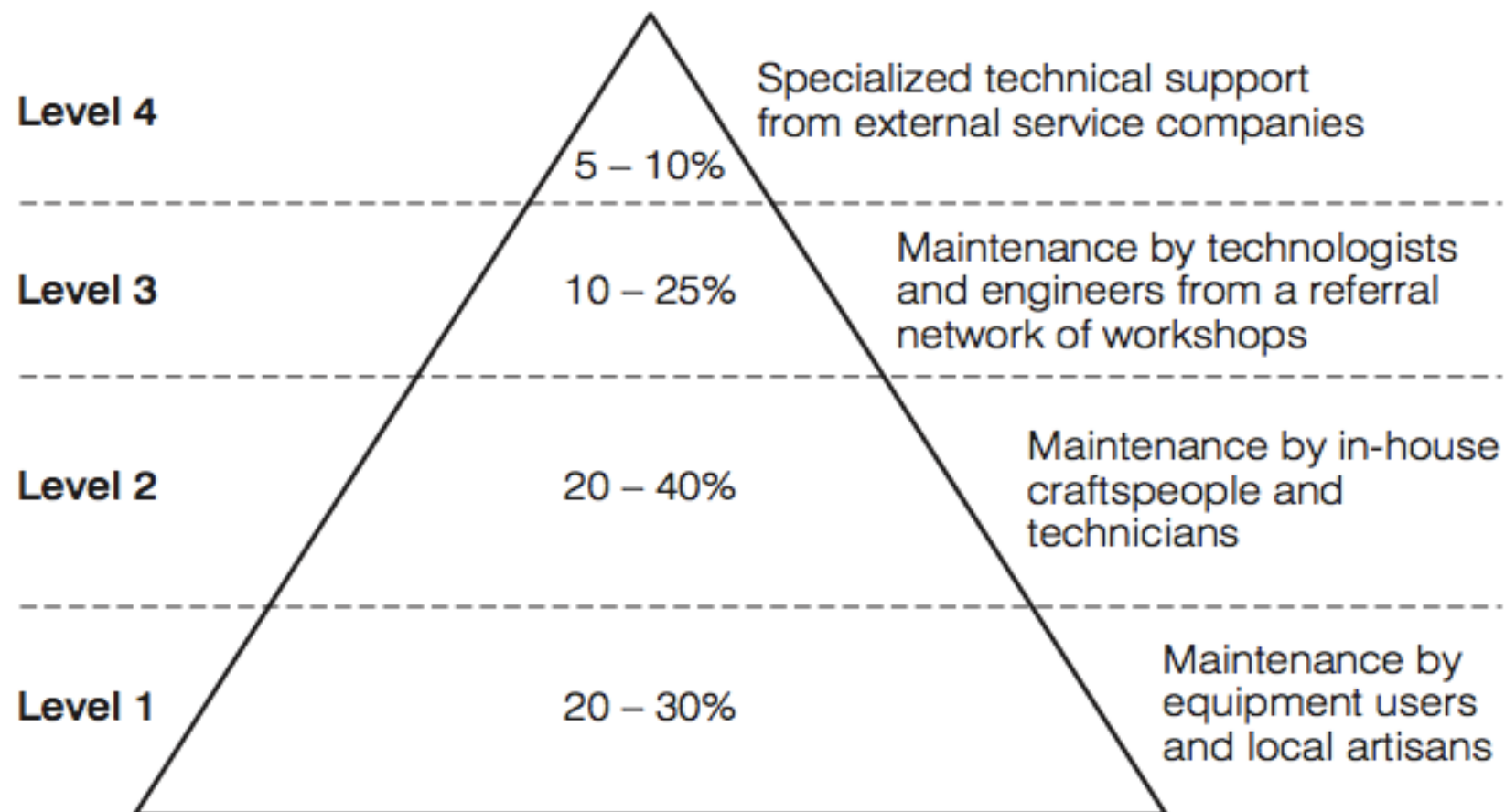
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Resources

BOX 29: Suggestions for Staff Development Needs According to Hospital Size from a FAKT International Seminar

Label	Level of training	Number of staff per hospital type				
		1000 plus beds	500 plus beds	200 – 300 beds	100 plus beds	30 plus beds
Engineer	BSc or HND holder	2 minimum	2	1	0	0
Technologist	Diploma holder	10	5 – 7	2 – 4	2 minimum	0
Technician	Certificate holder	20	10	4	2 – 4	1 minimum
Artisans:						
electrician	Trade test holder or informal training	6 plus	3 – 6	2 – 3	1 – 2	
plumber		6 plus	3 – 6	2 – 3	1 – 2	
carpenter		5 plus	3 – 5	1 – 3	1	
mason		3 plus	2 – 3	0 – 1	0	
painter		2 plus	1 – 3	0 – 1	2	
car mechanic		3 plus	2 – 3	1 – 2	0	
Support staff		Relevant test certificate or informal training	2	1	1	1



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Planning and Assessment

- Clinical evaluation
- Economic evaluation
- Health Technology Assessment (HTA)

Planning

Installation

Operation

Maintenance

Disposal



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Planning tools

- keeping an update **Equipment inventory**
- knowing the **value of stock** of equipment
- consumable use estimations
- **budget lines** for equipment expenditure

Planning

Installation

Operation

Maintenance

Disposal



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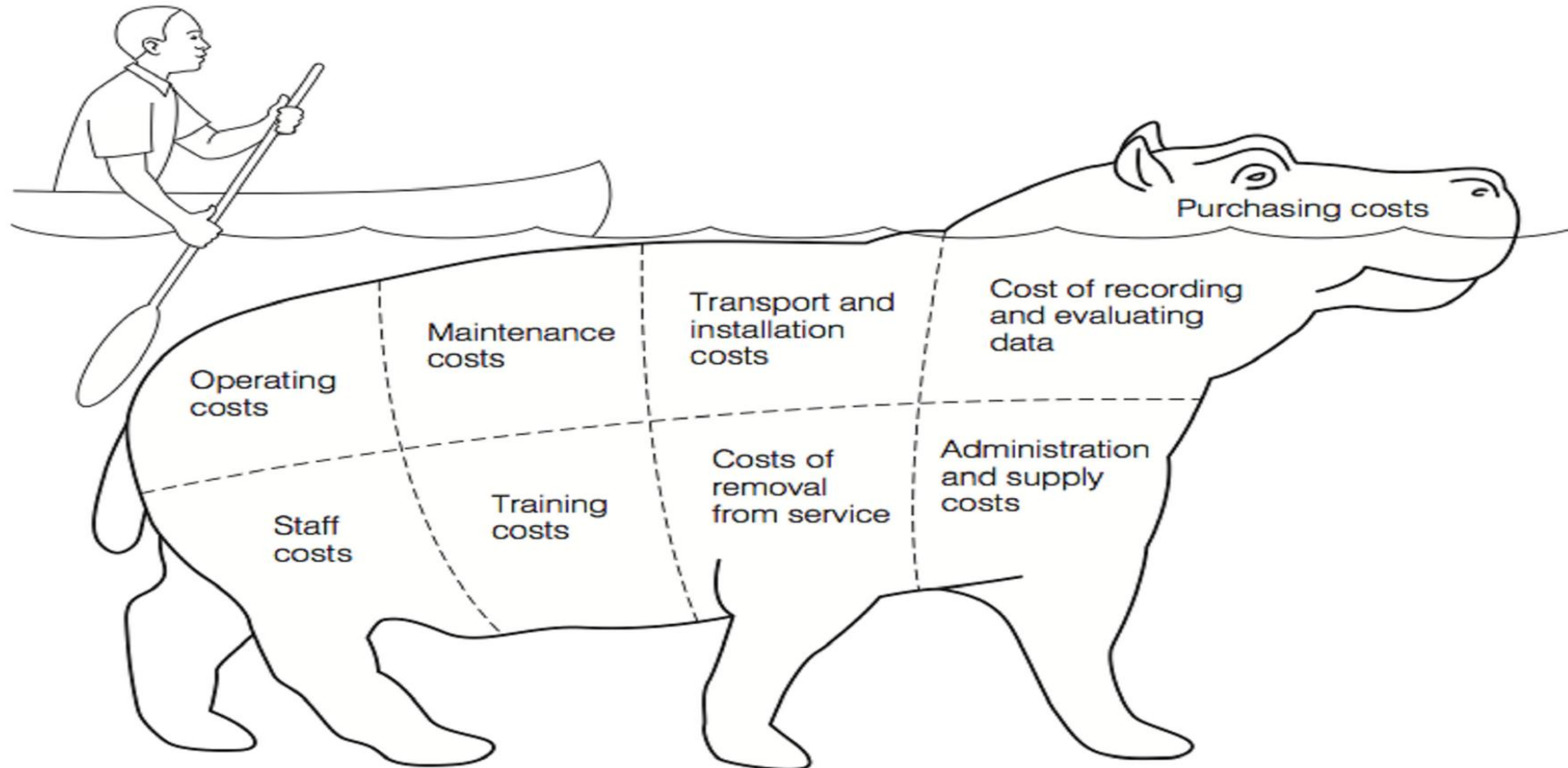
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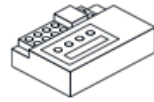




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Consumable cost

Some equipment use many and expensive consumables. Up to 120% of purchasing cost per year!

BOX 30: Suggestions for Rough Estimations of Consumable Operating Costs for Forward Planning (continued)

Description	Consumable cost per year relative to original purchase cost
Equipment with high consumable operating costs, such as: Haemodialysis machine Automatic biochemical analyser Automatic haematology analyser Electrolyte analyser Blood gas analyser 	70–120 per cent
Equipment with medium consumable operating costs, such as: Conventional X-ray machine Anaesthesia machine ECG recorder, three channel Ultrasound, medical/obstetric Ventilator, ICU Physiological monitor EEG machine Autoclave, steam Incubator, baby, ICU 	30 per cent 20 per cent 15–25 per cent 10–15 per cent 5–15 per cent
Equipment with low consumable operating costs, such as: Centrifuge, electrical Suction pump Delivery bed Operating theatre lamp Slit lamp Operating microscope Water bath 	5 per cent 2–5 per cent 1–2 per cent

Planning

Installation

Operation

Maintenance

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Maintenance cost

Many calculations make use of a percentage of “equipment stock value” e.g. for calculating maintenance cost for equipment, you take an internationally recognized percentage of you equipment stock value (5-6%)

Planning

Installation

Operation

Maintenance

Disposal



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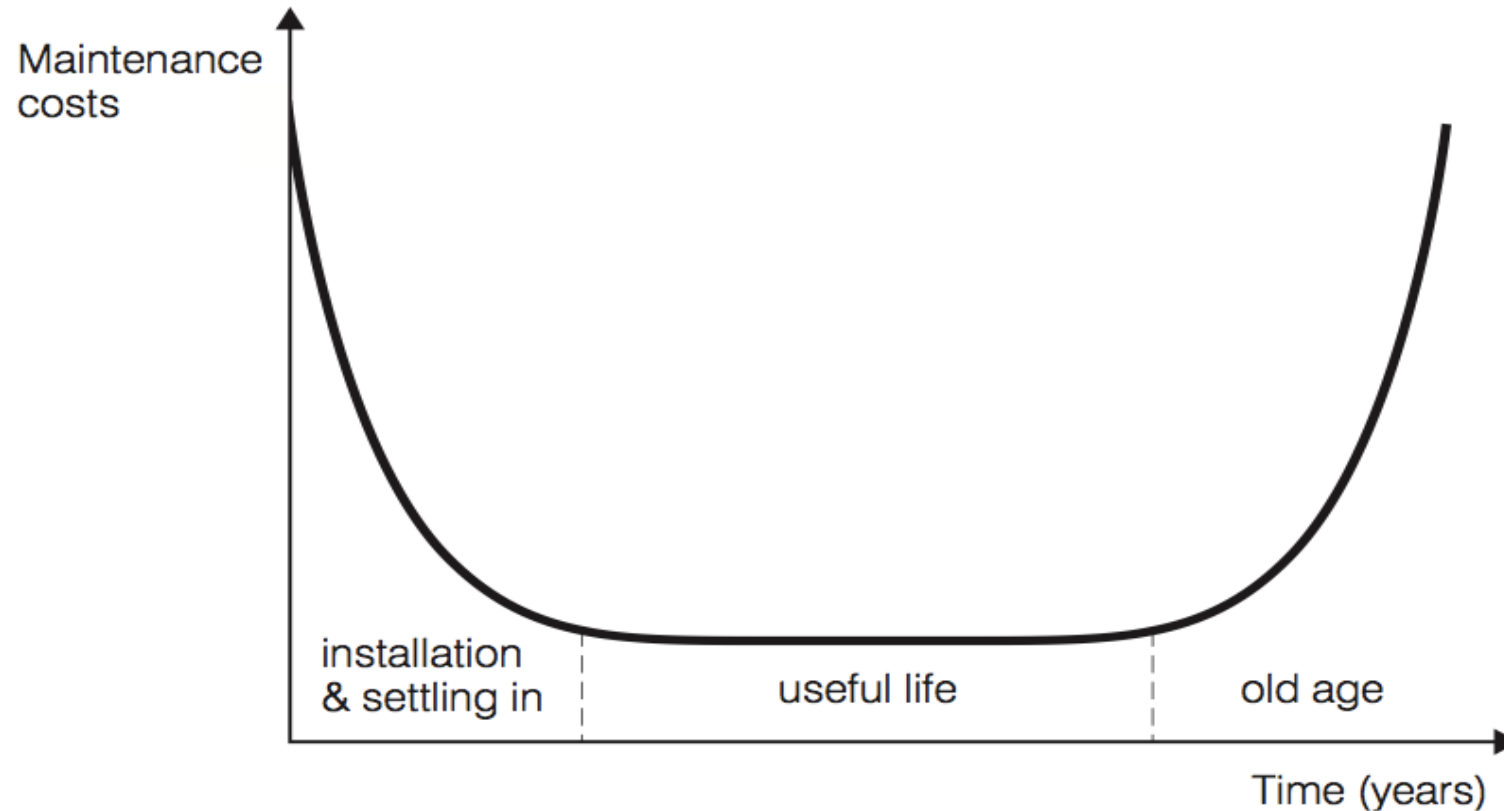


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Figure 19: Traditional 'Bath-tub' Curve of Maintenance Costs over the Lifetime of Equipment



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Model Equipment List

a standardised list of equipment required for a specific level of healthcare facility, based on an analysis of needs and available resources.

The model equipment list should then be compared with the current inventory to identify gaps or surpluses

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What should we purchase?

THE BEST TECHNOLOGY

- appropriate
- sustainable
- safe
- ethical

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BOX 3: Savings Derived from Effective Procurement and Commissioning of Healthcare Technology

Problems that could be avoided	Resulting waste you could save
◆ lack of standardization	◆ 30–50% additional cost for extra spare parts and extra maintenance workload
◆ purchase of sophisticated equipment for which operating and maintenance staff have no skills	◆ 20–40% of equipment remains under-utilized or unused
◆ impact on equipment and buildings during installation, unforeseen at the initial tender stage	◆ extra modifications or additions required for 10–30% of equipment
◆ inability to correctly specify and foresee total needs when ordering equipment	◆ 10–30% additional unplanned costs
◆ improper use of equipment by operating and maintenance staff who lack the necessary training	◆ loss of 30–80% of the potential lifetime of equipment
◆ excessive equipment down-time due to absence of preventive maintenance, inability to repair, and lack of spare parts	◆ 25–35% of equipment out of service

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Installation and Acceptance Testing

- Technical compliance verification
- Electrical and functional safety
- Formal acceptance
- Technical documentation

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Clinical Use

- User training
- Operating procedures
- Appropriate use
- Performance monitoring

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Preventive Maintenance

PPM is a series of actions carried out on equipment to prevent breakdowns and ensure the equipment is operational and safe.

PPM enables the HTM to:

- detect problems before they become crises
- save money
- make sure that the equipment is fully operational
- guarantee accuracy
- reduce downtime
- extend the life-span of equipment

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Good Preventive Maintenance saves costs!

Equipment type	Lifetime in years			
	Poor quality makes		Good quality makes	
	Poorly maintained	Well maintained	Poorly maintained	Well maintained
Air-conditioner (window type)	3	5 – 7	5 – 6	10 – 12
Anaesthetic machine (Boyles)	2 – 5	5 – 10	5 – 10	10 – 15
Centrifuge	3 – 4	7 – 8	6 – 9	10 – 12
Generator (diesel)	3 – 6	9 – 10	10 – 12	18 – 20
Generator (petrol)	2 – 5	5 – 10	6 – 15	10 – 20
Microscope	3 – 6	5 – 10	6 – 10	10 – 20
Oven, hot air (laboratory)	2 – 6	5 – 8	6 – 10	10 – 15
Refrigerator (electrical)	3 – 5	5 – 8	5 – 8	10 – 15
Refrigerator (kerosene)	4	4 – 8	5 – 10	10 – 17
Sphygmomanometer (aneroid)	1 – 3	2 – 3	2 – 5	5 – 10
Sphygmomanometer (mercury)	1 – 2	3 – 5	3 – 5	8 – 10
Sterilizer, bench-top (horizontal)	3 – 5	5 – 8	6 – 10	10 – 14
Sterilizer, floor-standing (vertical)	3 – 6	5 – 12	8	14 – 15
Suction pump (electrical)	1 – 3	5 – 7	5 – 8	10 – 15
Truck, pick-up	2 – 4	3 – 6	4 – 8	7 – 12
Washing machine (electrical)	2 – 4	5	6	8 – 11



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Corrective maintenance

All maintenance actions performed after a failure has occurred, to restore medical equipment to a safe and functional operating condition.

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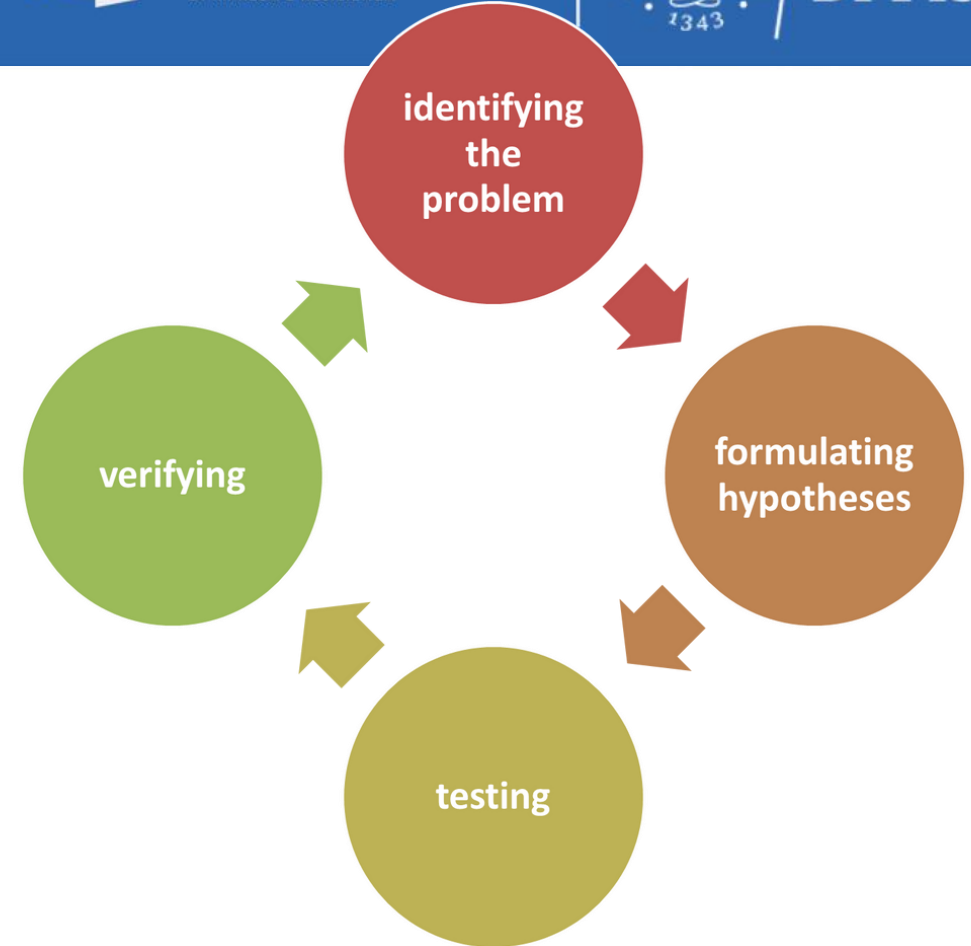
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Troubleshooting

- Know the principles of operation of equipment
- Know the equipment history from the user and maintenance records
- Use service manuals, test equipment and correct tools
- Use correct troubleshooting techniques
- Record equipment details in workshop receiving book.



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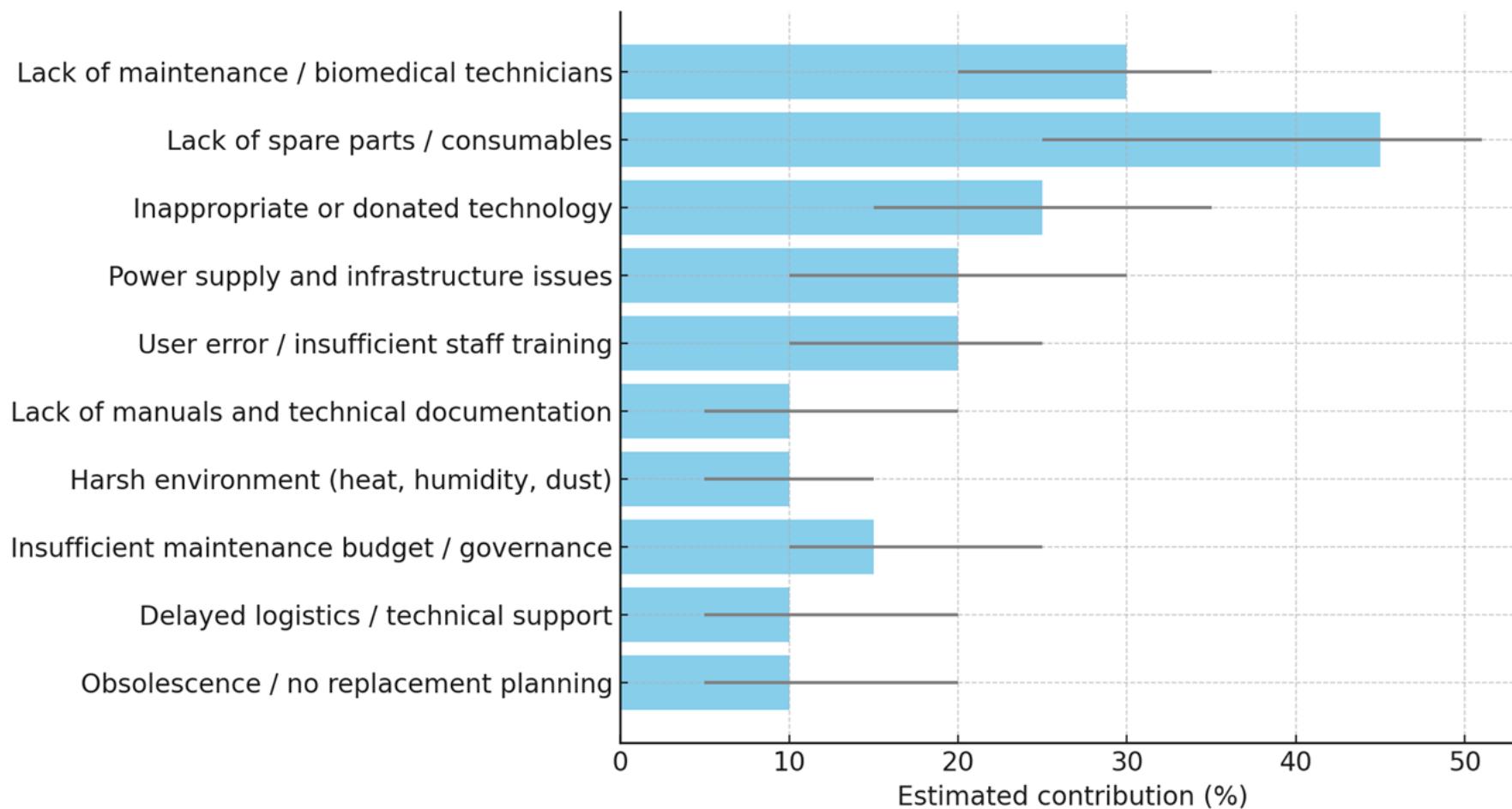


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Main Causes of Non-Functional equipment





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Records

- the work done on the equipment
- spares used on equipment
- consumables used on equipment
- when the equipment came to the workshop
- the maintenance staff who worked on the equipment
- the time taken to repair/doing the work

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Decommissioning and Replacement

Every technology has an end of life!

The disposal phase must be managed safely and responsibly, taking into account environmental and regulatory aspects.

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Physically disposing of the equipment

- Destroy memory containing patient data
- Remove useful components and parts
- hazardous components are disposed safely: radioactive sources, asbestos, mercury, etc.

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CMMS - example

IMPLEMENTATION

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11:27 AM mercoledì, 25/6/2025

PPM

GENERAL MAINTENANCE REGISTER



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Modifica

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Inventory Code Num	Departeme	Type of equipment	Stat	Comments & different location	Name of Manufacturer	Model Name	Serial Number	Operation Manua
FCHHBD001	FCH	Height Board	OK		ADE	MZ10042		
FCHHBD002	FCH	Height Board	OK		FAZZINI			
FCHSCA001	FCH	Scale	OK		SECA	7001021008	5700055148140	
FCHSCA002	FCH	Scale	OK		SALTER	2356S		
FCHHBD003	FCH	Height Board	OK		ADE	MZ10040	165240005556	
FCHSAT001	FCH	Saturimeter	OK		Hunan			
FCHUSS001	FCH	Ultrasound Scan	OK		Fukuda Denshi	UF-750XT	37061665	
FCHGLC001	FCH	Glucometer	OK		CareSens	GM01WAA	F066210L0971	
FCHBED001	FCH	Bed	OK		Surgimed			
FCHIVP001	FCH	IV Pole	NP	Wheels are not working				
FCHBED002	FCH	Bed	OK					
FCHCRD001	FCH	Cradle	OK		SNELL			
FCHSUC001	FCH	Suction Machine	OK		Ca-mi	NEW ASKIR 30	2399	
FCHMON001	FCH	Patient Monitor	OK		MASmed	MAS-V900	21090712040238	
FCHTHR001	FCH	Thermometer	OK		UEBE Medical GmbH	0816		
MATRTE001	MAT	Resuscitre	OK		Drager	Babytherm8004		
MATRTE002	MAT	Resuscitre	NO	Not working at all	OHMEDA	IWS3300		
MATMON001	MAT	Patient Monitor	NP	SpO2 and temperature not working	MASmed	MAS-V900	21090712040233	
MATSAT001	MAT	Saturimeter	OK	Batteries have to be changed	ROHS			
MATSAT002	MAT	Saturimeter	OK	Charging system to check	ACARE	AH-M1		



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Technician	Date of request	Equipment	Inventory	Department	Person making request	Problem
Gracious	12/19/2024	oxygen concentrator		Adult		concentrator servicing
Gracious	12/19/2024	oxygen concentrator		Pediatric		concentrator servicing
Gracious	12/19/2024	oxygen concentrator		Out patient department		concentrator servicing
Gracious	24/19/2024	heater		Pediatric		heater
URGENCY: 1 = as soon as possible; 2 = in a week; 3 = in a month; 4 = >1 month				What was done/is needed	Status of the request	Completion date
				2 service	Completed	19/12/24
				2 service	Completed	19/12/24
				2 service	Completed	19/12/24
				2 gluing the parts	Pending	



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11:20

20 STANDARD QUESTIONS TO SUPPORT TECHNICIANS IN THE MAINTENANCE:

- **Basic identification:** technician's name, date, department, and inventory code
- **Visual inspection** of the device and accessories
- **Functionality checks** specific to the device
- **Electrical safety**
- **Cleaning and disinfection status**
- **Additional observations**

**Thank
You**



AFYA MOJA
PROJECT

