



How to start HTA and make it grow ?

PAHO Webinar:
The role of evidence in your everyday work: what
would a comprehensive process look like?
HTA experience in the Caribbean context
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Outline

- ▶ What is HTA?
- ▶ The process of HTA
- ▶ How to start HTA and make it grow ?



What is HTA ?

Once upon a time

Request of the US Congress Senate Committee on Human Resources to OTA in 1974:

« whether a **reasonable amount of justification** should be provided **before costly new medical technologies and procedures are put into general use**»

- ➔
- **Knowledge Pull** from Decision-makers
 - Paradigm of **Evidence-informed decision-making**
 - **HTA Institutions** as Boundary Organisations

What is Health Technology Assessment ?

- ▶ A multidisciplinary process that uses explicit methods to determine the value of a health technology at different points in its lifecycle. The purpose is to inform decision-making in order to promote an equitable, efficient, and high-quality health system.

<http://htaglossary.net/health-technology-assessment>

What is Health Technology Assessment – Note 1

Note 1: Definition of health technology.

An intervention developed to prevent, diagnose or treat medical conditions; promote health; provide rehabilitation; or organize healthcare delivery.

Note 1: The intervention can be a test, device, medicine, vaccine, procedure, program or system.

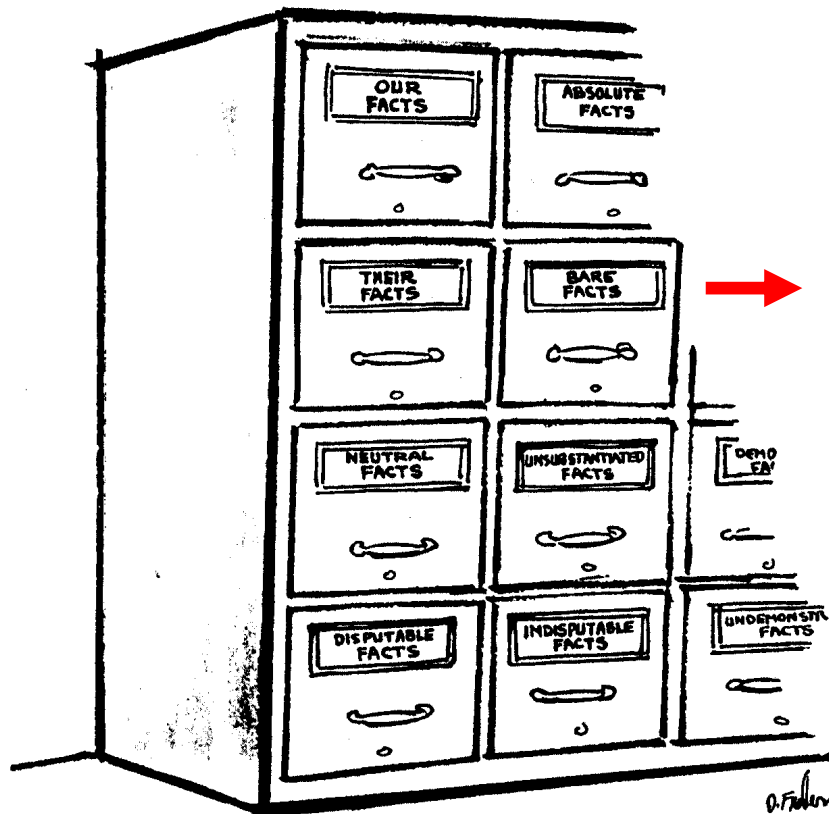
<http://htaglossary.net/health-technology>

What is Health Technology Assessment – Note 2

- ▶ **Note 2:** The **process** is formal, systematic and **transparent**, and uses state-of-the-art methods to consider the best available evidence.

<http://htaglossary.net/health-technology-assessment>

Evidence ...



The process of evidence generation and use may be more important than the evidence itself.

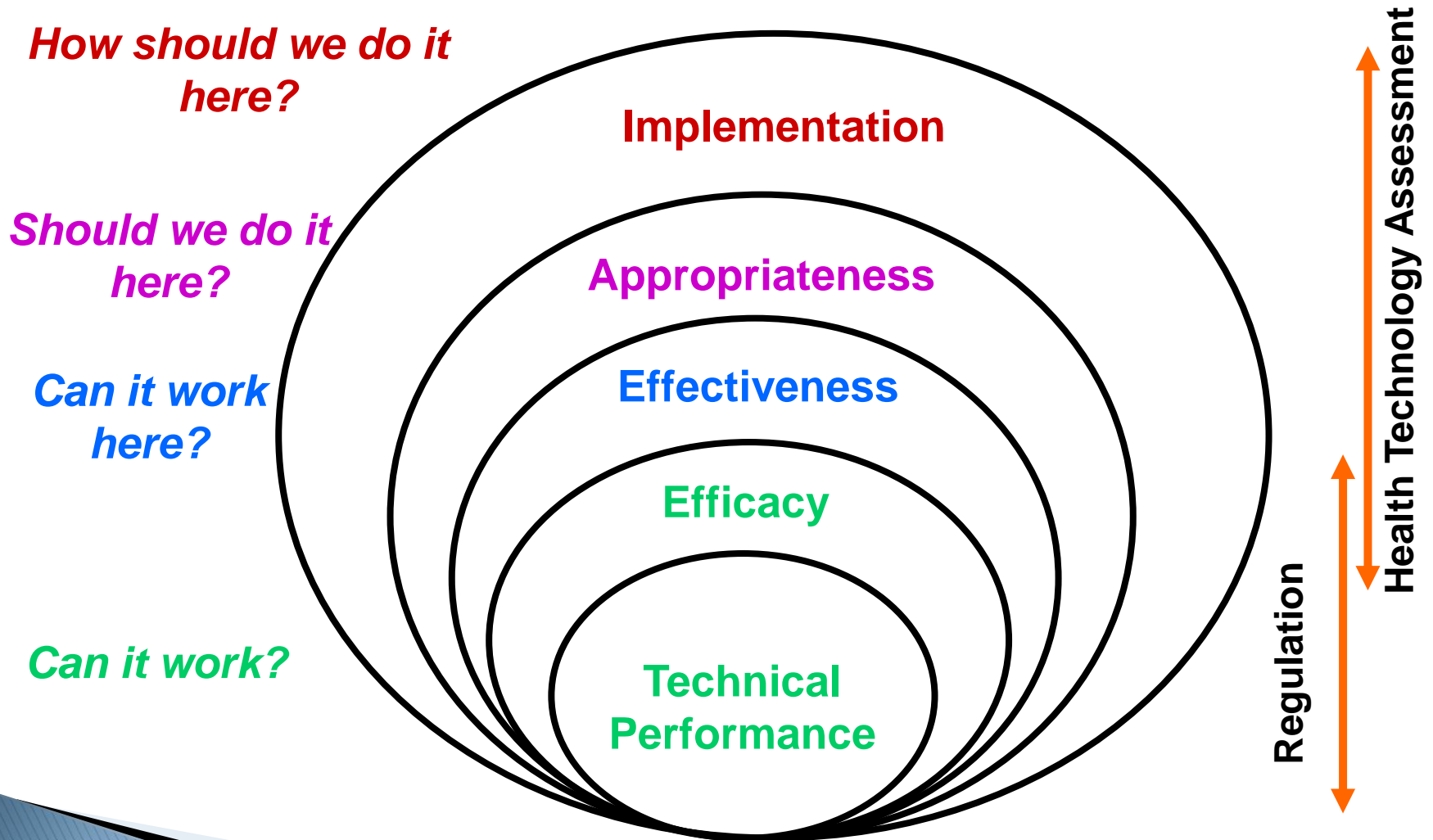
Drawing by D. Fradon; © 1977 The New Yorker Magazine, Inc.

What is Health Technology Assessment – Notes 3–4

- ▶ **Note 3:** The dimensions of **value for a health technology** may be assessed by examining the intended and unintended consequences of using a health technology compared to existing alternatives. These dimensions often include **clinical effectiveness, safety, costs and economic implications, ethical, social, cultural and legal issues, organisational and environmental aspects, as well as wider implications for the patient, relatives, caregivers, and the population**. The overall value may vary depending on the perspective taken, the stakeholders involved, and the decision context.
- ▶ **Note 4:** HTA can be applied at different points in the lifecycle of a health technology, i.e., pre-market, during market approval, post-market, through to the disinvestment of a health technology.

<http://htaglossary.net/health-technology-assessment>

Layers of questions & layers of evidence



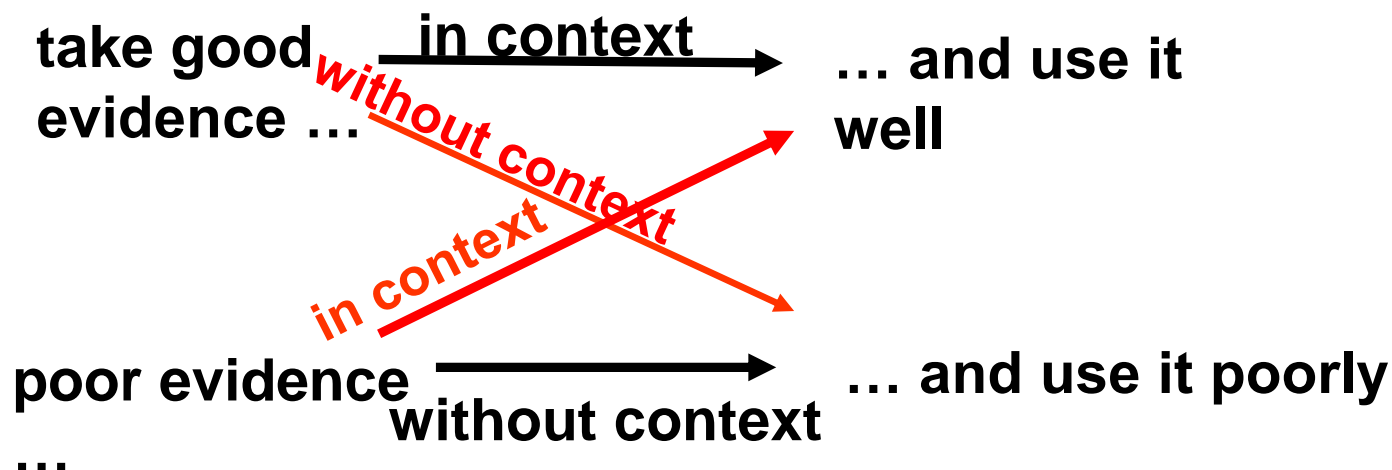
<https://bit.ly/3zsfuTn>

The HTA process



Context-informed HTA for evidence-informed decision making

There are decisions that...



Adapted from Shaxson, L 2004: Evidence-based policy making: if it exists what makes it robust? Available at <http://bit.ly/hIsNC>

HTA is about making sense together

Policy analysis, science and politics: from ‘speaking truth to power’ to ‘making sense together’

Robert Hoppe

Science and Public Policy, Volume 26, Issue 3, 1 June 1999, Pages 201–210,

<https://doi.org/10.3152/147154399781782482>

Process for making sense together at arms' length

HTA Ressources

2. Topic Selection
3. Scoping of topic
4. Scientific analysis
5. Scientific report
6. Deliberative committee
7. Policy recommendations

MoH, stakeholders, public

1. Request from MoH (hospitals, clinicians,...)
3. Input into scoping
- 4-7 Variable
8. Moratorium prior to publication

How to start HTA and make it grow ?

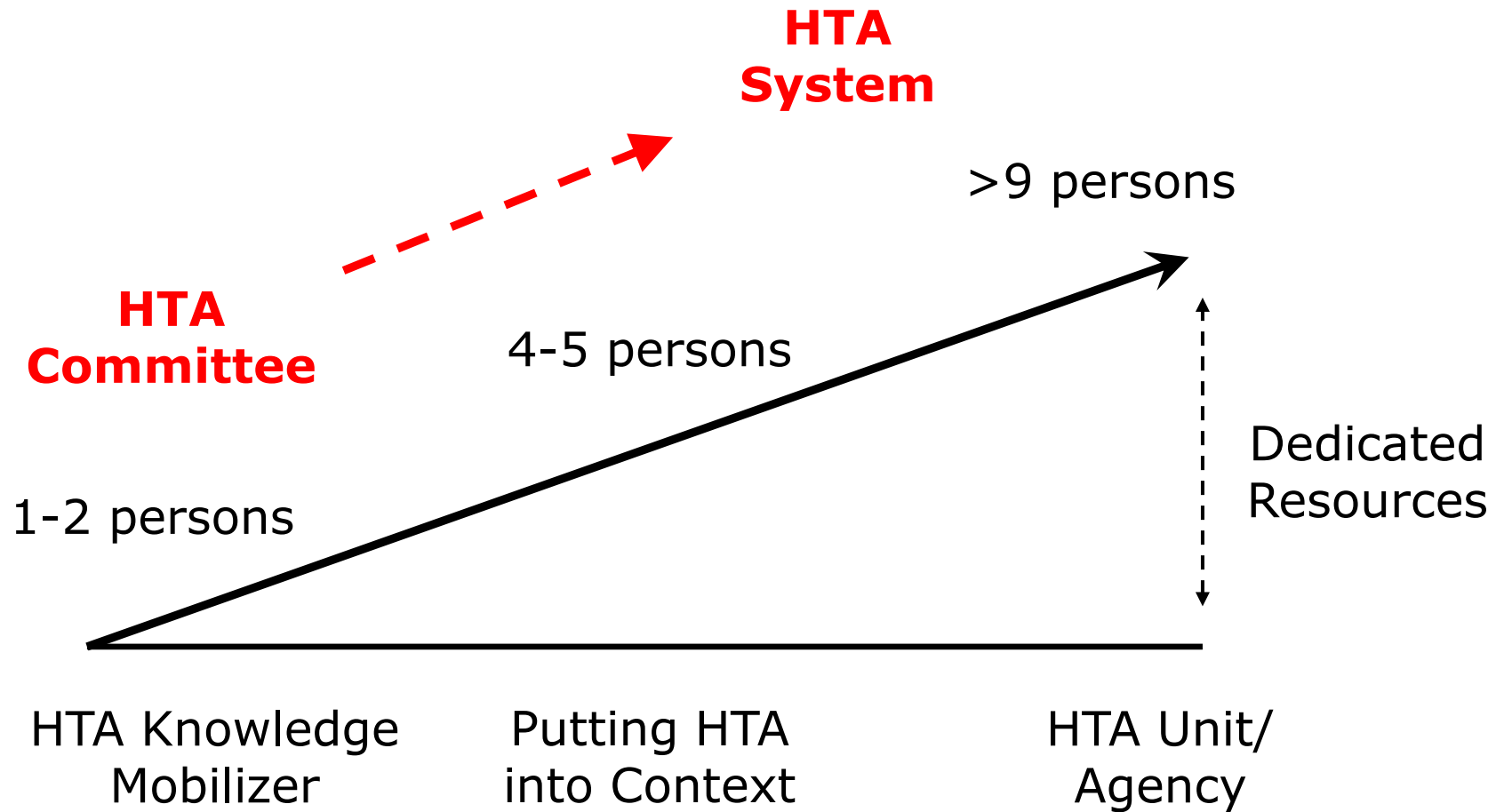
Get the support of the MoH

Decision-makers in all Health Systems are being held accountable for not meeting the rising expectations of patients, clinicians and the public.

→ **HTA can partially solve this unsolvable problem.**

→ **HTA makes your life easier**

Dedicated resources for HTA



The evidence on how to start HTA

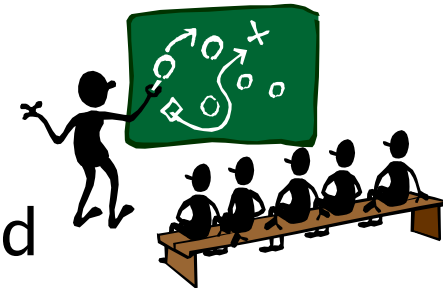
Start small, have a clear audience and scope, and address important questions

Lavis, John, et al. Evidence-informed health policy 1 – Synthesis of findings from a multi-method study of organizations that support the use of research evidence. *Implementation Science*. 2008, Vol. 3, 53. ,

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2621242/>

How to start HTA and make it grow ?

- ▶ Link HTA to governance (country, region, hospital)
- ▶ Dedicated resources (Ph.D. level generalist, a few will suffice, do not try to cover all disciplines, access to scientific articles)
- ▶ Charismatic leader to connect the resources to stakeholders and communicate HTA for health quality
- ▶ Build the process for social credibility
- ▶ Learn by doing
- ▶ Connect the HTA resources regionally and internationally
- ▶ Avoid pharmaceuticals as a starting point



Conclusion

- ▶ Starting HTA with support from PAHO, regional and international networking will help to
 - Improve the quality of care,
 - improve governance and
 - strengthen health systems.



Extra slides



HTA and Innovation

- ▶ Innovation is about added values...for the patient, for the health system, for families..
- ▶ Uncertainties are a fundamental characteristic of innovative technologies
- ▶ HTA adds value by defining the uncertainties, risks and conditions of introducing the innovative technologies
- ▶ Under conditions of high uncertainties of desired innovative technologies HTA should be followed by developing the evidence under real world conditions

HTA and Innovation

