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# Priority Setting in Health Research: Rationale, Methods, and Global Investments

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# Learning Objectives

- To understand the relationship between determinants of health and research
- To become familiar with approaches to setting priorities for health
- To describe investments for global health research and development
- To identify imbalances and inequalities in the allocation of health research funds

# Outline

- Determinants of health
- Priority-setting methods
- Priority-setting processes
- Needs and research investments
- Global health R&D funds
  - 1992, 1998, 2001, 2007
- Assessment of R&D investments



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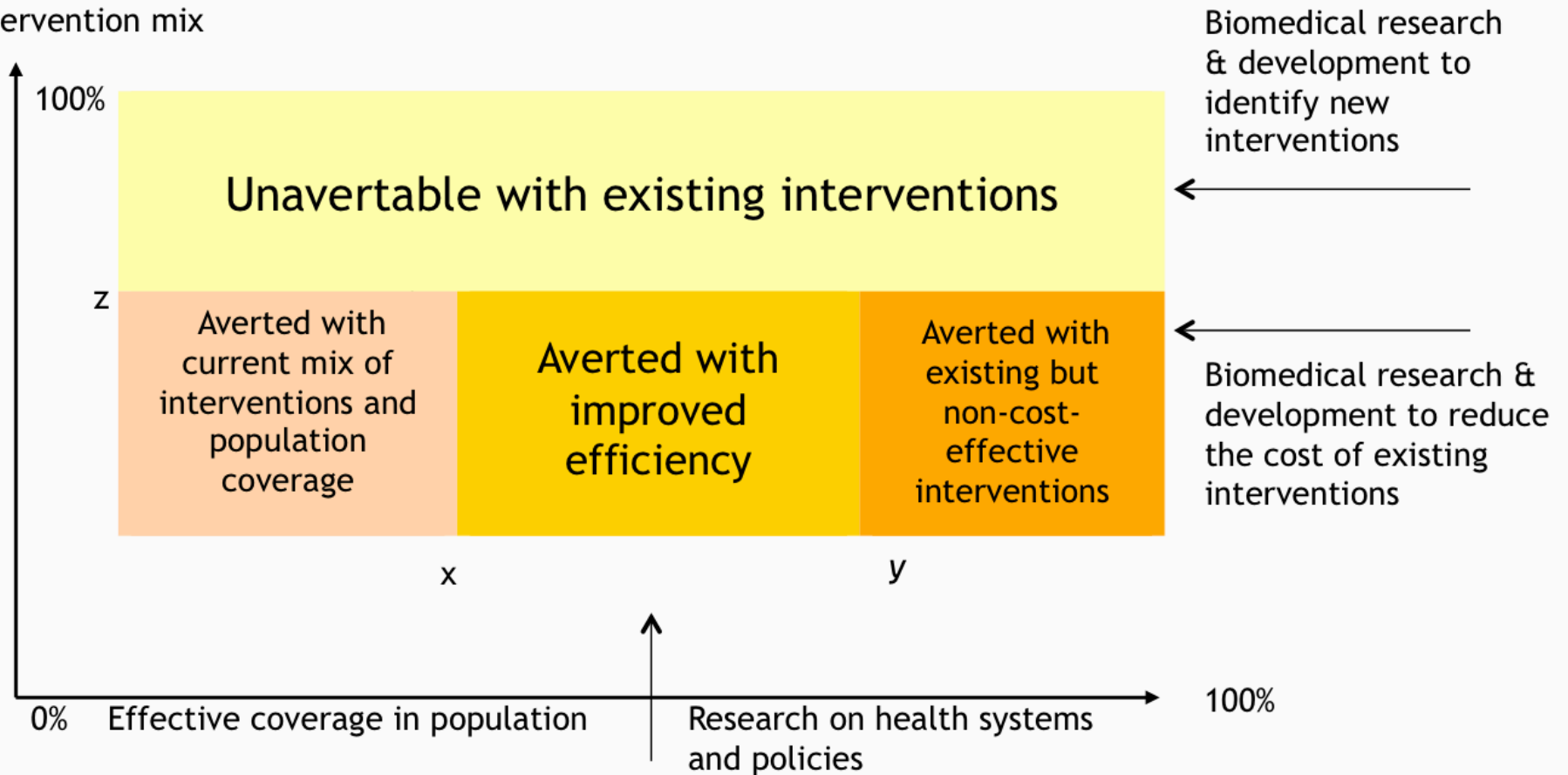
## Section A

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How Will Research Contribute to Health? A Fair Question!

# Analyzing the Burden of a Health Problem to Identify Research Needs

Combined efficacy of intervention mix



Source: Ad hoc committee report, page 7

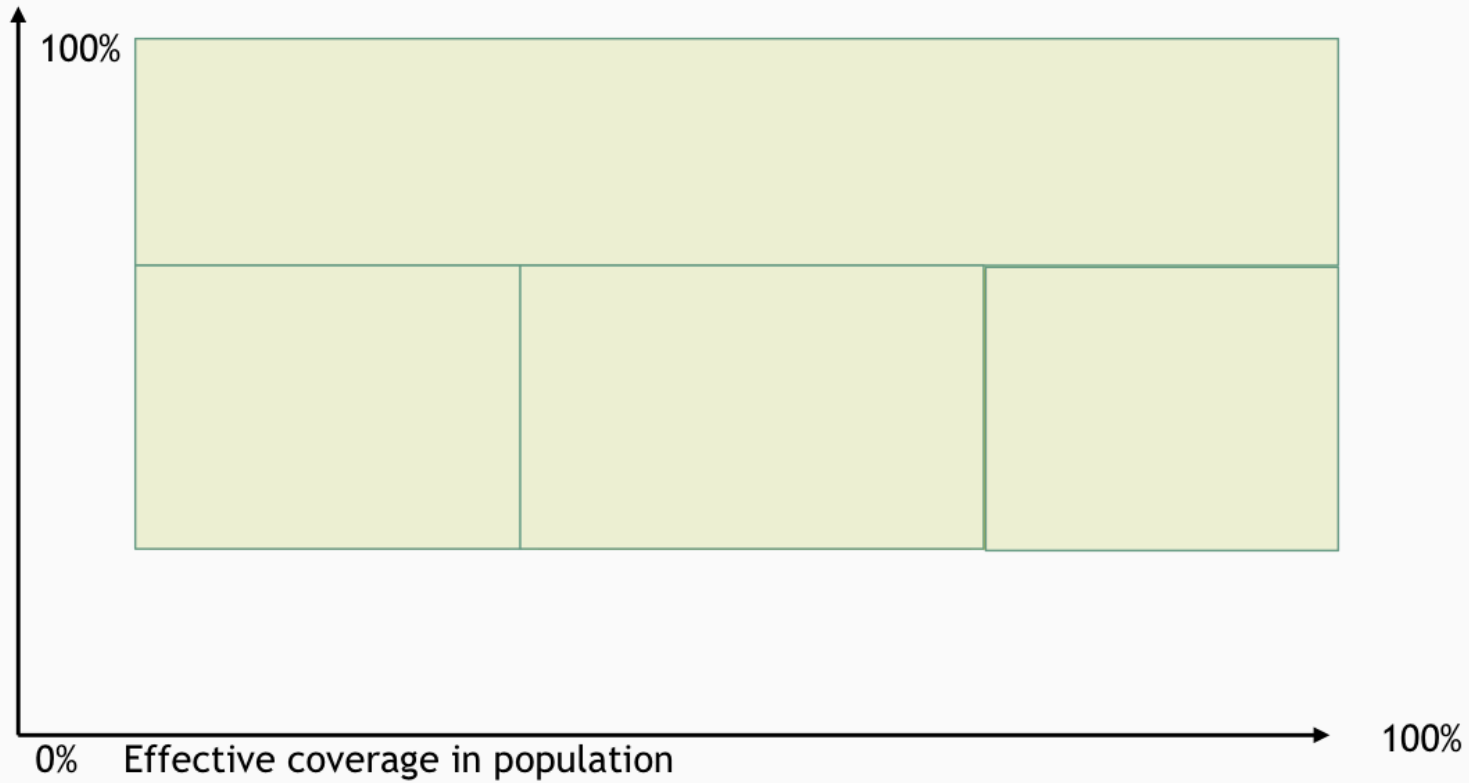
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y: maximum achievable coverage with a mix of available cost-effective interventions

z: combined efficacy of a mix of all available interventions

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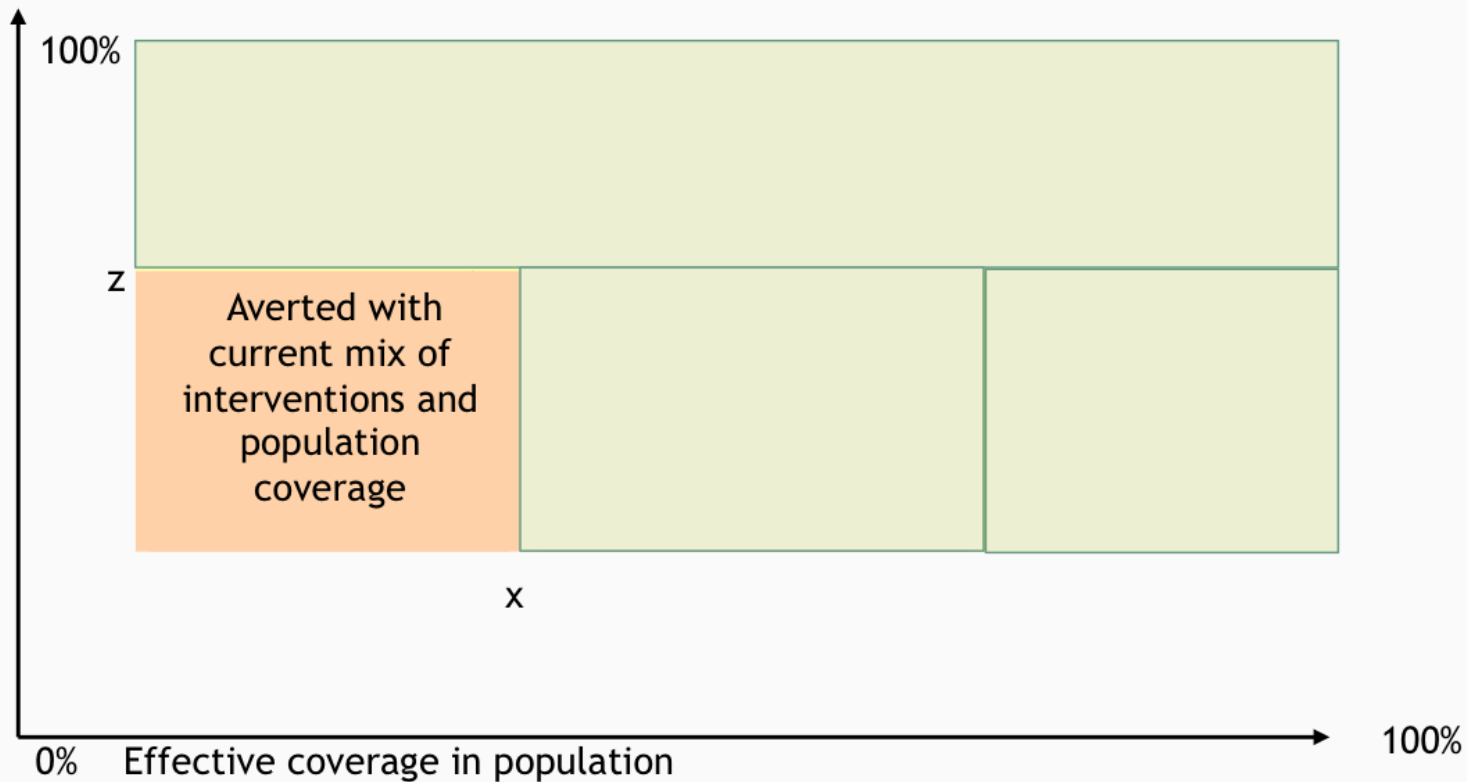
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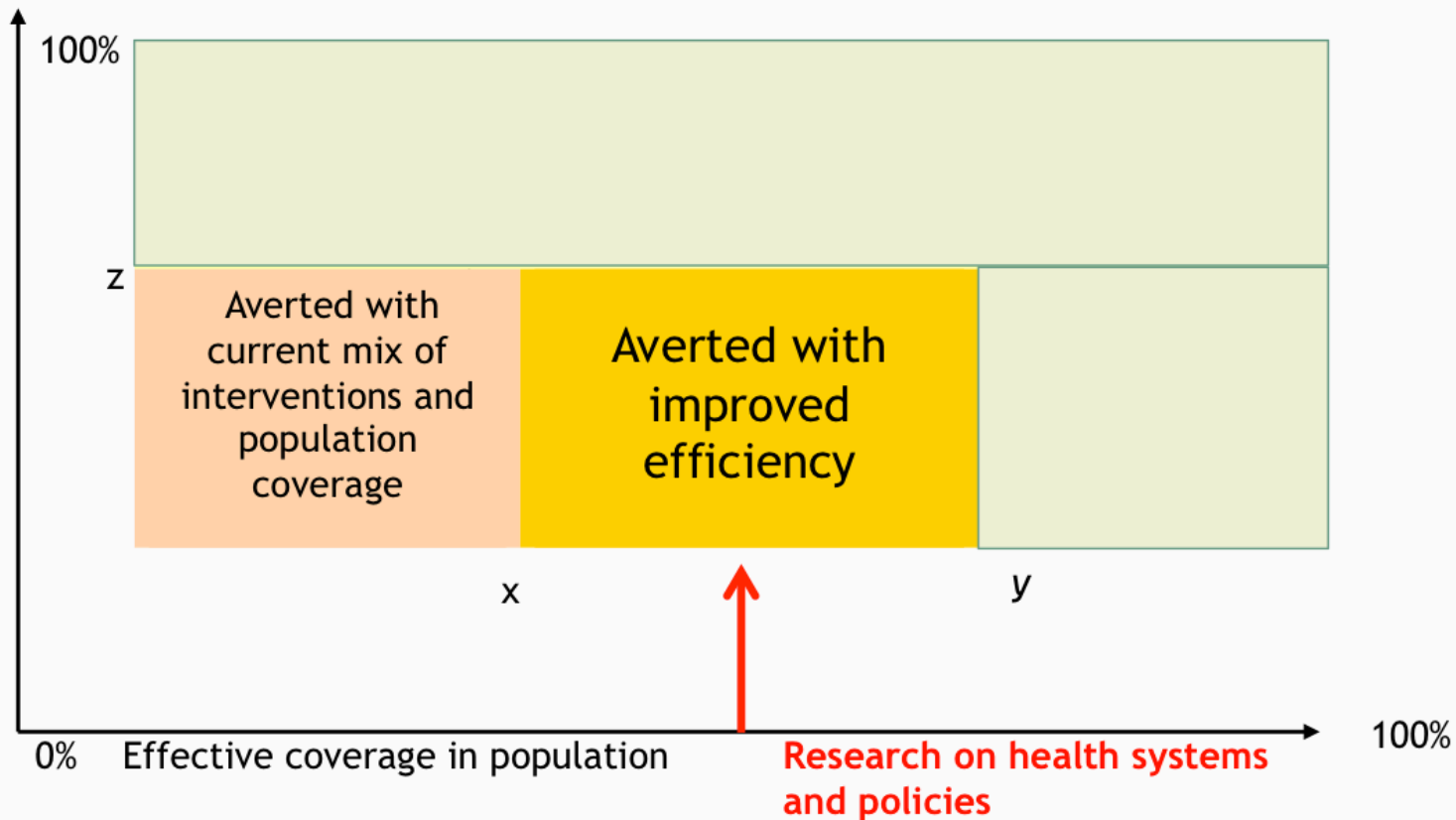
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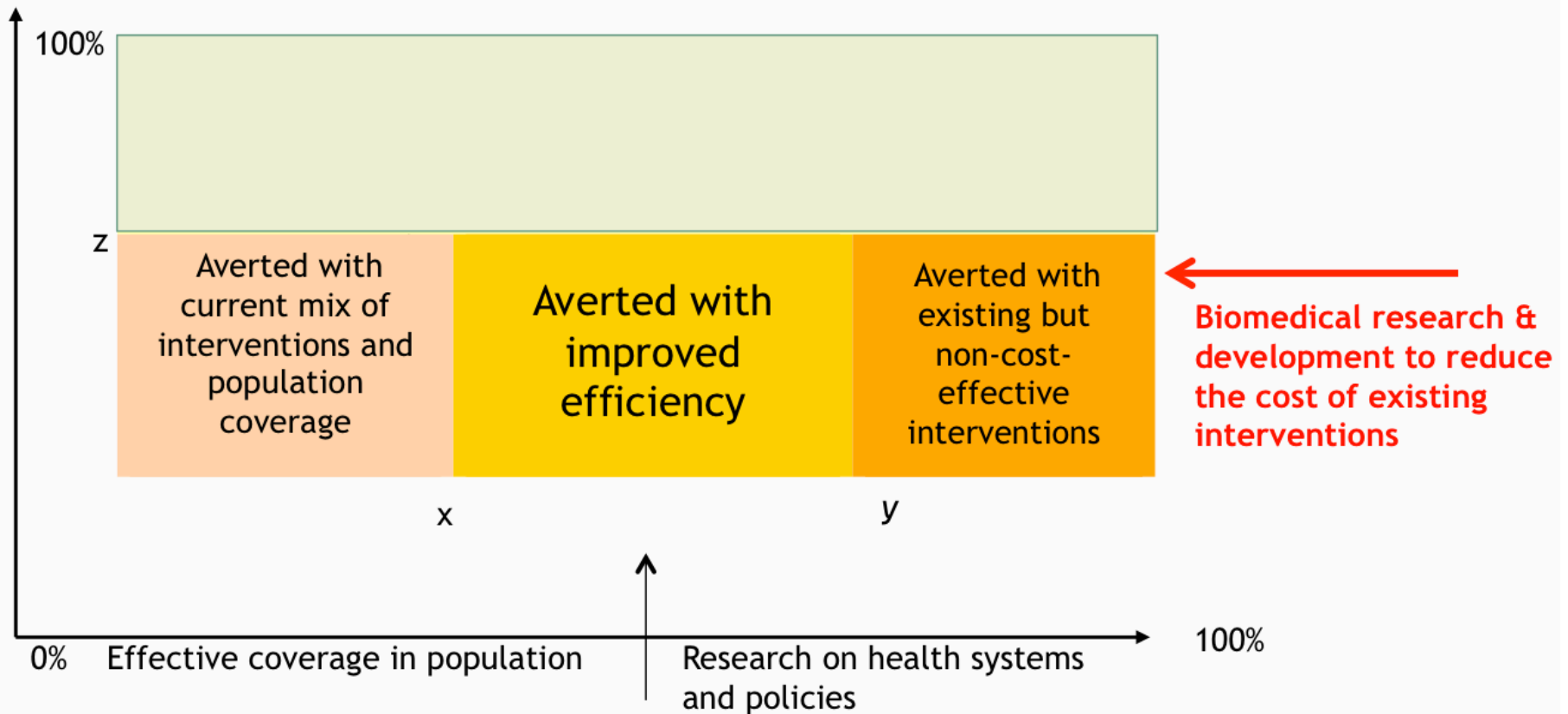
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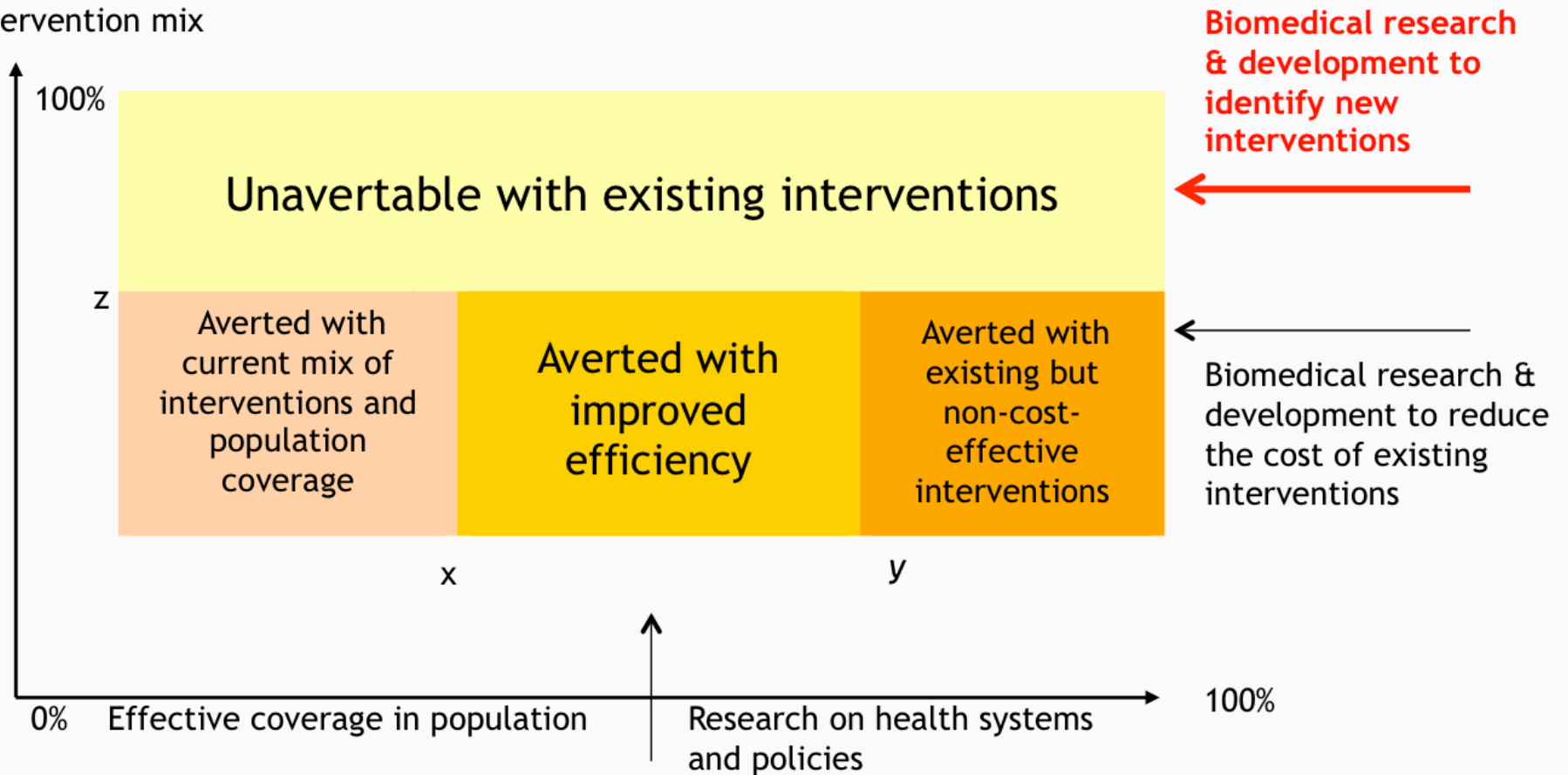
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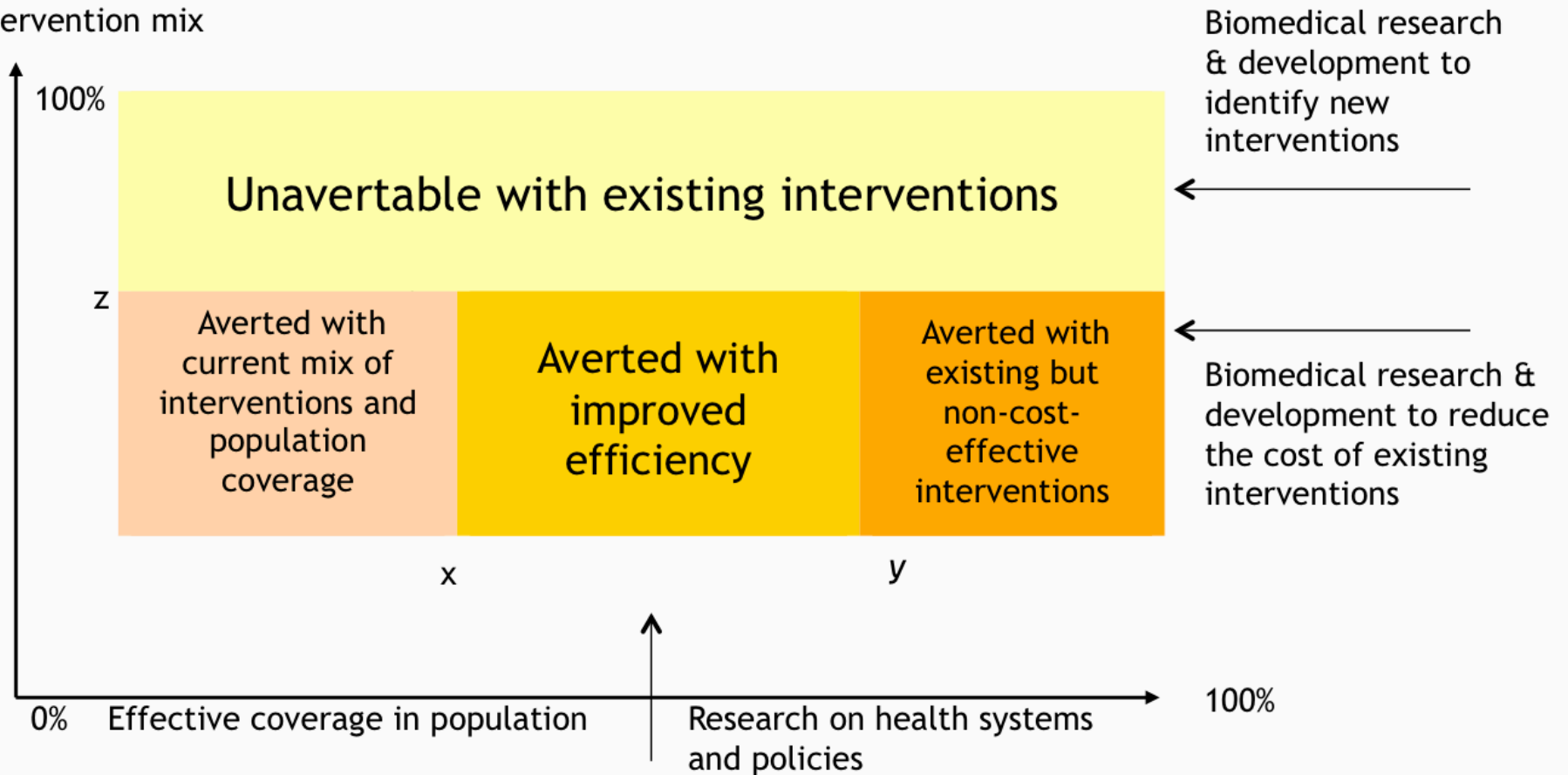
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# How Do We Decide Which Research?

- The process

# Why Prioritize a Research Agenda?

- Limited resources
- Balance interest of constituencies
- Coordination amongst players
- Local requirements
- Tool development vs. implementation
- Levels of intervention

# Features of Priority-Setting Tools

- It should be
  - Systematic method
  - Applicable at various levels
  - Evidence based
  - Provide linkages between tool development, application, and policies
  - Comparisons amongst (within) diseases
  - Assists in the identification of gaps

# Priority-Setting Process: 1

1. Problem definition
2. Identification of stakeholders
3. Description of an “ideal” control situation
4. Identification of literature of research



## Priority-Setting Process: 2

5. Description of information gaps
6. Review of national activities
7. Review of institutional comparative advantage
8. Matching requirements of other programs