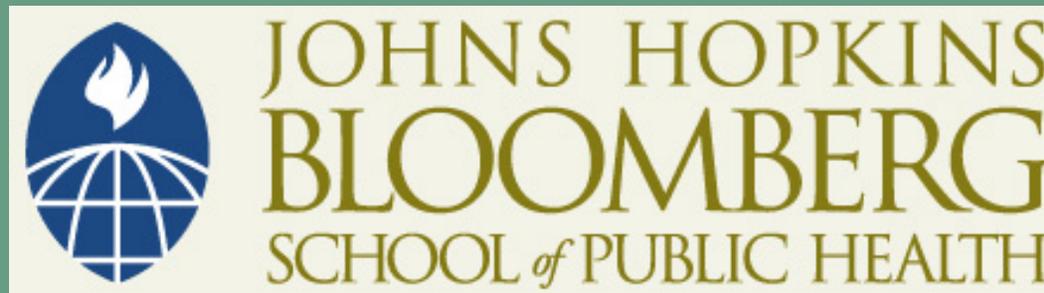


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Assessing Health System Performance

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Section A

Assessing Health System Performance

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the constituent parts of the health sector and the role of “health systems”
2. Define the main objectives of a health system according to WHO
3. Outline the four functions of a health system according to WHO
4. List the factors that are scored in the WHO performance assessment
5. Appraise the scoring system used in the WHO performance assessment: list two potential advantages and four evident drawbacks to this system
6. Outline an alternative approach to assessment of the health system and list two critical aspects of health intervention provision to assess health systems at a population level

Assessing Health Systems Performance

- The broad issues for today
 - What is a health system?
 - What is it supposed to do?
 - How do you measure performance?
 - How do you improve it?

Assessing Health Systems Performance

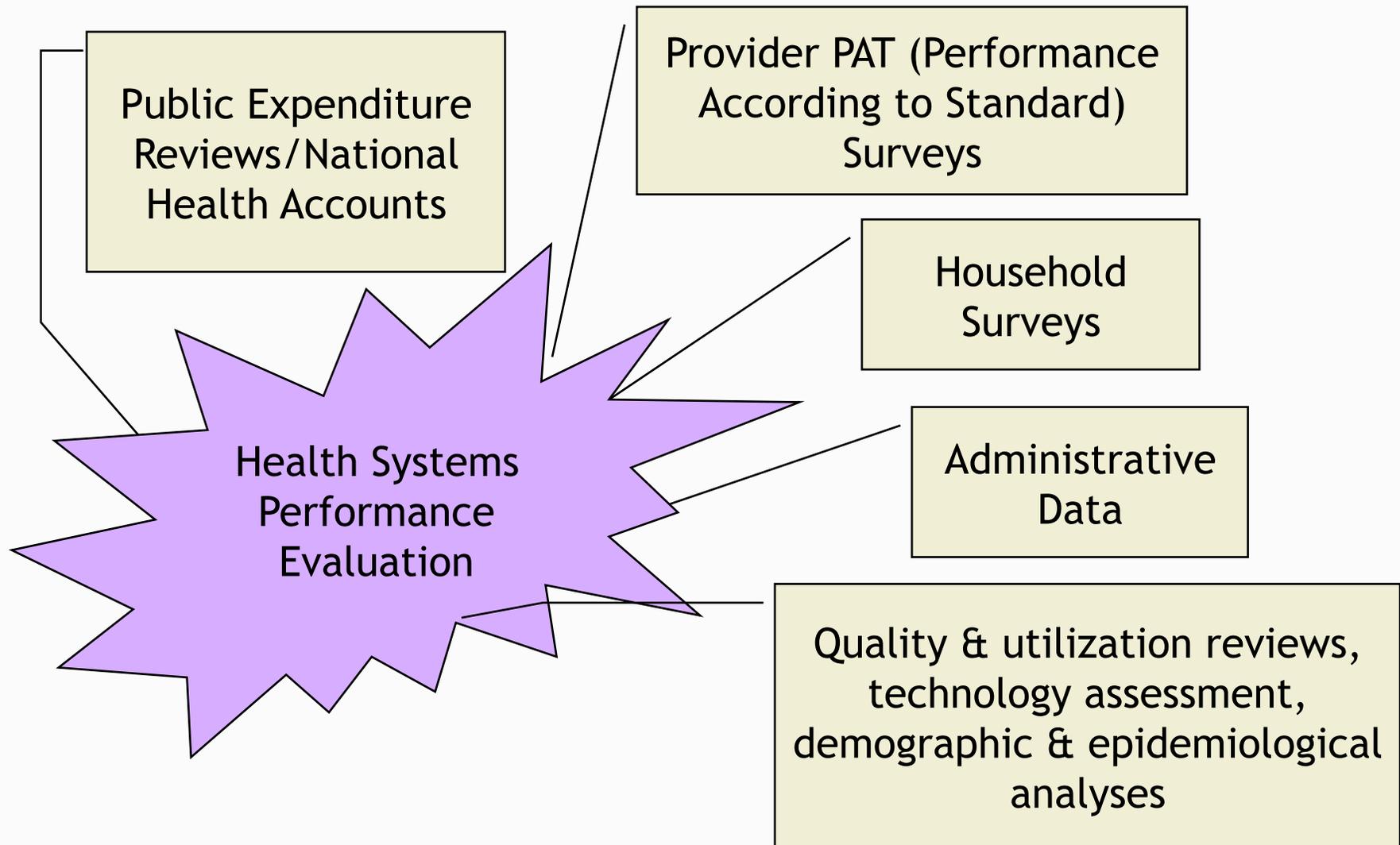
- Issues in measuring health system performance
- Challenges in measuring efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of health care
- Need for improved evaluation tools and better data collection methods
- Agenda for research and evaluation in developing countries

Measures Used in Assessing Health System Performance

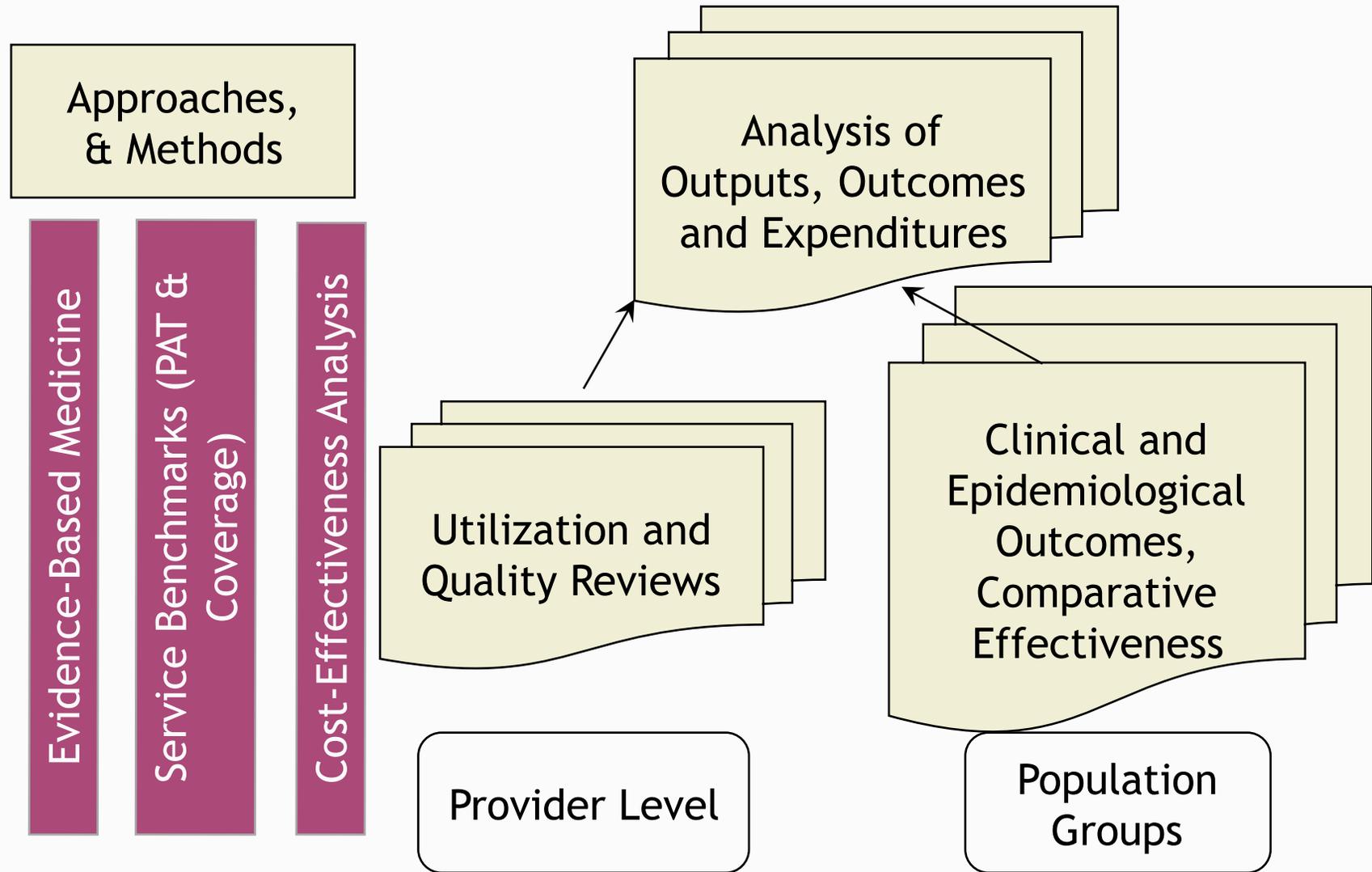
- The Systems Approach
 - Inputs → (Processes) → Outputs → Outcomes → Impact
 - Desired impact: improved health status of the population

- A variety of ratios based on The Systems Approach
 - Outcomes/inputs = economic analyses (inputs/outcomes)
 - ▶ Cost-benefit or cost-effectiveness analyses, e.g., \$\$ to reduce disease incidence rate, \$\$ expended to gain a healthy life year (healthy life year per \$)
 - Outputs/inputs = efficiency measure based on intermediate process indicators, e.g., cost per hospitalization case
 - Outcome/outputs = effectiveness/efficacy of intervention, e.g., immunization rate and reduction in disease incidence

Measuring Health System Performance—Instruments



Health System Evaluation Processes



Comparing Health System Performance among Countries

- Challenges in comparing health system performance among countries
 - Variability in the organization of health care delivery systems
 - Dynamically evolving technology, e.g., increasing use of day surgeries, decreasing acute care hospitalization days
 - Internal variability in performance among providers and outcome among population groups
 - Confounding factors: complex interactions between socio-economic factors and health outcomes