

Nationwide Pathology Services Network Study on Disinvestment and Investment Strategies: A Study Protocol

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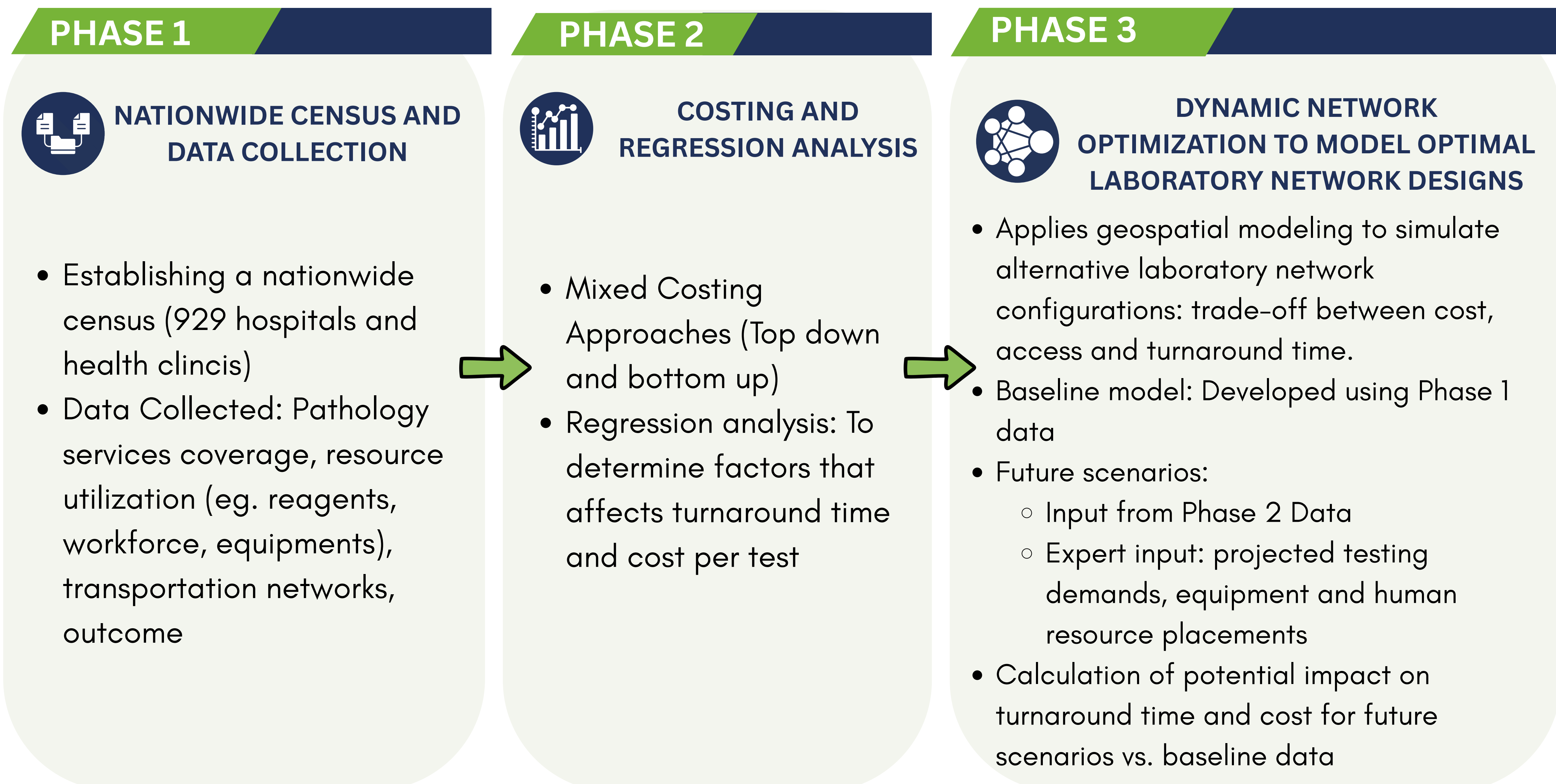
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INTRODUCTION

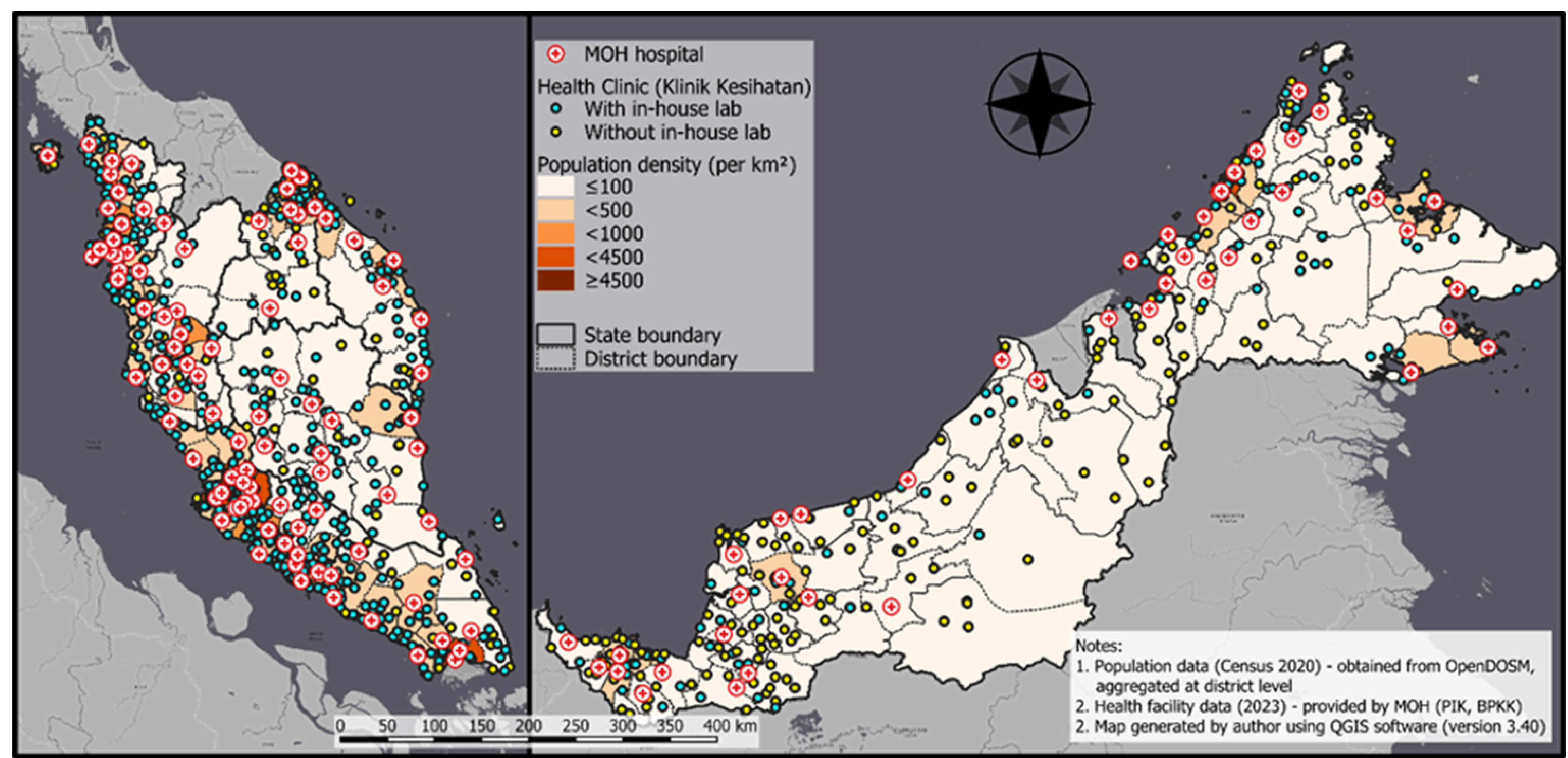
- Pathology services underpin clinical and public health decision-making.
- National laboratory systems in middle-income countries are frequently fragmented, cost-inefficient and weakly coordinated.
- Objectives: To identify existing infrastructure and system configurations and to model disinvestment and investment strategies for redesigning laboratory services at a whole-system level.

METHODS

- This is a cross-sectional, retrospective study of pathology service coverage, resource utilization, and logistics network delivery within the Ministry of Health (MOH) Malaysia.
- Three-phase, system-level methodological framework will be employed



MALAYSIA PATHOLOGY SERVICES MAP



RESULTS

Our study framework:

- 1 Enables systematic identification of low-value activities suitable for disinvestment (e.g., laboratory consolidation or lab tests redistribution)
- 2 Identifies priority areas for targeted investment (e.g., high-performance analysers in high-volume settings).

CONCLUSION

This framework supports data-driven decision-making to improve patient outcomes through efficient laboratory services while reducing overall healthcare costs and is applicable to other health systems pursuing universal health coverage.