

Reflections on the economic evaluation of Covid technologies: being 'good enough' in a pandemic?

LONDON
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GLOBAL
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What are the policy questions?

NPIs

- Societal perspective
- Outbreak response, but can be medium term
- Macro-economic, distributional, and multi-sectoral impact

Vaccination

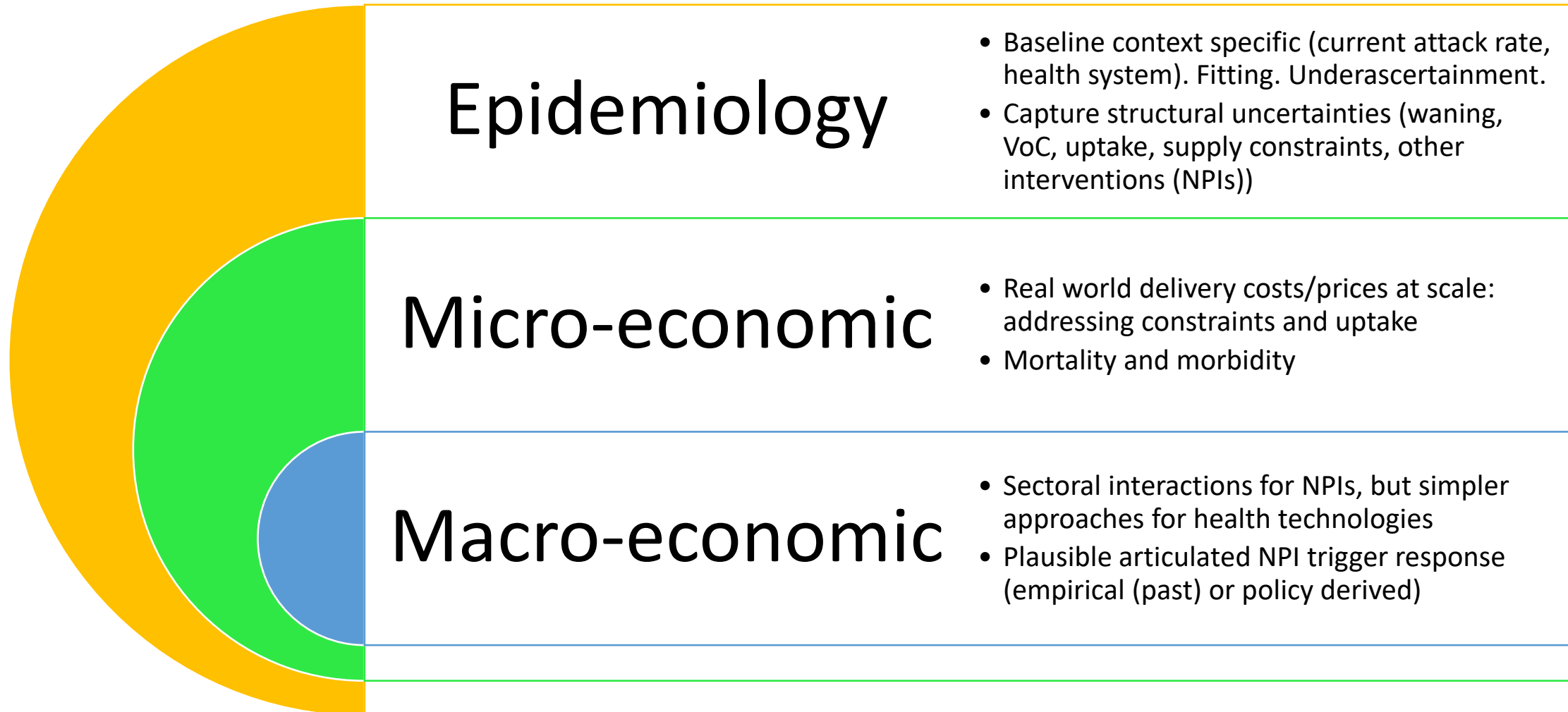
- Societal perspective until endemicity then health sector perspective
- Strategic and implementation
- Pricing and value (HICs vs LMICs)
- Optimal strategy (allocation, dosing, boosters)

Diagnosis and treatment

- Health sector perspective, but could be societal perspective if addresses a systemic trigger of NPIs
- Strategic (although outbreak detection, capacity variation) and implementation
- Pricing and value of regimens
- Testing strategies (which tests, funded for what use etc.)



What is good enough for strategic/ value analyses?



What is good enough in terms of HTA processes?

Assessment

- Adaptive rapid estimates, but detailed scenario and sensitivity analyses
- Non-financial resource (supply side) implications (eg.HR)
- Comprehensive HTA reports, as models valuable in qualitative terms

Appraisal

- Improved capacity and representation of those who understand infectious disease modelling and macro-economic modelling in HTAs
- Structured deliberation around sector vs societal trade-offs
- Opportunity costs: non-marginal interventions - urgent vs non-urgent services

Pandemic preparedness (Health and economics)

But it was not good enough

Sufficient global capacity

Cross learning between
groups

(Public) macro-economic
models designed for
pandemics

Health economists
practiced in infectious
disease modelling

Networks between
economists (macro and
micro) and infectious
disease modellers (other
disease areas)

SAGE health economists
(WHO vs UK)

Better understanding of
societal trade-offs (VSL?)

Data on resource
constraints related to
emergencies

Range of methodological
approaches to macro
impact

Equity, poverty and risk
behaviour