



# Future challenges for Public Health

Walter Ricciardi

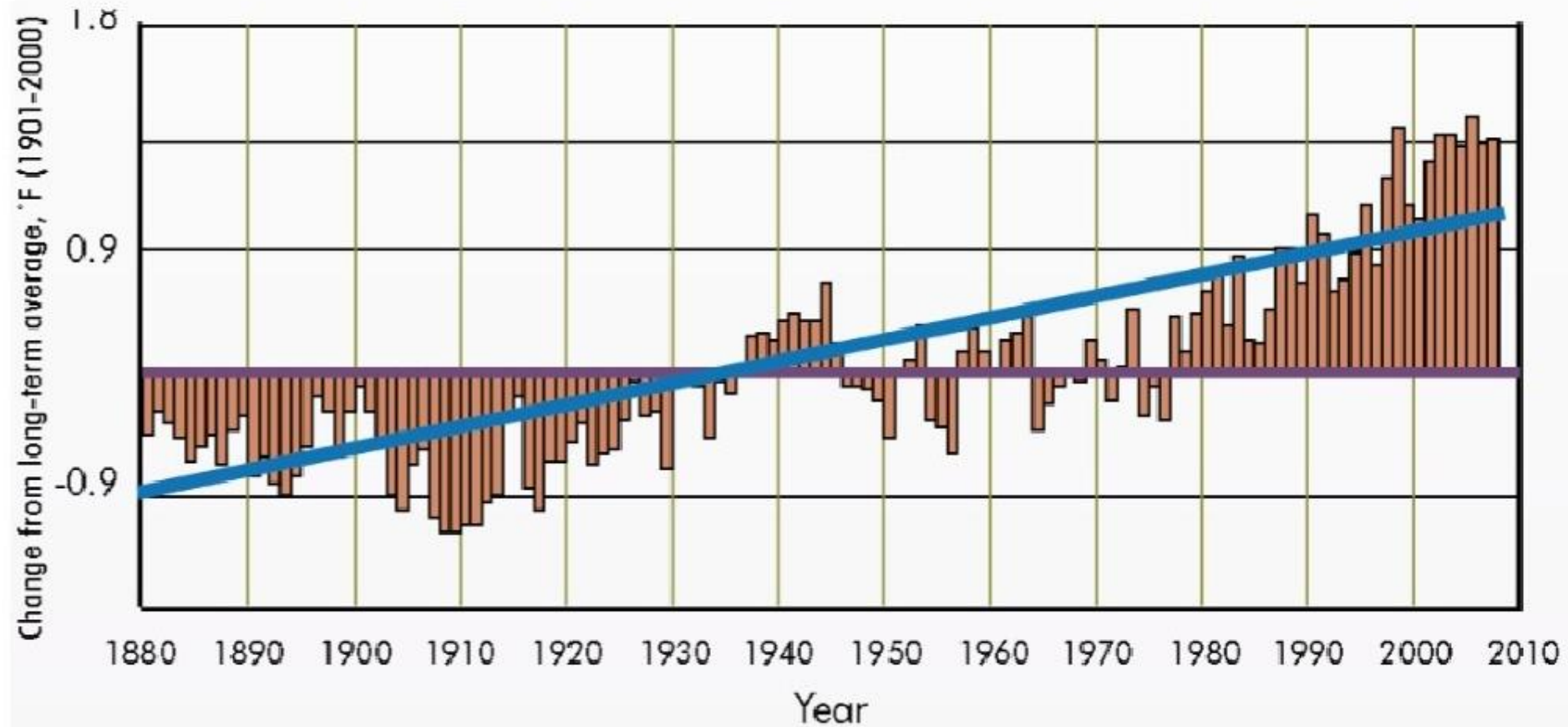
# Agenda

- Challenges of our times
- Challenges of our health systems
- The role of leadership
- The future

# In Europe

we have been living the past 75 years in peace and prosperity

## Global warmth in the past 75 years



Annual global surface temperature departure (also known as anomalies) from 1901-2000 average for the period 1880-2007. Source: NOAA, 2007





The heating of the Earth's surface and atmosphere affects these climate variables to produce extreme weather and climate events





# WHO: five major health impacts of climate change

- Malnutrition
- Deaths and injuries caused by storms and floods. (Flooding can also be followed by outbreaks of diseases, such as cholera)
- Water scarcity / contamination (droughts and sudden floods) – increased burden of diarrhoeal disease.
- Heatwaves – direct increases in morbidity and mortality; indirect effects via increases in ground-level ozone, contributing to asthma attacks.
- Vector-borne disease – malaria and dengue.

# Vulnerable population groups

- Chronic medical conditions including mentally ill, clients with special needs
- Social isolation
- Poor & vulnerable communities
- Being confined to bed
- Certain medical treatments
- Some types of occupation, outdoor workers
- Very young children
- Elderly suffer the greatest effects of heat-waves (impact on mortality greater in women)

**the degradation of the planet's ecosystems and global environmental changes demand an expansion of medical ethics and practice beyond their conventional focus on the relationships among patients, doctors, and societies.**

**a whole-earth ethic for public health, one that attends to our relationship with the planet we inhabit, as well as an intergenerational ethic focused on caring for future humans who will otherwise inherit the wreckage we have left**





Istituto Superiore di Sanità  
Italian National Institute of Health



Green event


**Rome | December 3-5 | 2018**

## **The Rome International Charter on Health and Climate Change Health and Climate Change: the future is now**

*An urgent call for action*

The scientific community is united in declaring that climate change effects on health, whether direct or indirect, are the most urgent public health problem which needs to be faced now.

The next 20 years will prove crucial for the health of both humans and planet.



Knowing is not enough; we must  
apply.  
Willing is not enough; we must do.  
(Cecilia)

**we have an imperative for climate action**

**a “preventive medicine for the planet and its peoples,”**

the health professions are unable to explain the risks of climate change and the benefits of mitigation and adaptation.

**“paradigm shift” in medicine and public health**

changes in how we train, reward, promote, and fund the generation of health scientists and professionals who will be tasked with breaking out of their disciplinary silos to address this urgent constellation of health threats.

Three-Time Pulitzer Prize-winning author of the  
NO.1 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER  
*THE WORLD IS FLAT*



# HOT, FLAT, & CROWDED

WHY THE WORLD NEEDS A GREEN  
REVOLUTION – AND HOW WE CAN  
RENEW OUR GLOBAL FUTURE

Thomas L.  
Friedman

'A global star ... Tom Friedman has done it again ... given  
his track record as a zeitgeist thermometer, we  
should all pay attention' *Financial Times*

UPDATED AND  
EXPANDED

# Over the last eight years the world has witnessed

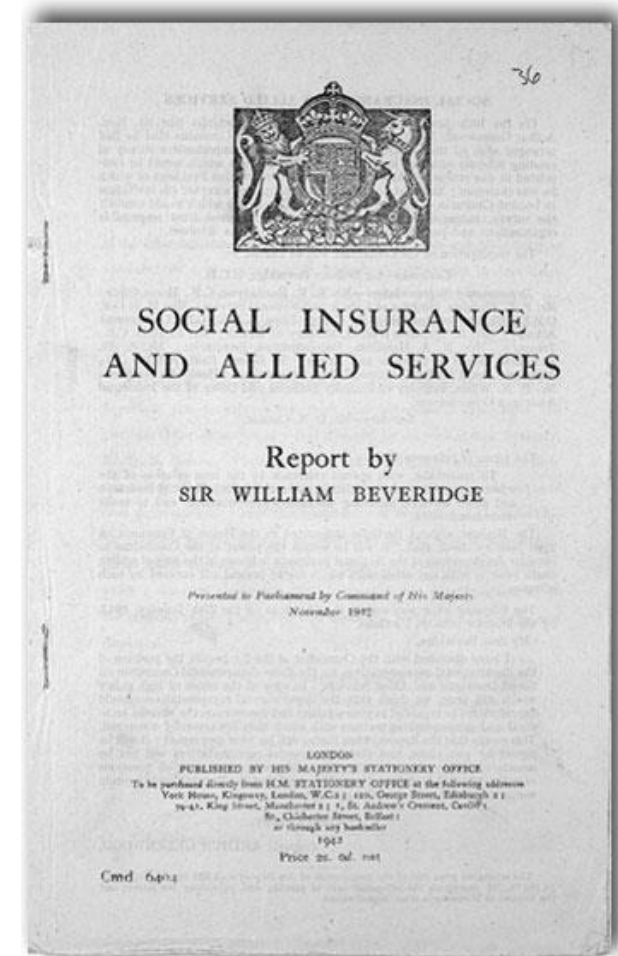
- The worst financial crisis since 1928
- Global recession
- An unprecedented Eurozone Sovereign Debt Crisis
- Outbreak of War in the Middle East and North Africa
- Civil war in Syria
- A major migration crisis in Europe
- War between Russia and Ukraine
- Brexit
- The surge of cyber-terrorism (US Elections)
- Nuclear tension in North Korea
- “Secession” of Catalonia
- Trade war between USA and the world
- Pandemic
- USA (and western countries) leaving Afghanistan

What does this mean for Public Health?



# Risk to lose a good social model

- A system of transfers
  - From rich to poor
  - From young to old
  - From employed to unemployed
  - From healthy to ill



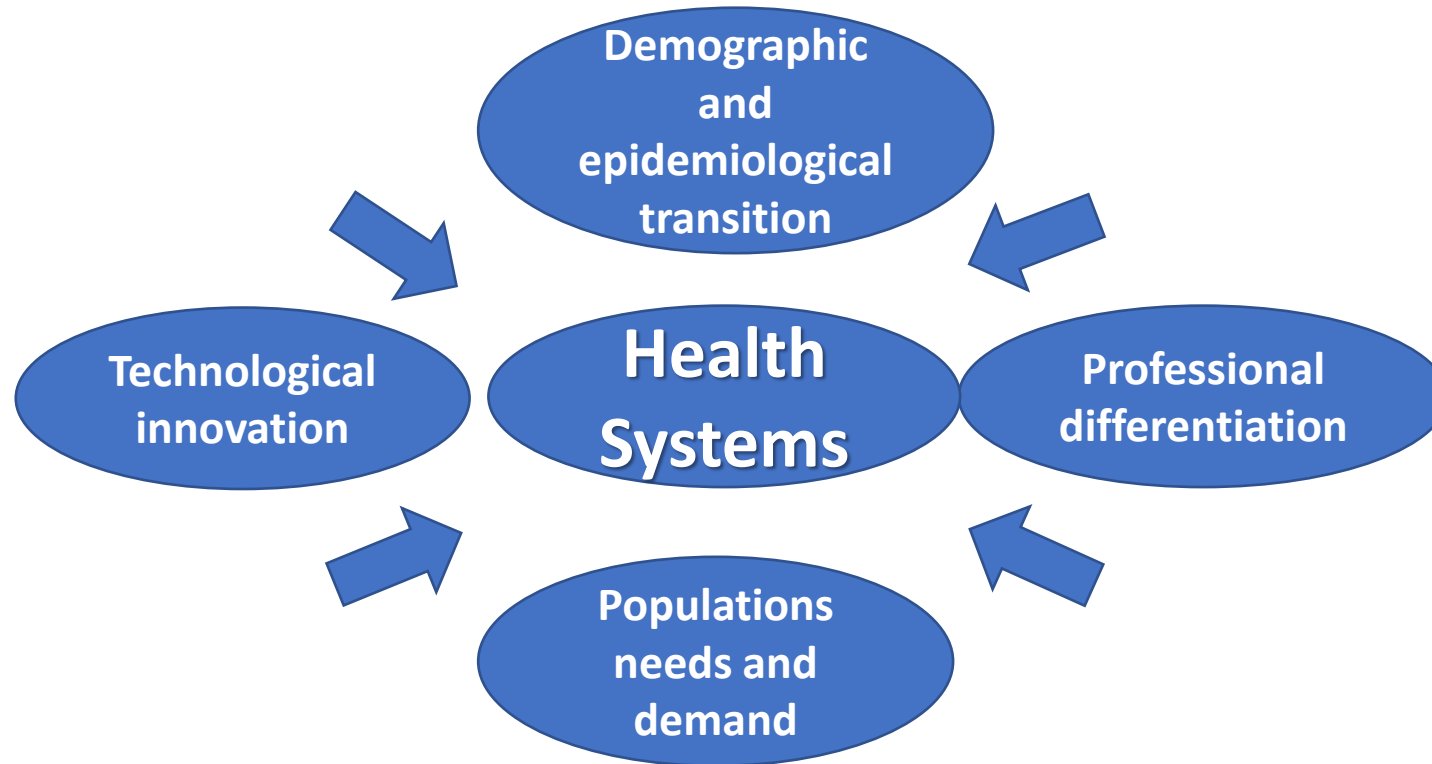


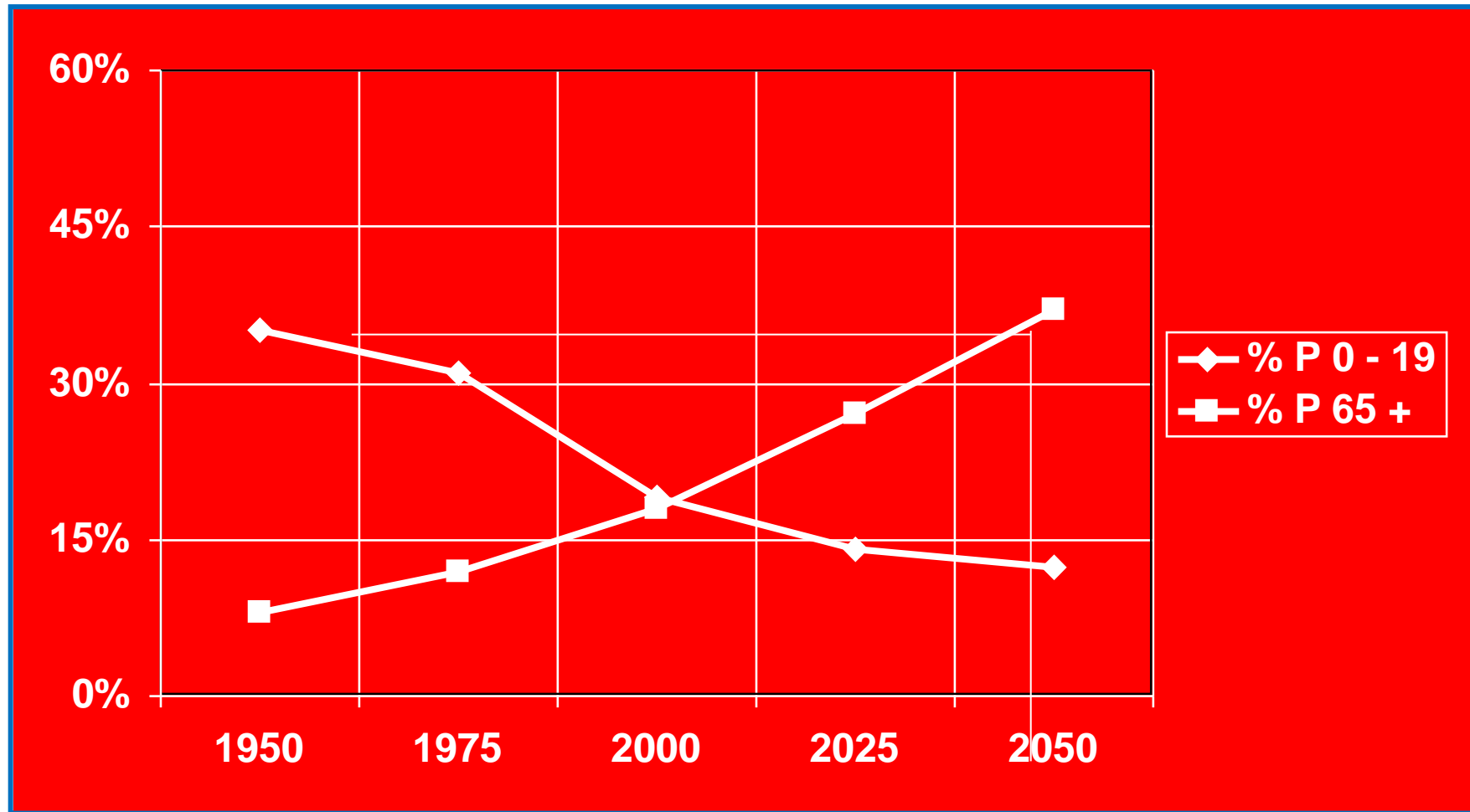
No society can legitimately call itself  
civilized if a sick person is denied  
medical aid because of lack of  
means.

— *Aneurin Bevan* —

**AZ** QUOTES

# The waves of demand and supply





*ITALY:*  
POPULATION *O-19 e >65*

70s

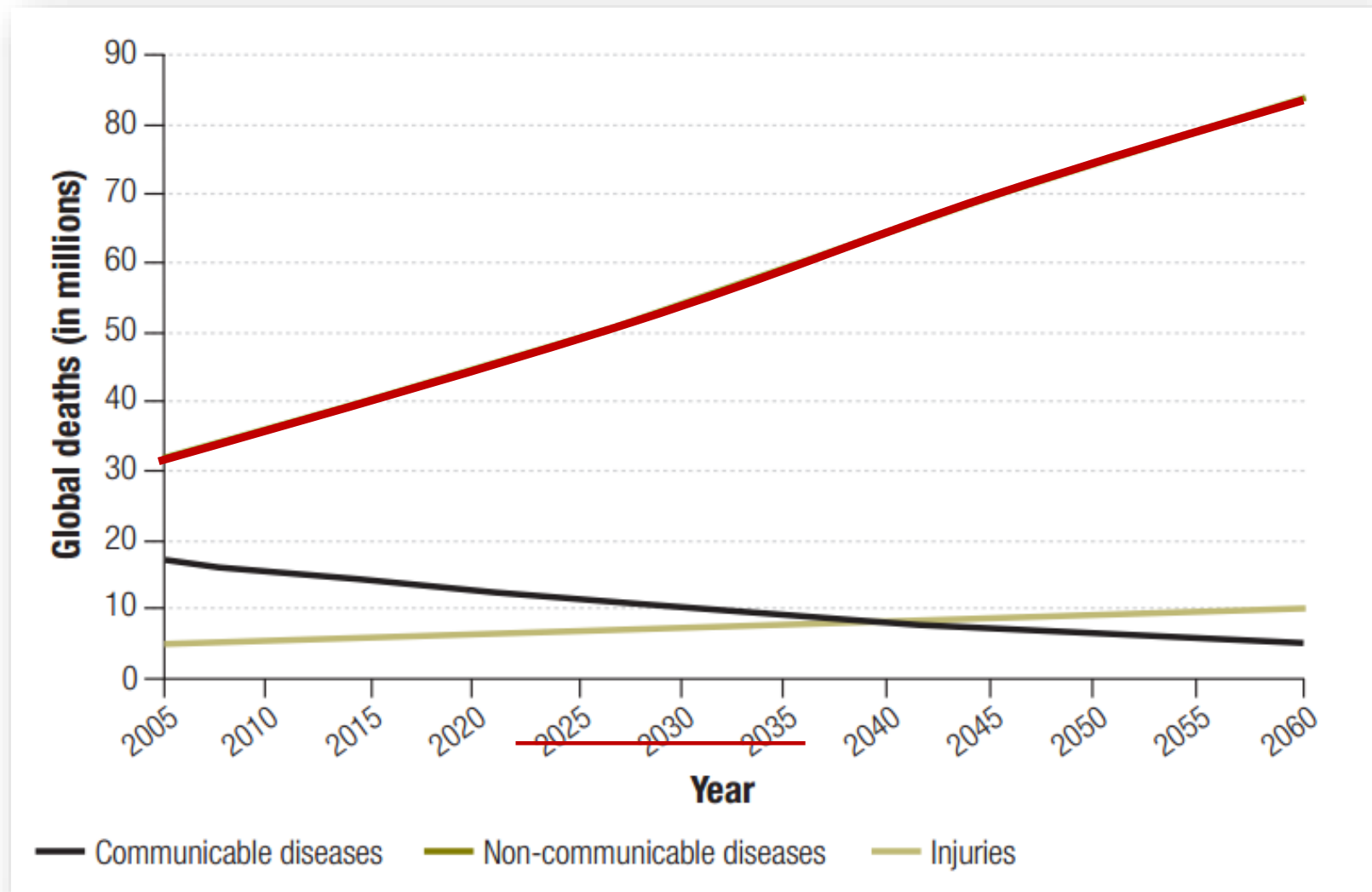


2021





# Chronic diseases

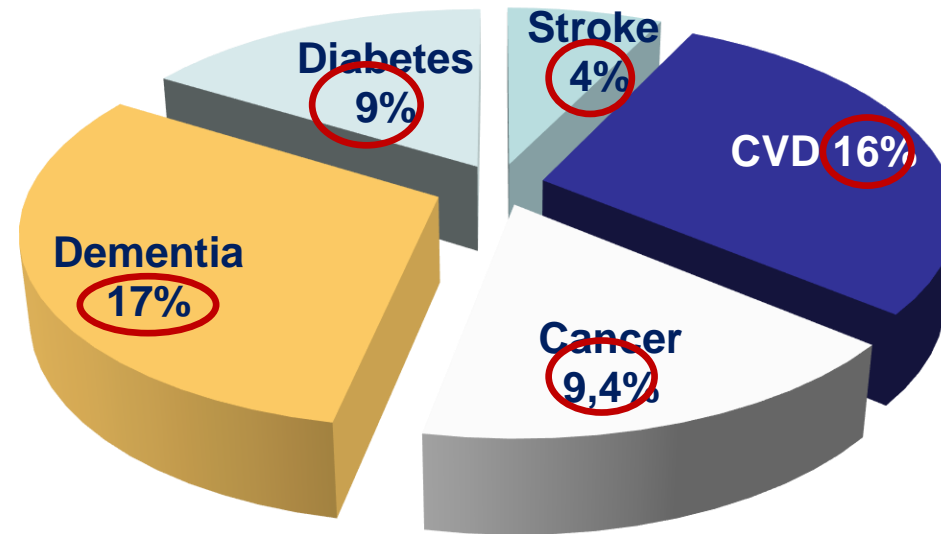


Source: Projections of global health outcomes from 2005 to 2060 using the International Futures integrated forecasting model. WHO bulletin 2011.

# Chronic conditions and economic burden

It has been estimated that the commonest chronic conditions are costing the EU countries **more than 1 trillion Euros per year, which is expected to increase to 6 trillion Euros by the middle of the century.**

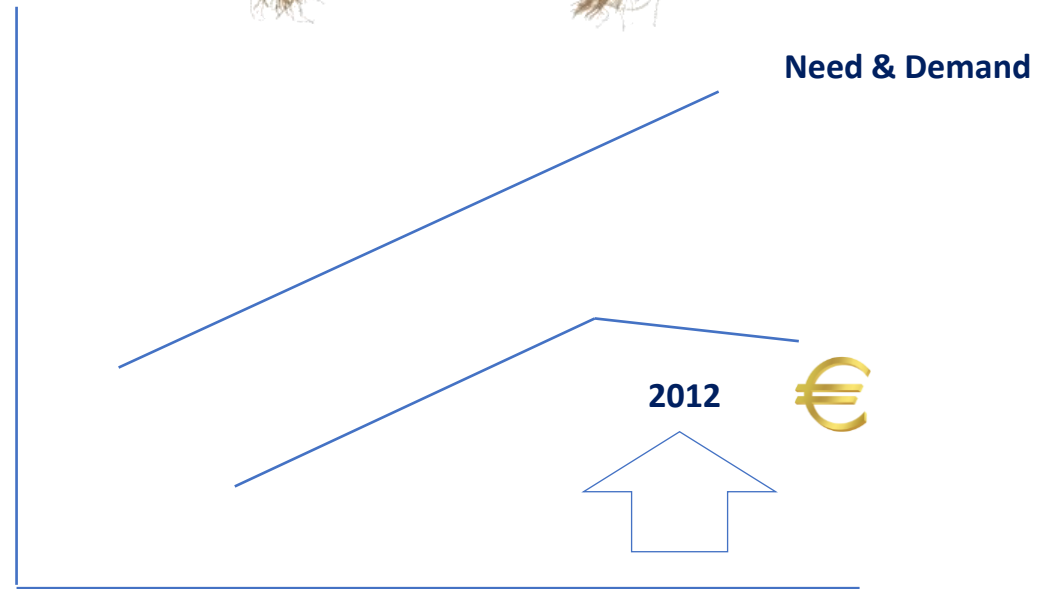
In UK the cost of chronic conditions such as stroke, heart diseases, diabetes, cancer and dementia pile up to over 50% of total healthcare expenditure.



No country can afford this

1 trillion = 1.000.000.000.000.000.000

# Financial constraints



What can we do for our health systems?

# Healthcare Sustainability

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**Medicine eclipsed public health, again**

Health Systems already evolved.  
There is a need for another wind of change

20 <sup>th</sup> CENTURY HEALTHCARE	21 <sup>ST</sup> CENTURY HEALTHCARE
Doctor centred	Patient centred
Patient as passive complier	Patient as co-producer
Hospital	System
Bureaucracy	Network
Driven by finance	Driven by knowledge
High carbon	Low carbon
Focussed on effectiveness	Focussed on value and waste
Challenges met by growth	Challenges met by transformation

Gray M., Ricciardi W., Better value health care, 2014

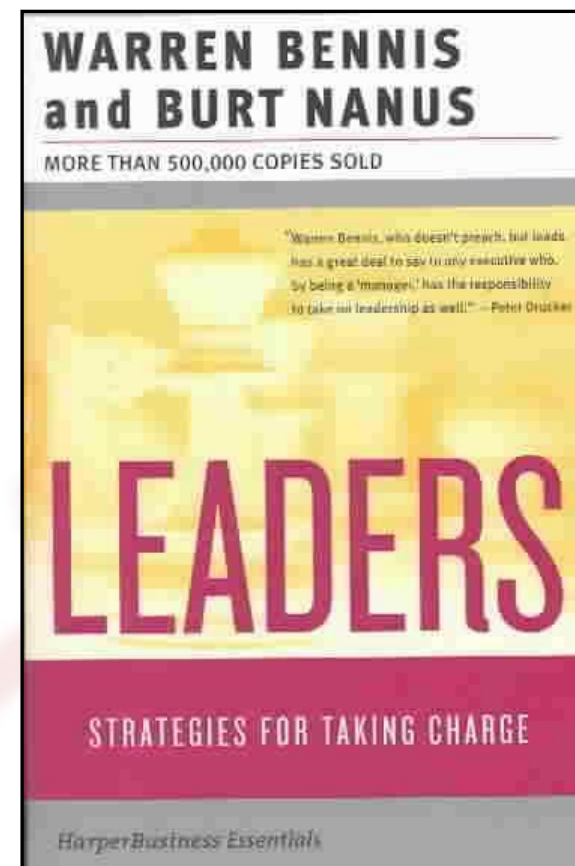
# IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT LEADERSHIP!!



# Leadership...

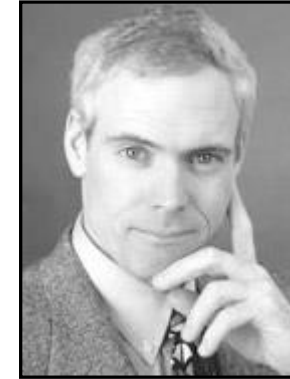
*“Leadership is the capacity  
to translate vision into  
reality”*

– Warren G. Bennis





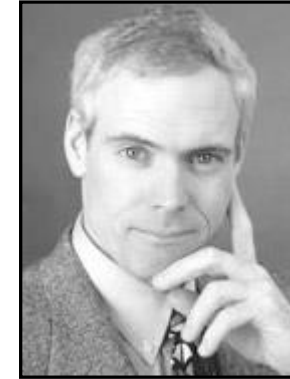
# Leadership



**Jim Collins -  
Level 5  
Leadership**



# Leadership



- 
- 5 **Level 5 Executive**  
Builds enduring greatness through a paradoxical blend of personal humility and professional will.
  - 4 **Effective Leader**  
Catalyzes commitment to and vigorous pursuit of a clear and compelling vision, stimulating higher performance standards.
  - 3 **Competent Manager**  
Organizes people and resources toward the effective and efficient pursuit of predetermined objectives.
  - 2 **Contributing Team Member**  
Contributes individual capabilities to the achievement of group objectives and works effectively with others in a group setting.
  - 1 **Highly Capable Individual**  
Makes productive contributions through talent, knowledge, skills, and good work habits.

Level 5 Hierarchy

**Jim Collins -  
Level 5  
Leadership**



**If schools of public  
health disappeared,  
would anyone notice?**

© Alex Jadad, 2020

## 5 qualities of our future leaders in PH

1. Commitment to the principles of social justice
2. Interdisciplinary orientation in team practice
3. Appetite for innovation and thirst for the big picture
4. Management competencies focused on outcomes
5. Politically savvy (listening attitude when facing significant opposition)

A black and white portrait of a man with a full, white beard and mustache, wearing round-rimmed spectacles. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera. The background is a dark, textured grey.

“Medicine is a social science,”

“and politics is nothing else but medicine on a large scale.”





the future is not a beautiful  
destination like Rome or  
Bern waiting for our arrival



dystopic future





**like a beautiful bridge that  
we have to imagine, plan  
and build**



**and we need PH leadership to do it**

Thanks you for your attention