

# Incentives for evidence-informed management in public healthcare organisations



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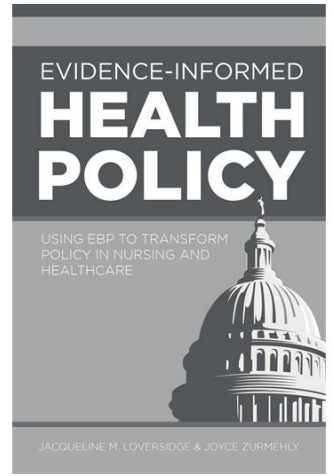
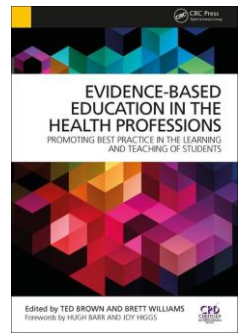
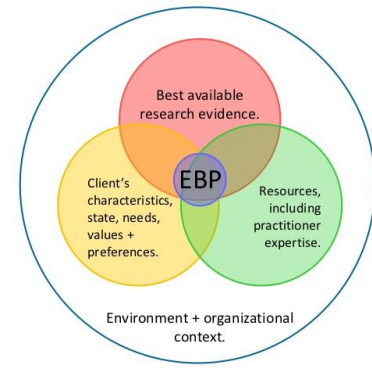
# Why?



Evidence Informed  
Healthcare



# EBP



# Why?

health care goods =  $f(inputs)$

surgery, check-up,...	doctors, nurses, beds, equipment,...
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*technical **efficiency***

*cost efficiency (business performance)*



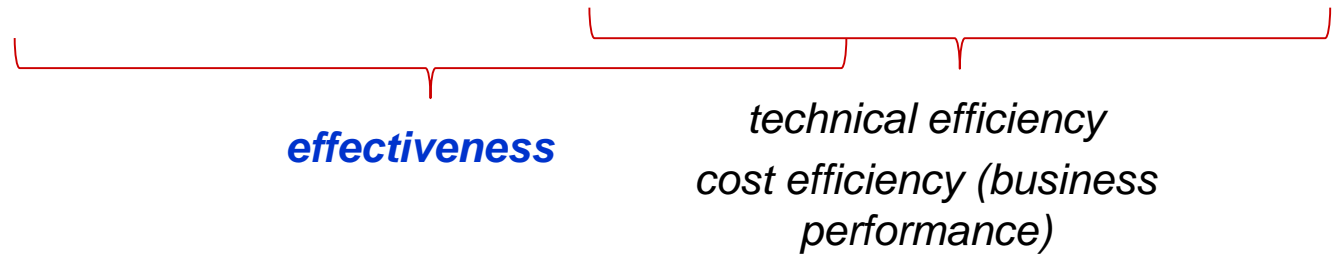
# Why?

$$\text{health} = g[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \text{health care goods} = f(\text{inputs})]$$

life style,  
nutrition,...

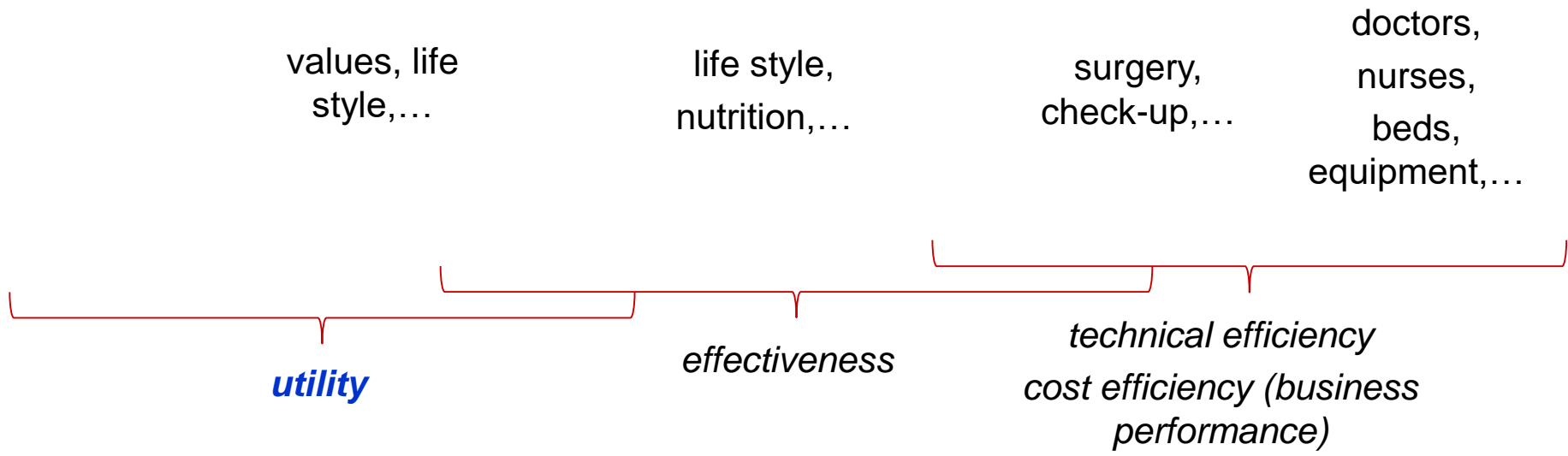
surgery,  
check-up,...

doctors,  
nurses,  
beds,  
equipment,...



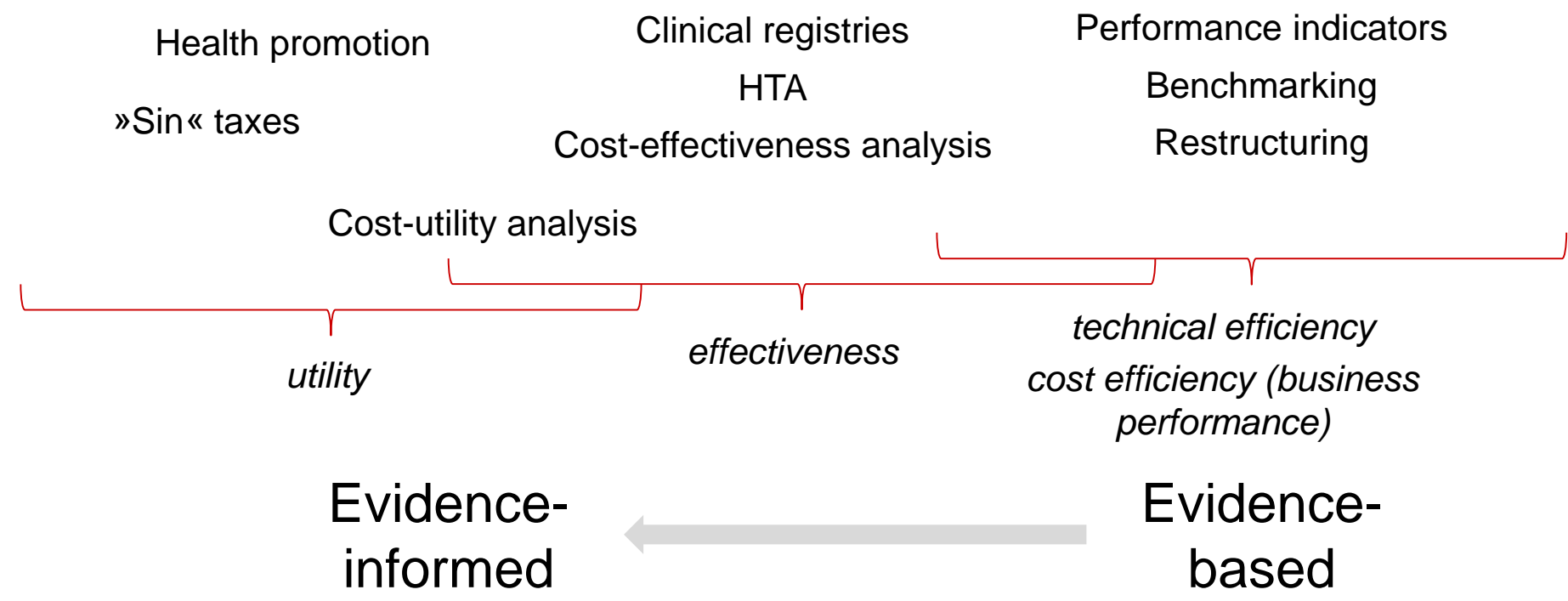
# Why?

$$\text{utility} = h\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n, \text{health} = g[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \text{health care goods} = f(\text{inputs})]\}$$

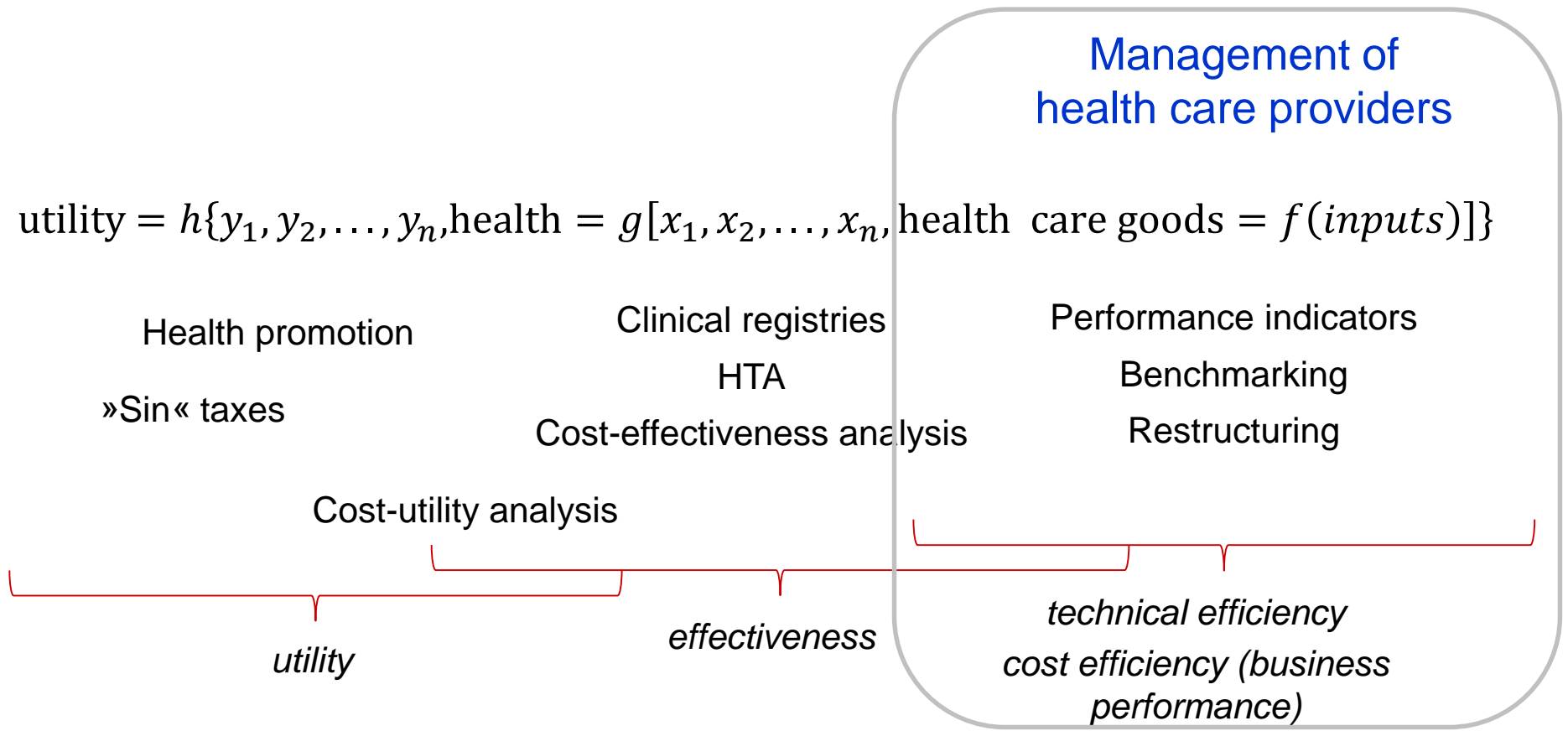


# Why?

$$\text{utility} = h\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n, \text{health} = g[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \text{health care goods} = f(\text{inputs})]\}$$



# Why?



When information isn't enough



When there isn't enough information

# Evidence-based management of public healthcare organisations

## Two ways of achieving technical efficiency:

- maximize outputs with given resources
- or
- minimize resources for a given output

## Which approach for public providers?

$$profit = \overline{revenues} - costs$$

**business performance through  
the lens of cost minimisation  
(not skimping on quality)**

## Management of health care providers

health care goods =  $f(inputs)$

Performance indicators

Benchmarking

Restructuring

*technical efficiency*

*cost efficiency (business  
performance)*



# Non-profits

## Nature of health care goods and services

- Imperfect competition (monopoly etc.)
  - Public goods
  - Externalities
- Imperfect and asymmetric information (supplier induced demand etc.)

**OUTPUT GOALS & PRICE SETTING according to normal average returns eliminating disequilibrium profits**

+

Non-profit provision

- the **non-distribution constraint** which implies that no one has a legal claim on the non-profit's residual
- either a tax incentive or legislative provision to encourage reinvestment in health care

# Evidence-based management of non-profits

## Incentives for cost-minimisation in public non-profit organisations often facing soft budget constraints?

- Weak incentives for cost minimisation if no one has a legal claim on the non-profit's residual (even weaker under soft budget constraints)  
↓
- Financial (payment models) and non-financial supply side incentives

# Evidence-based management of non-profits

## Fee-for-Service Payment

- providers with limited possibility to induce demand
- output goals

## Case-based Payment (e.g. DRGs)

- incentive to minimise costs for treatment of cases within a given case category

## Capitation

- incentive to minimise costs
- incentive to engage in prevention



- **Financial** (payment models) and non-financial supply side incentives

→ constant fine-tuning

→ designed according to the **averagely efficient** provider

→ incentive for **extra** profits

# Evidence-based management of non-profits

→ Meaningful information on performance and peer-to-peer comparison proven to lead to an **intrinsic response** much larger than profit incentives.



- Financial (payment models) and **non-financial** supply side incentives



# Evidence-based management of non-profits

- Governance of health care providers
- Recognition and understanding of the role of supply-side incentives
- Reorganisation of health care providers so that real decision-makers are incentivised
  - Hard budget constraints



- Resolving the **principal agent problems**

# Some key lessons for Slovenia

1. A crucial role of adequate payment models designed according to the averagely efficient provider
2. Recognition and understanding of the role of supply-side incentives
3. Management under hard budget constraints
4. Reorganisation of providers so that financial and non-financial incentives can work → incentivising actual decision-makers
5. Ongoing fine-tuning with the evaluation phase always in mind

