



26th May 2021



Disrupting Population Health: the role of longitudinal population studies



International 100K Cohort Consortium

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Outline

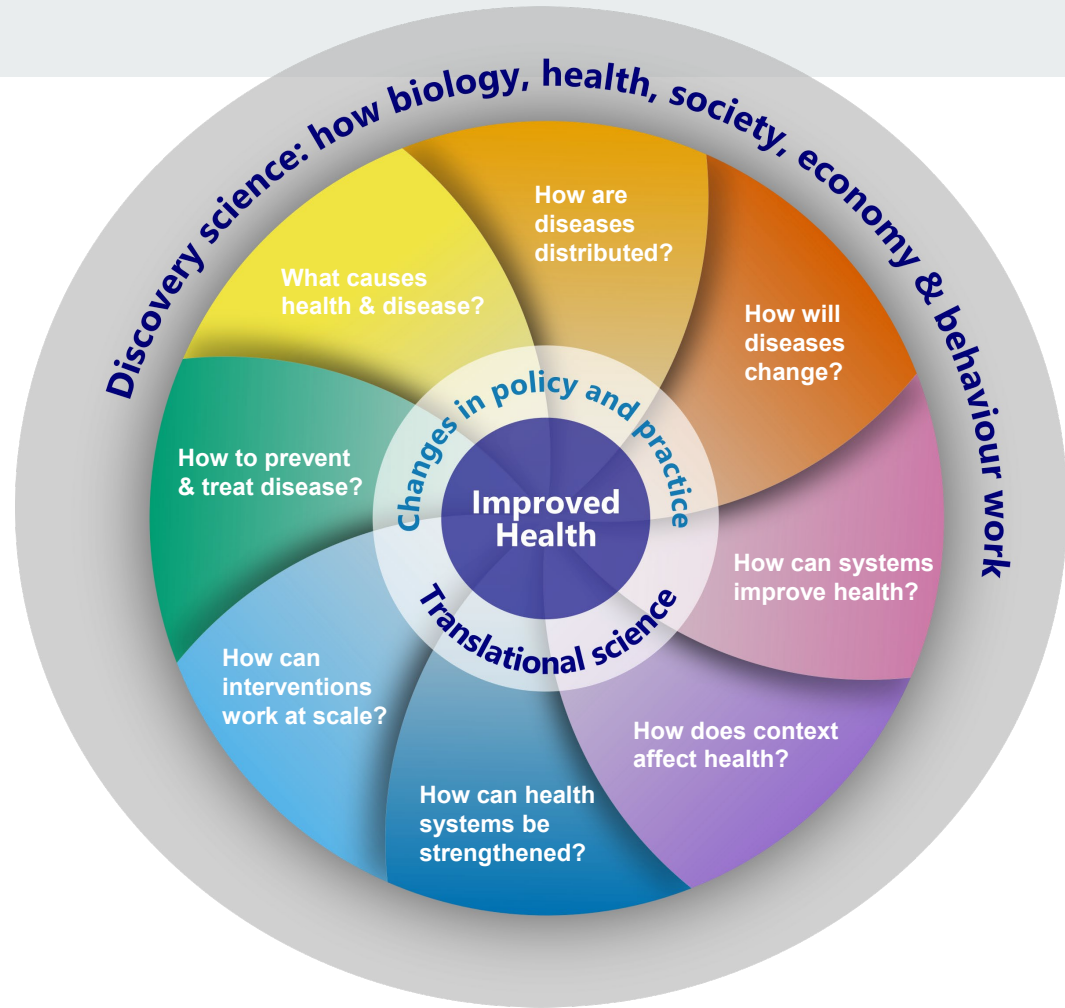
- What needs disrupting
- Why it needs disrupting
- How LPS can disrupt



What is Population Health?

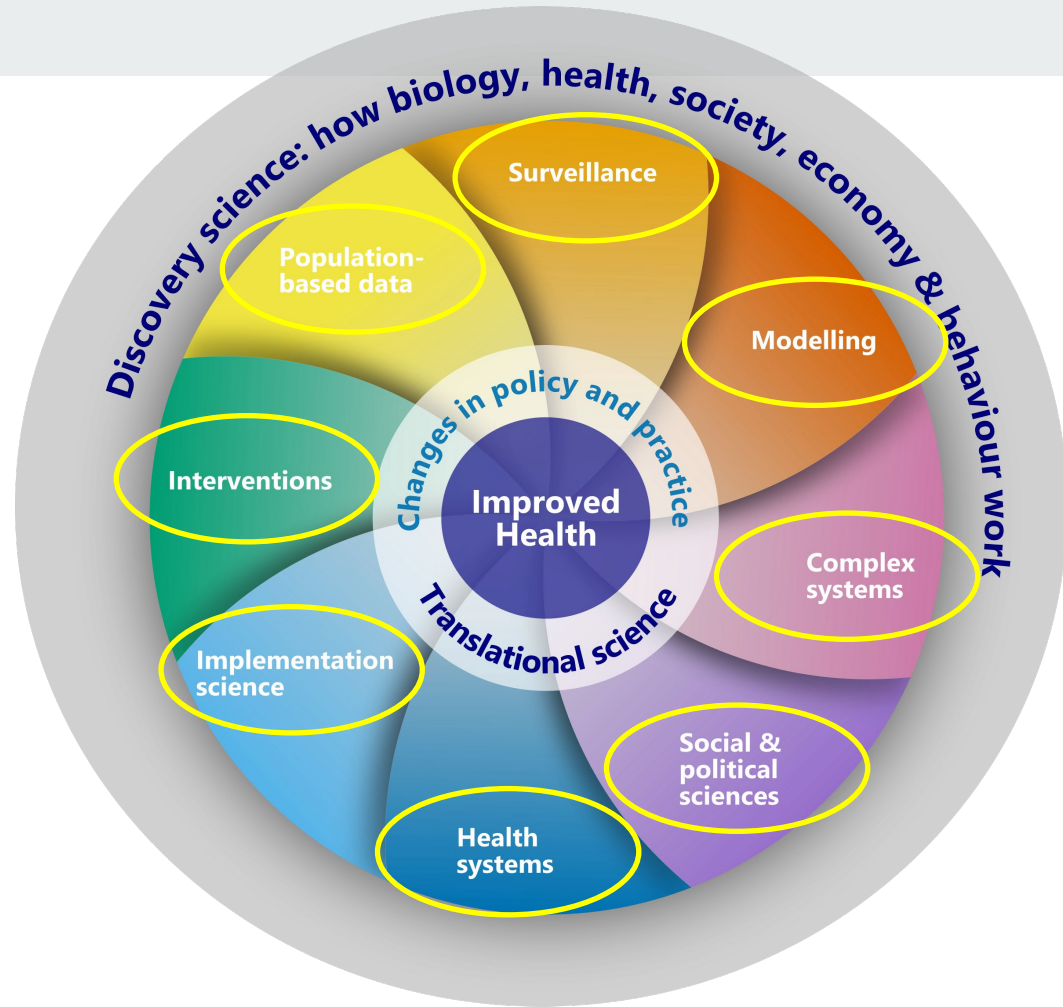
Understanding and improving human health, at scale

Population-based science - research questions



Population-based science - research fields

Longitudinal population studies





Why does Population Health need disrupting?

Why Population Health needs disruption



Lack of diversity in populations and topics studied



Too simplistic – people and populations are complex systems



Discovery and translation often considered separately





How can LPS disrupt Population Health?

1. They naturally bridge siloes
2. They include multiple complex systems
3. They are flexible platforms for discovery and translation



Increase diversity

Populations

1. Under-represented populations
2. Minority populations in well-studies countries

Domains

1. Social AND biological
2. Across systems from cells to circuits to individuals to families to communities to nations





Embrace complexity

Anthropology

Neuroscience

Behavioural sciences

Genetics

Immunology

Molecular Biology

Epidemiology

Economics

Sociology

Disciplines





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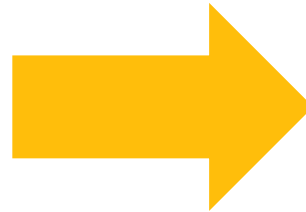
Immunology

Molecular Biology

Epidemiology

Economics

Sociology



Molecules & Cells

Systems & Circuits

Populations & Society

Disciplines

Systems



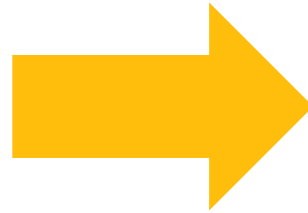


Embrace complexity at every level





Embrace complexity at every level



Wicked problems are a product of complex systems

Radically different approach to understanding how to change systems to produce different outcomes needed

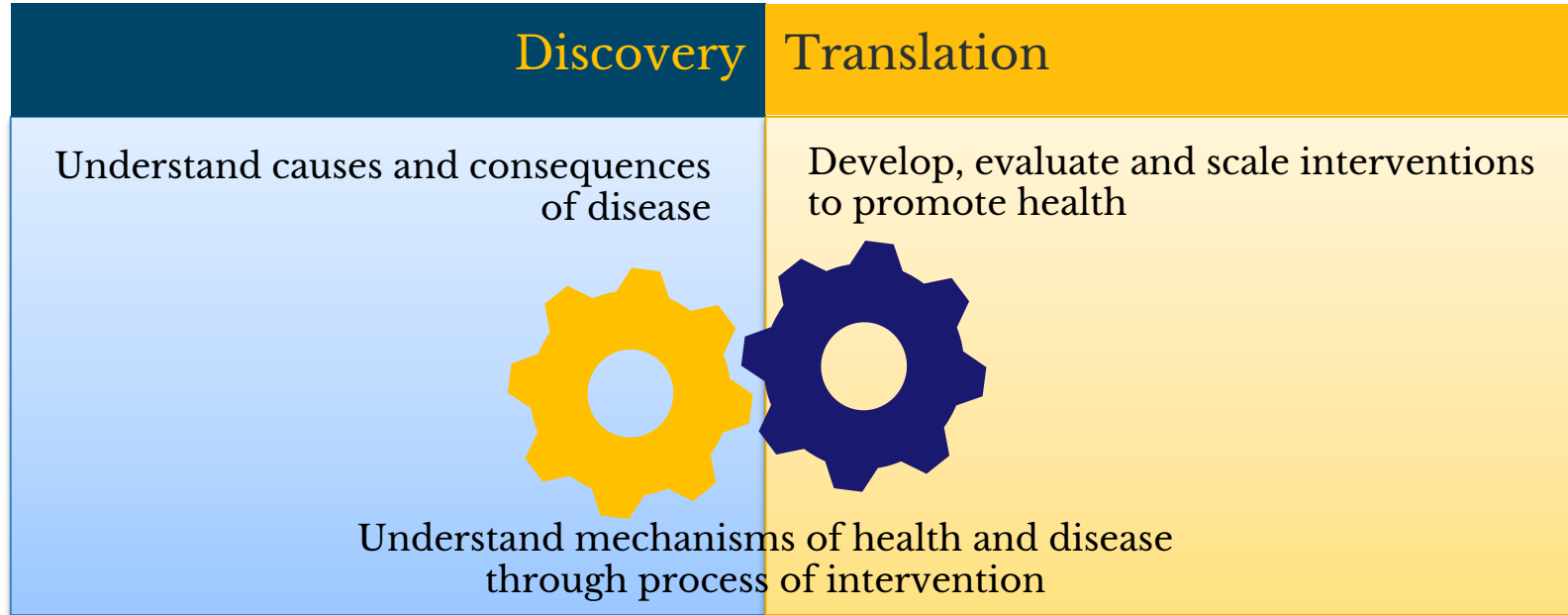
Field of complex systems is small, methods are under-developed, & approach is largely untested

But we have to try





Focus on the problem





The future of Population Health?

1. Bigger, more diverse, more interoperable LPS
2. Problem-focused Co-Laboratories
3. International networks of harmonised LPS

1. Bigger, more diverse LPS

1 | Breadth of resources with representative samples from diverse populations

2 | High quality multi-dimensional data across life course

3 | Data linkage, interoperability and analysis maximised across resources

4 | Resources are discoverable, accessible, and widely used

5 | Meaningful stakeholder engagement improves quality and impact of resources

6 | Improved strategies for translation of findings into health impact





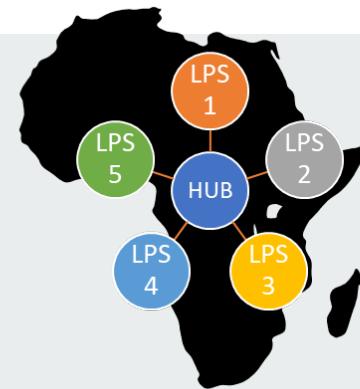
African Population Cohorts Consortium

Vision

Large scale data from Africa is used to change policy and practice to improve health and social outcomes, to contribute towards achieving the SDGs, and to strengthen African-led science.

Mechanism

Population data platform - leverage existing infrastructure and capacity in Africa to create a network of large LPS including biobanks linked to routine health, social and environmental data where possible.



Outcomes

1. Utilise unique diversity of Continent to enable world-leading discovery research “for Africa and the world”
2. Enable African scientists to bring this critical new knowledge to the world
3. Address specific disease burden & inform African-specific interventions to improve health & social outcomes



2. Problem-focused Co-Laboratories



Deep community and local policy maker engagement in diverse communities with co-production of data collection methods and interventions



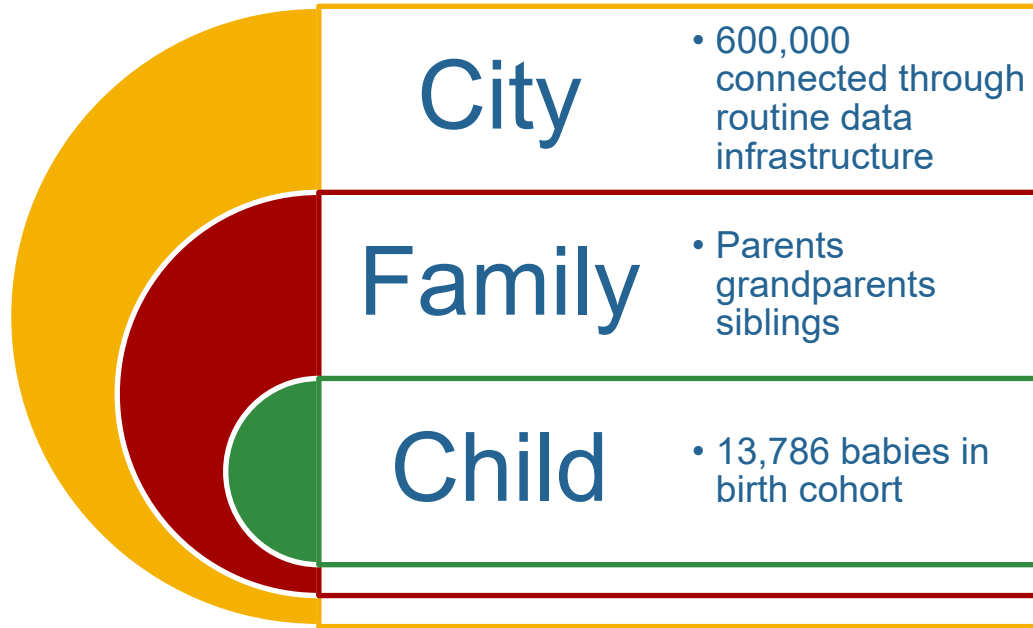
Deeply phenotyped place-based LPS with data collected at multiple levels of system from cells to society



Trials within cohorts - experimental evaluation of interventions at multiple levels of the system from individual to cluster RCTs to policy level interventions




Born in Bradford: “Research that changes a city”



Act Early
Improving the environments that influence child health

Healthy places
Healthy learning
Healthy livelihoods

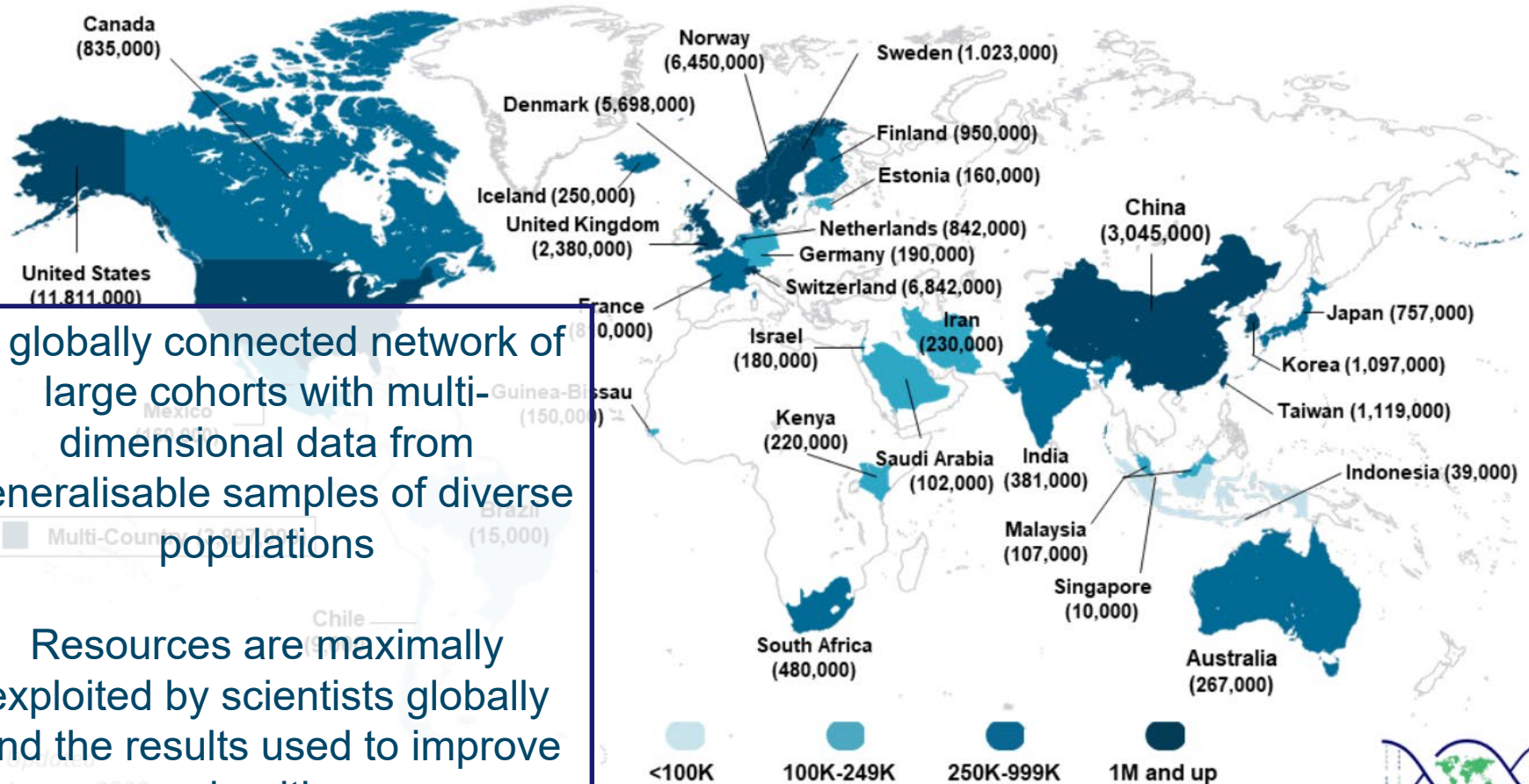




“Each cohort is constrained, however, by its size, ancestral origins, and geographical boundaries, which limit the subgroups, exposures, outcomes, and interactions it can examine.”

Manolio, T, Goodhand P, Ginsburg G. The International Hundred Thousand Plus Cohort Consortium: integrating large-scale cohorts to address global scientific challenges. Lancet 2(1) 2020

3. International networks of harmonised LPS



A globally connected network of large cohorts with multi-dimensional data from generalisable samples of diverse populations

Resources are maximally exploited by scientists globally and the results used to improve health





Thanks!

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