

6th Annual Symposium International Network Health Policy & Reform  
**Impact of the Competition Strengthening  
Act upon Care Coordination**

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“Risk-structure  compensation” since 1994/95

**Contribution collector**

**Third-party payer**

Wage-related contribution  
ca. 13.4% (50/50) +0.9%  
insured since 2005 

Ca. 250 sickness funds  
with self-government,  
organised in 7 associations

Choice of fund  
since 1996

**Strong  
delegation  
& limited**

Contracts,  
mostly collective

governmental control

**Population**

SHI insures 87%  
(75% mandatorily,  
12% voluntarily)

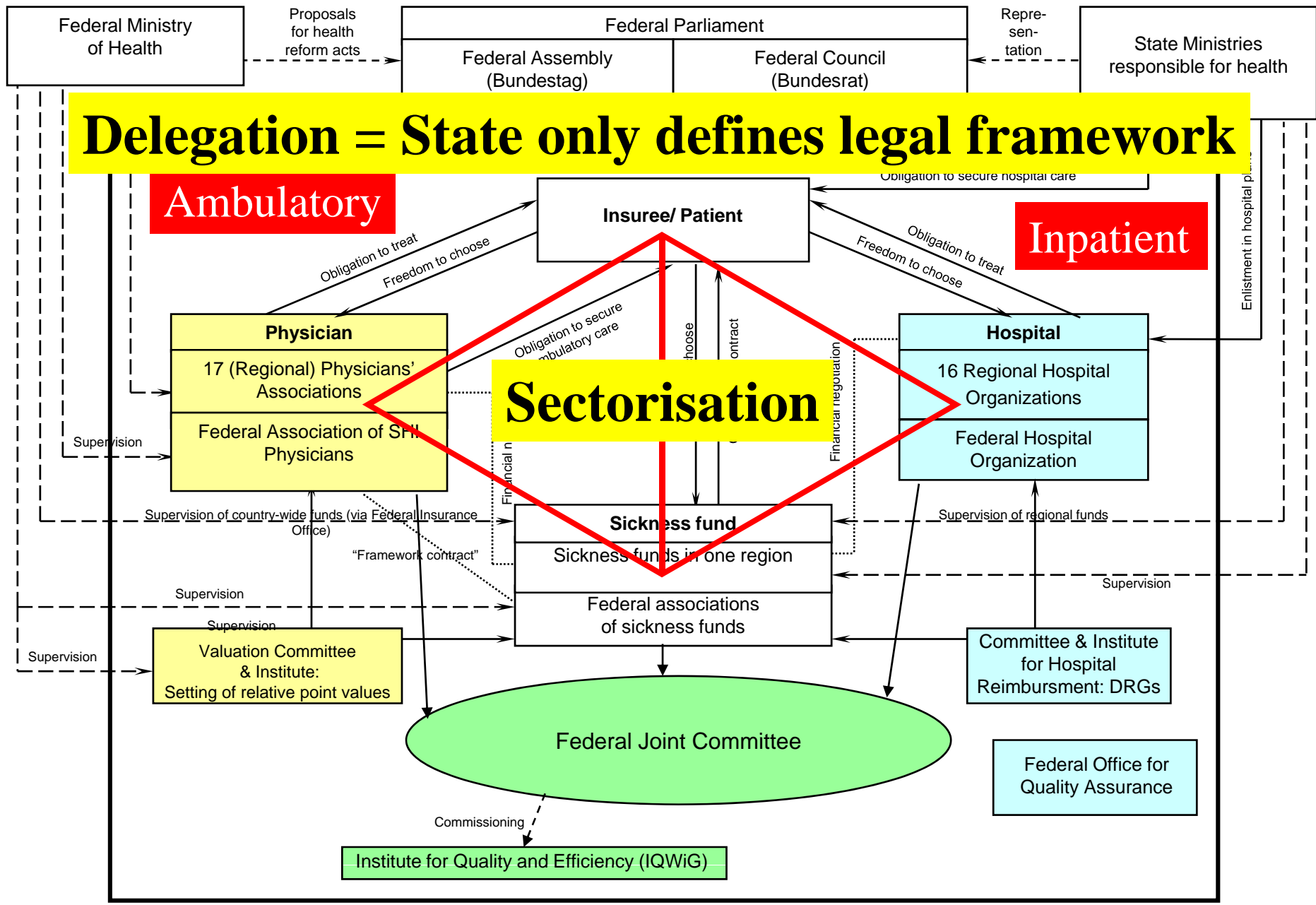
Free access

- Cost-sharing →

**Providers**

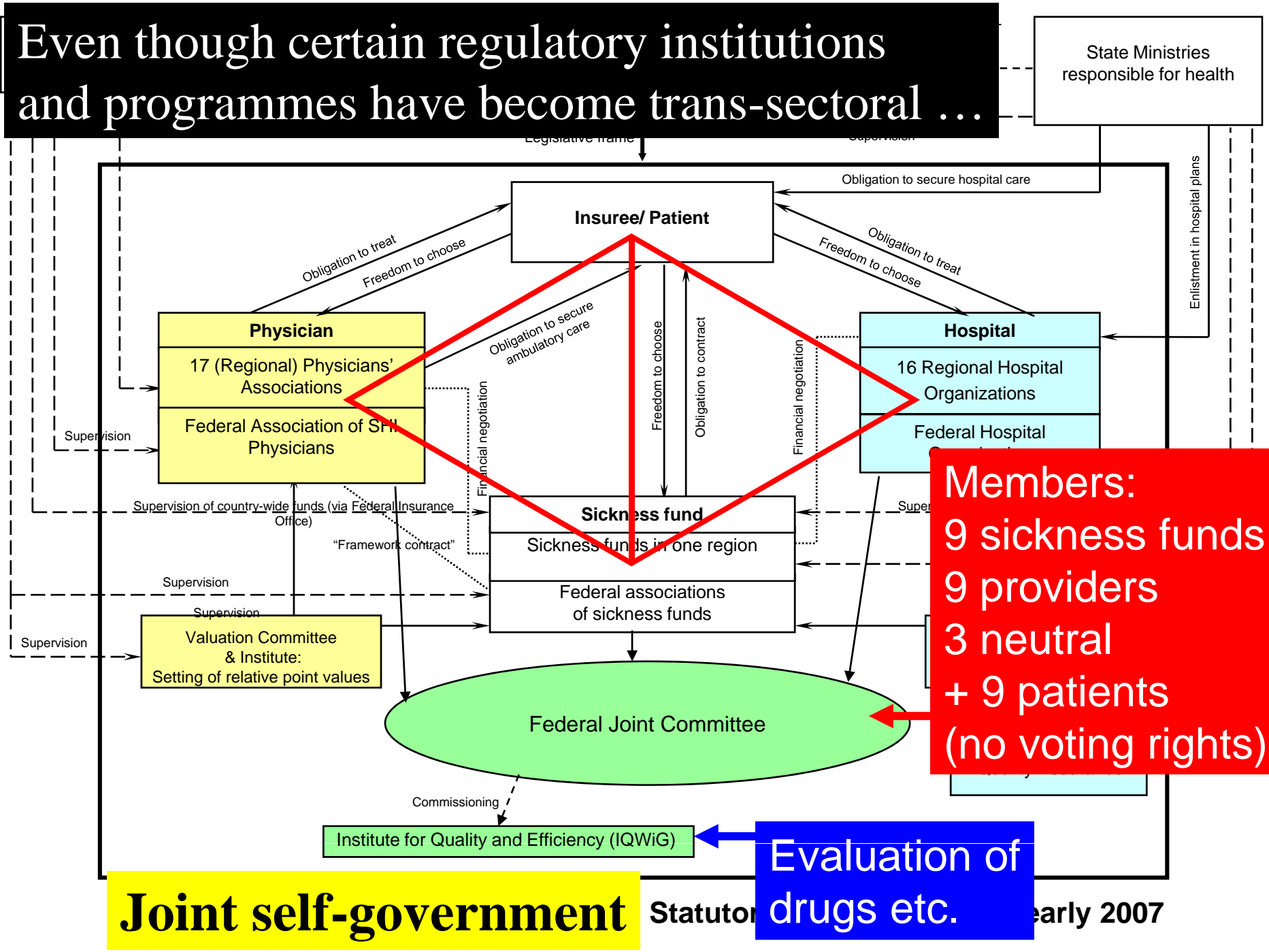
Public-private mix,  
organised in associations  
ambulatory care/ hospitals

**The German system at a glance ...**



Statutory health insurance early 2007

# Even though certain regulatory institutions and programmes have become trans-sectoral ...



**Members:**  
 9 sickness funds  
 9 providers  
 3 neutral  
 + 9 patients  
 (no voting rights)

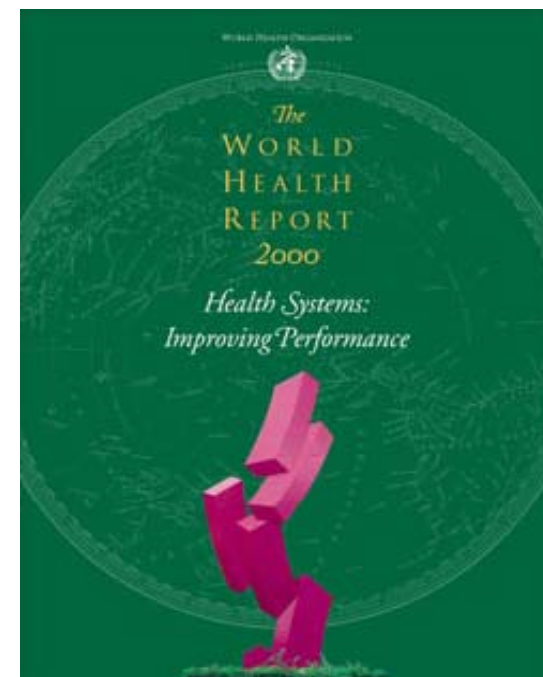
**Evaluation of drugs etc.**  
 early 2007

**Joint self-government**

Statutor...

## ... coordination, quality and cost-effectiveness are problematic

- Germany always knew that its health care system was expensive, but was sure it was worth it (“the best system“)
- Quality assurance was introduced early but concentrated on structure
- Increasing doubts since late 1990s: Health Technology Assessment introduced since 1997
- World Health Report 2000: Germany only # 25 in terms of performance (efficiency)
- International comparative studies demonstrate only average quality (especially low for chronically ill)



## Legal attempts to improve care coordination (selection):

- Pre- and post- inpatient care in hospitals (1997)
- „Integrated [i.e. transsectoral] care“ contracts (2000, funded with 1% of expenditure since 2004)
- Disease Management Programmes (2002) -> *next slide*
- Polyclinics (potentially with hospital owners, 2004)
- „GP contracts“ (insured choose GP as gatekeeper; 2004, have to be offered since 2007)
- Ambulatory care in hospitals for patients with selected rare/ difficult diseases (2004)

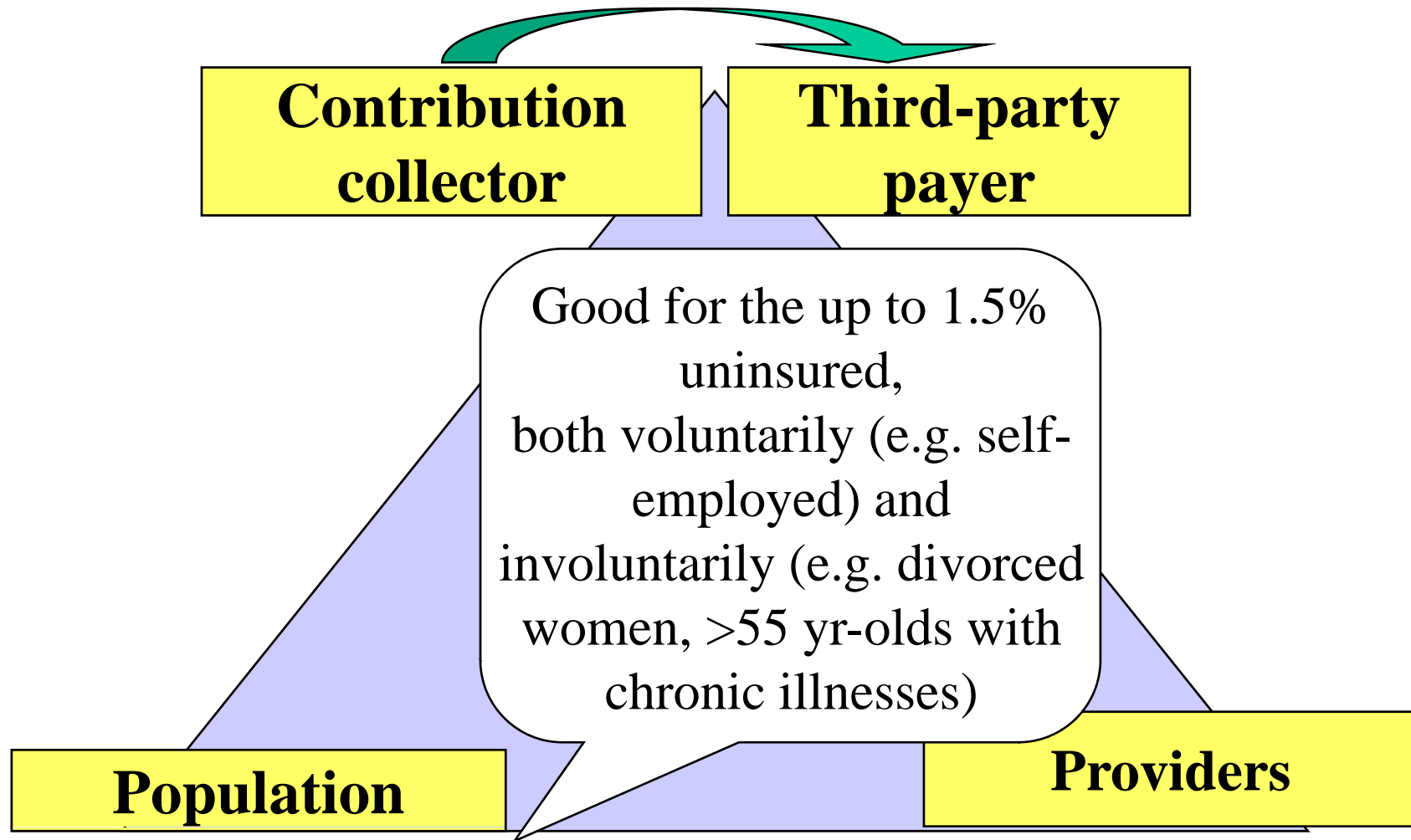
# Disease Management Programmes (since 2002)

- **Compensate sickness funds for chronically ill better** (make them attractive) = reduce faulty incentives to attract young & healthy
- **Address quality problems** by guidelines/ pathways
- **Tackle trans-sectoral problems** by “integrated“ contracts
- = **introduce Disease Management Programs** meeting certain minimum criteria and compensate sickness funds for average expenditure of those enrolling (new RSC categories)

*double incentive for sickness funds:  
potentially lower costs + extra compensation!*

*By early 2007: 3.5 mn enrolled (5% of SHI insured)*

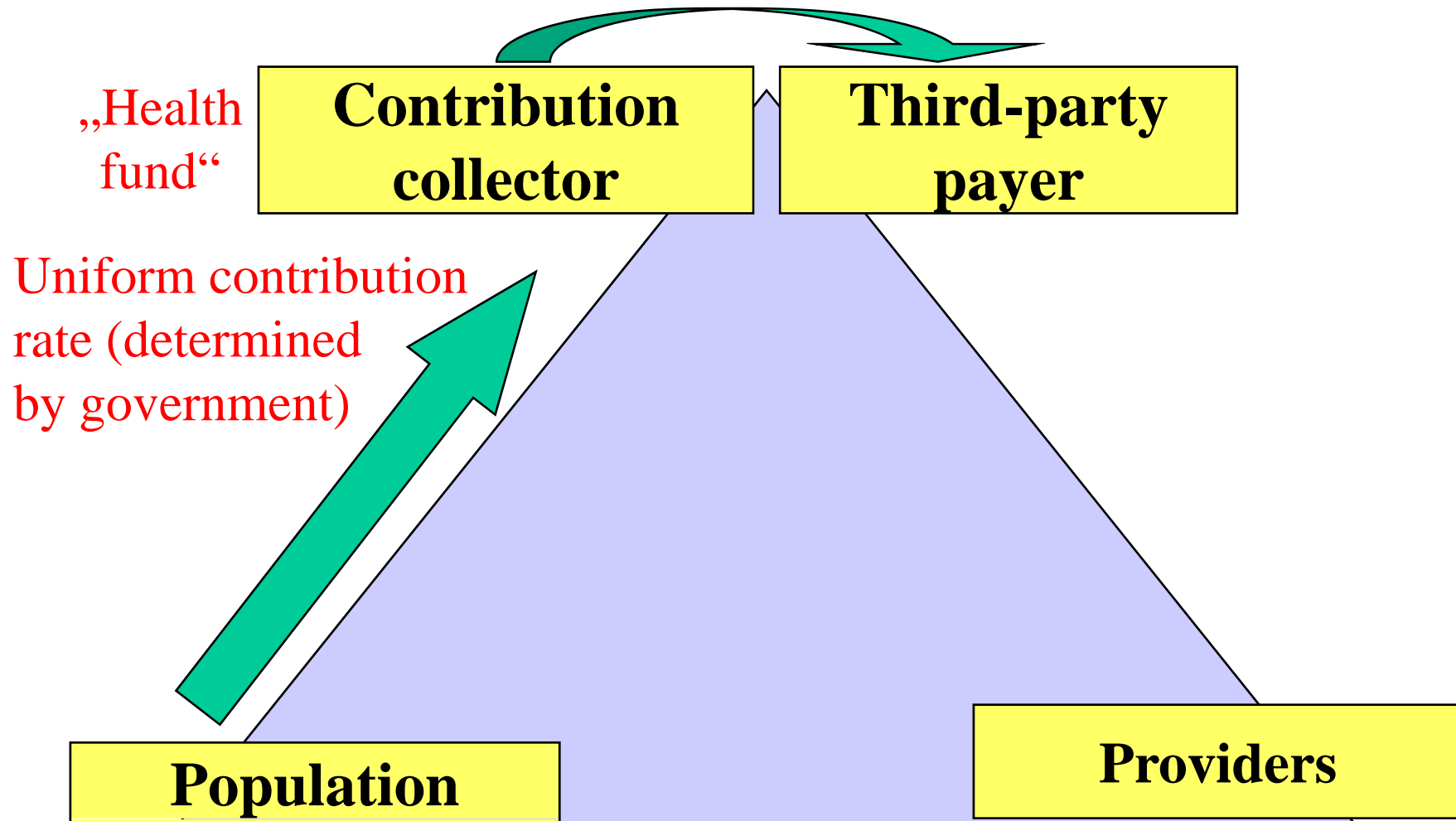
# What has or will be changed by the Competition Strengthening Act and what is the (likely) impact on care coordination?



PHI remains but: universal coverage + obligation to contract (for a capped premium)

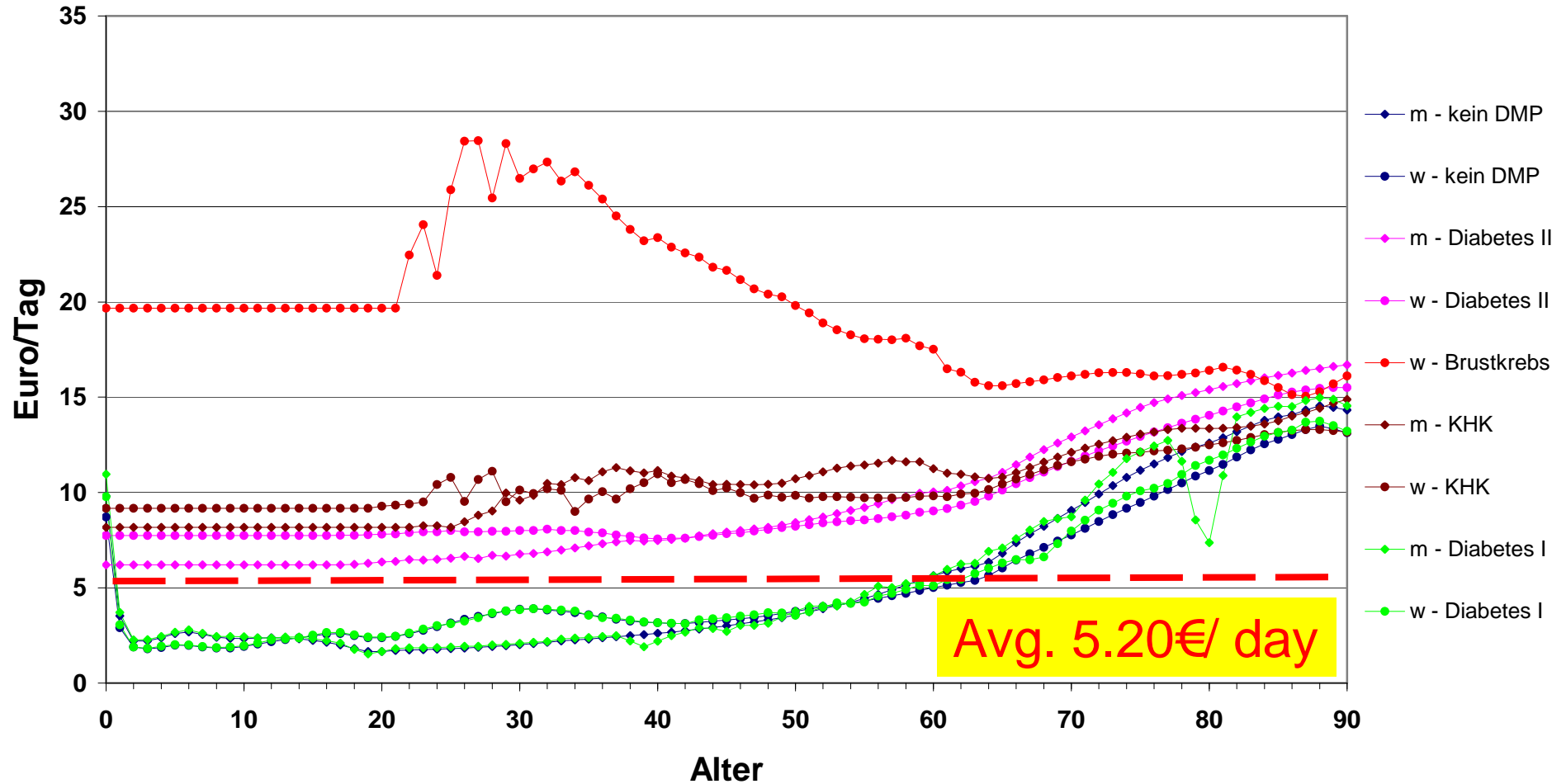


Redesigning the risk-adjusted allocation  
formula to include supplements for 50 to 80 diseases

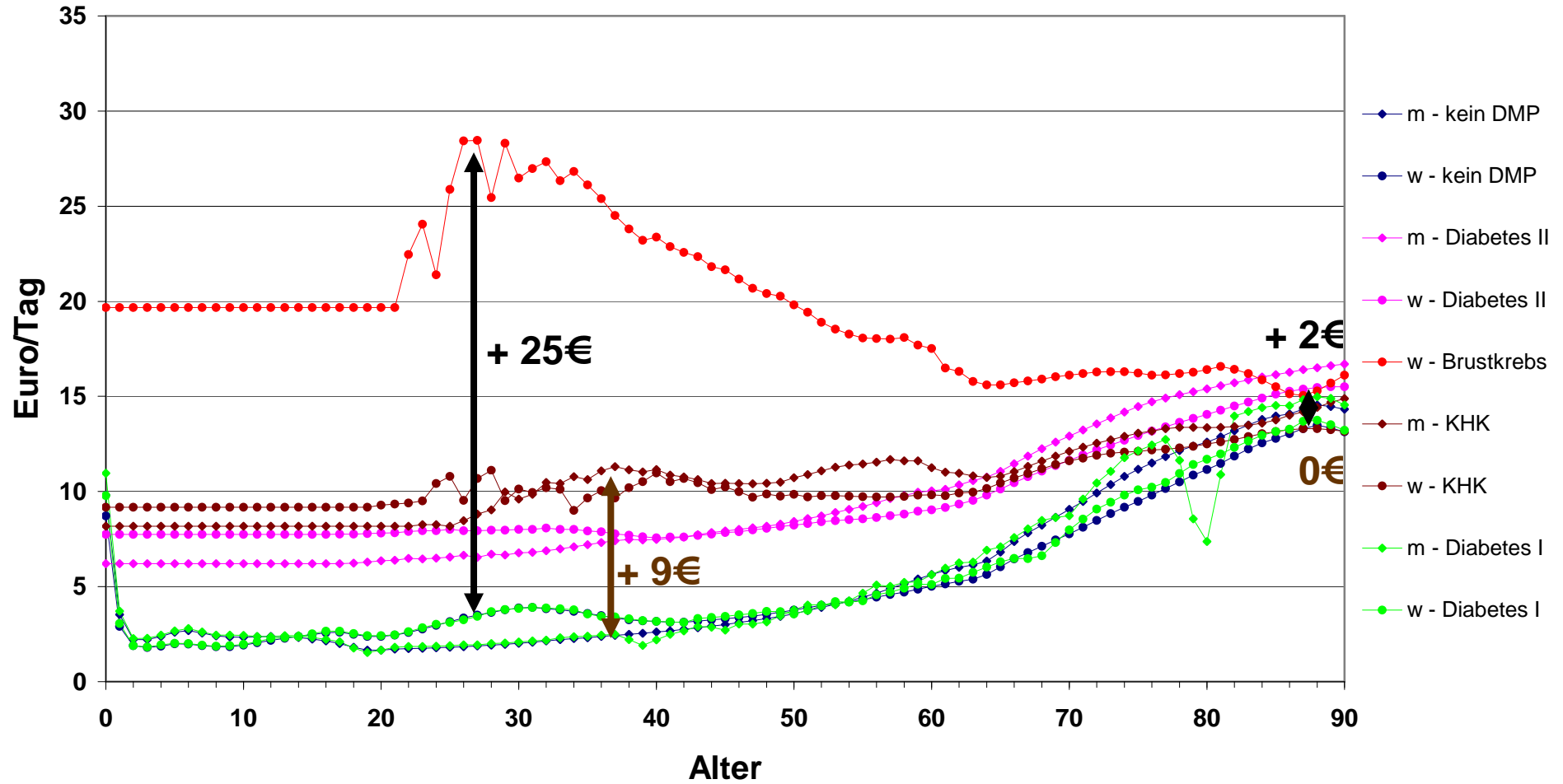


PHI remains but: universal coverage +  
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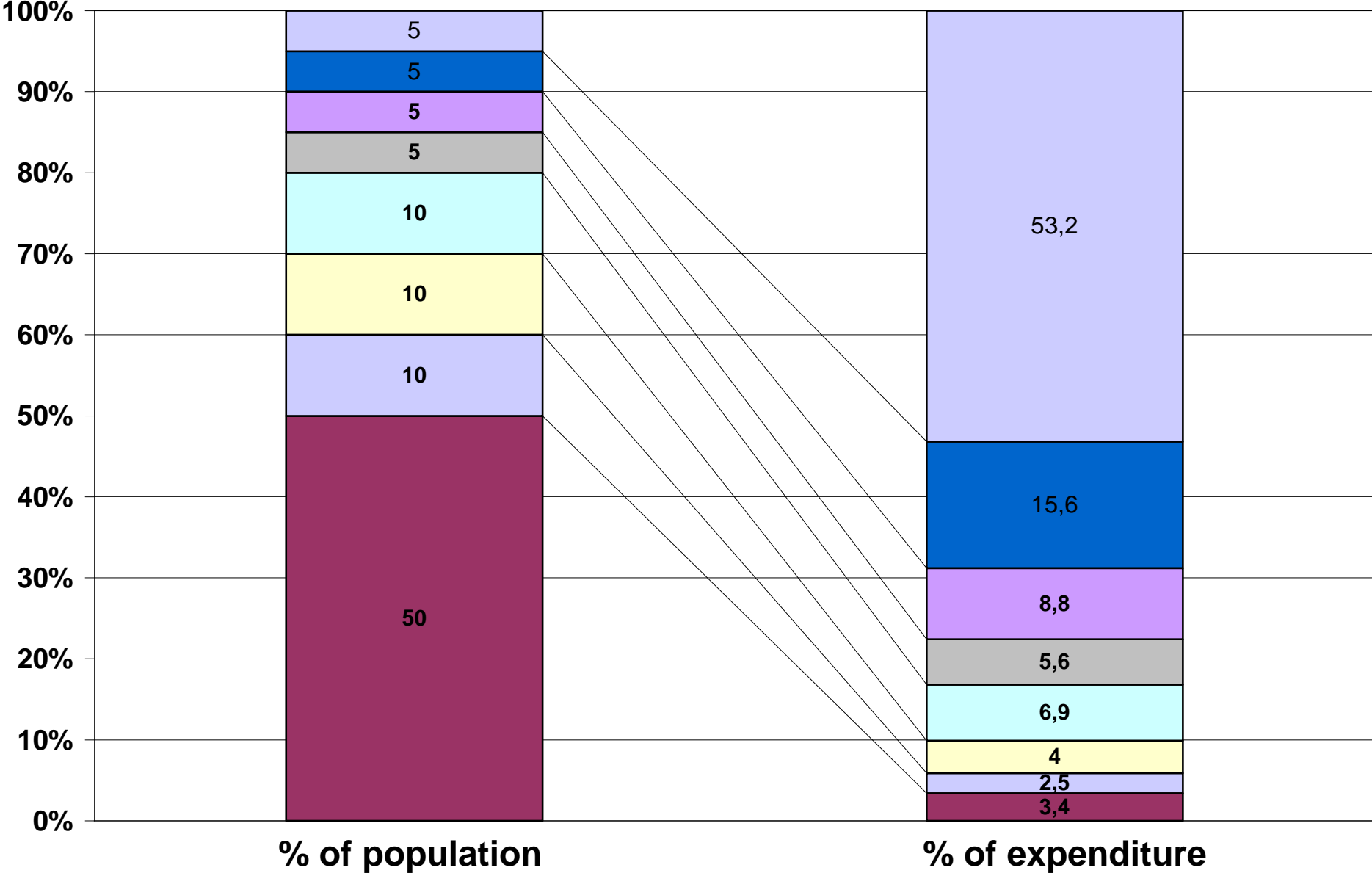
# „Standardised“ (= avg.) expenditure used for the Risk Structure Compensation mechanism (2006)

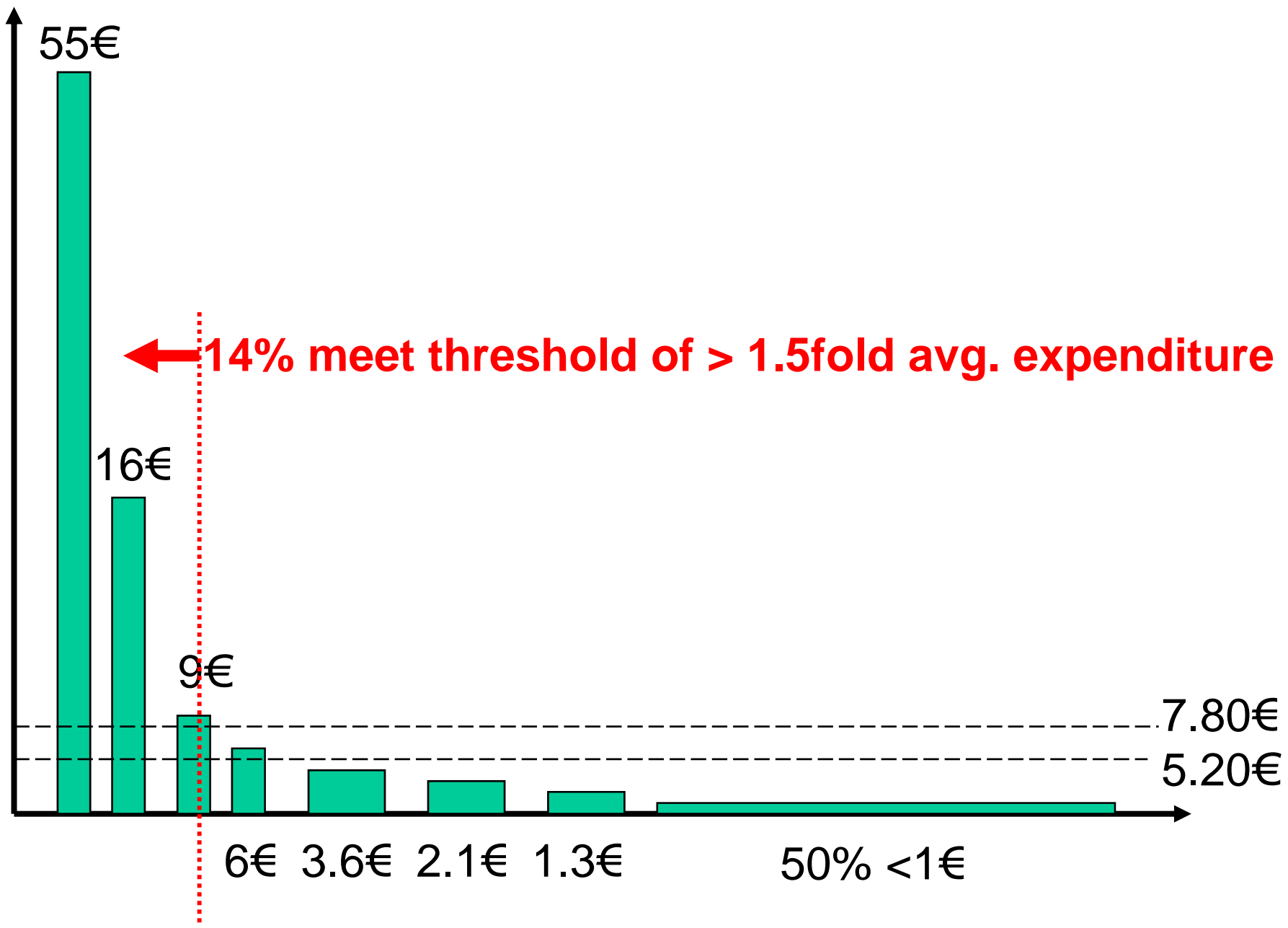


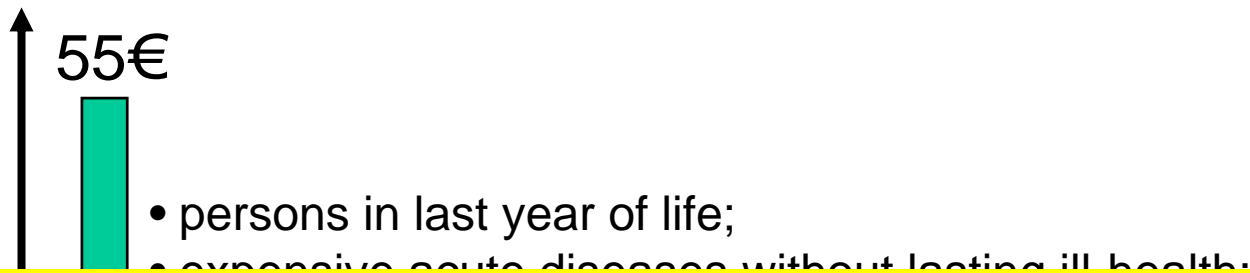
# Effect of „illness“ by age differs greatly (2006)



# The well-known 20/80 distribution – actually the 5/50 or 10/70 problem

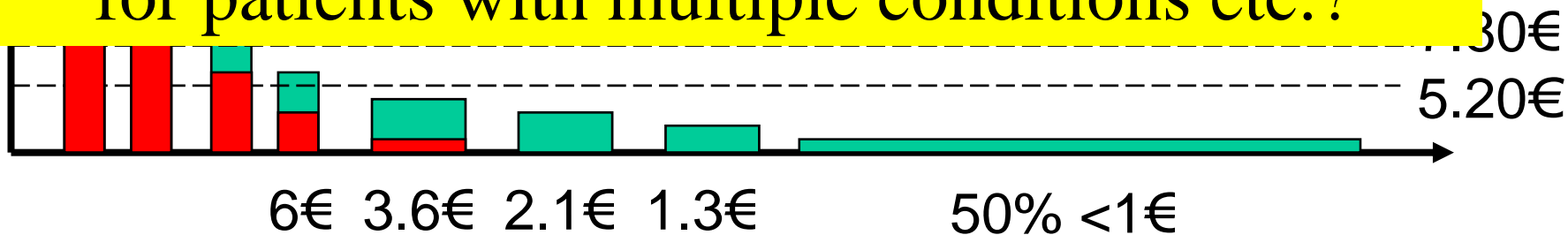






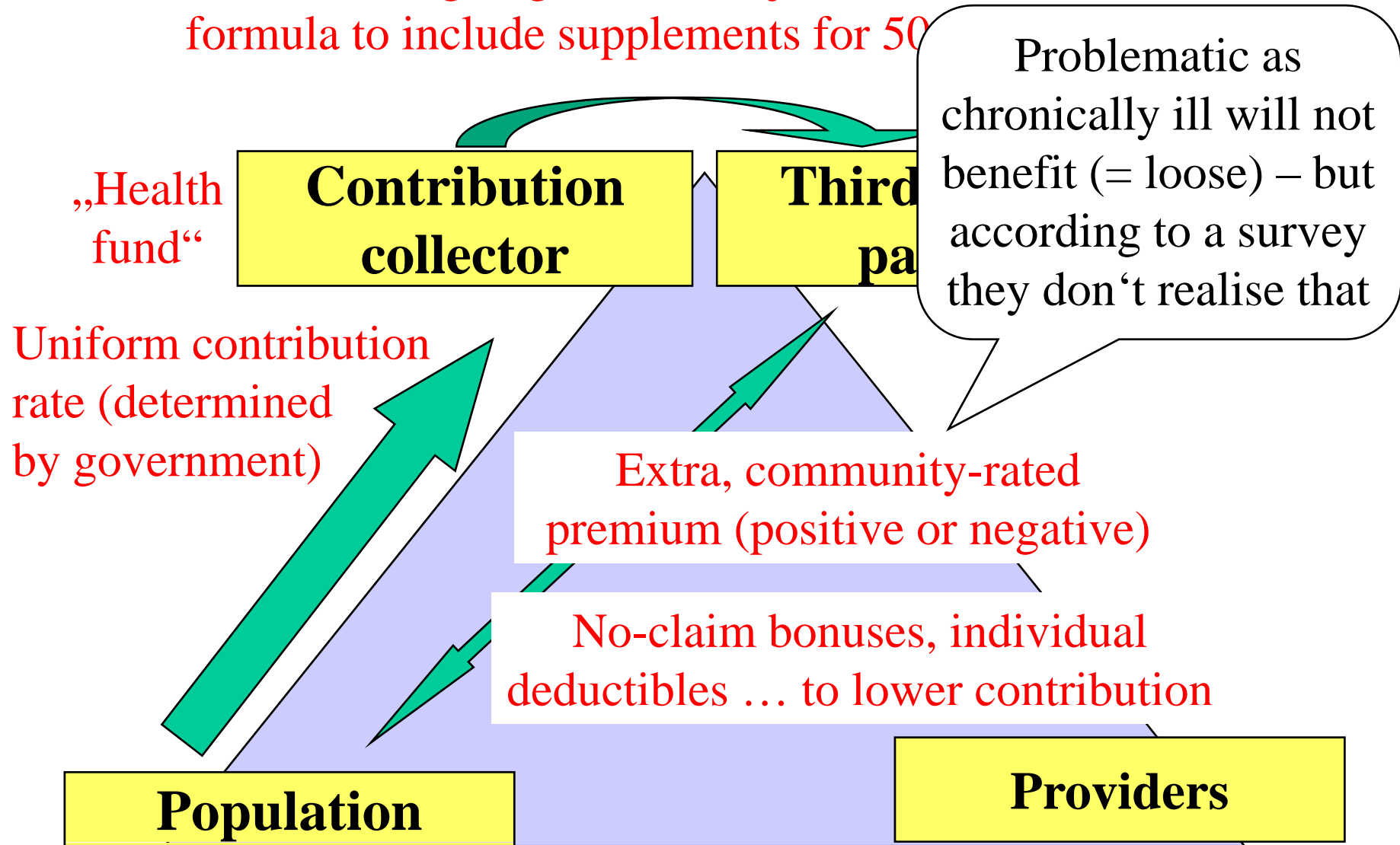
Participation in a DMP will not qualify anymore:  
will reduced incentives lead sickness funds  
to stop offering them?

Or: the opportunity to concentrate on  
(cost-)effective programmes with risk-strata,  
for patients with multiple conditions etc.?



**We need to identify 50 to 80 diseases explaining these costs!**

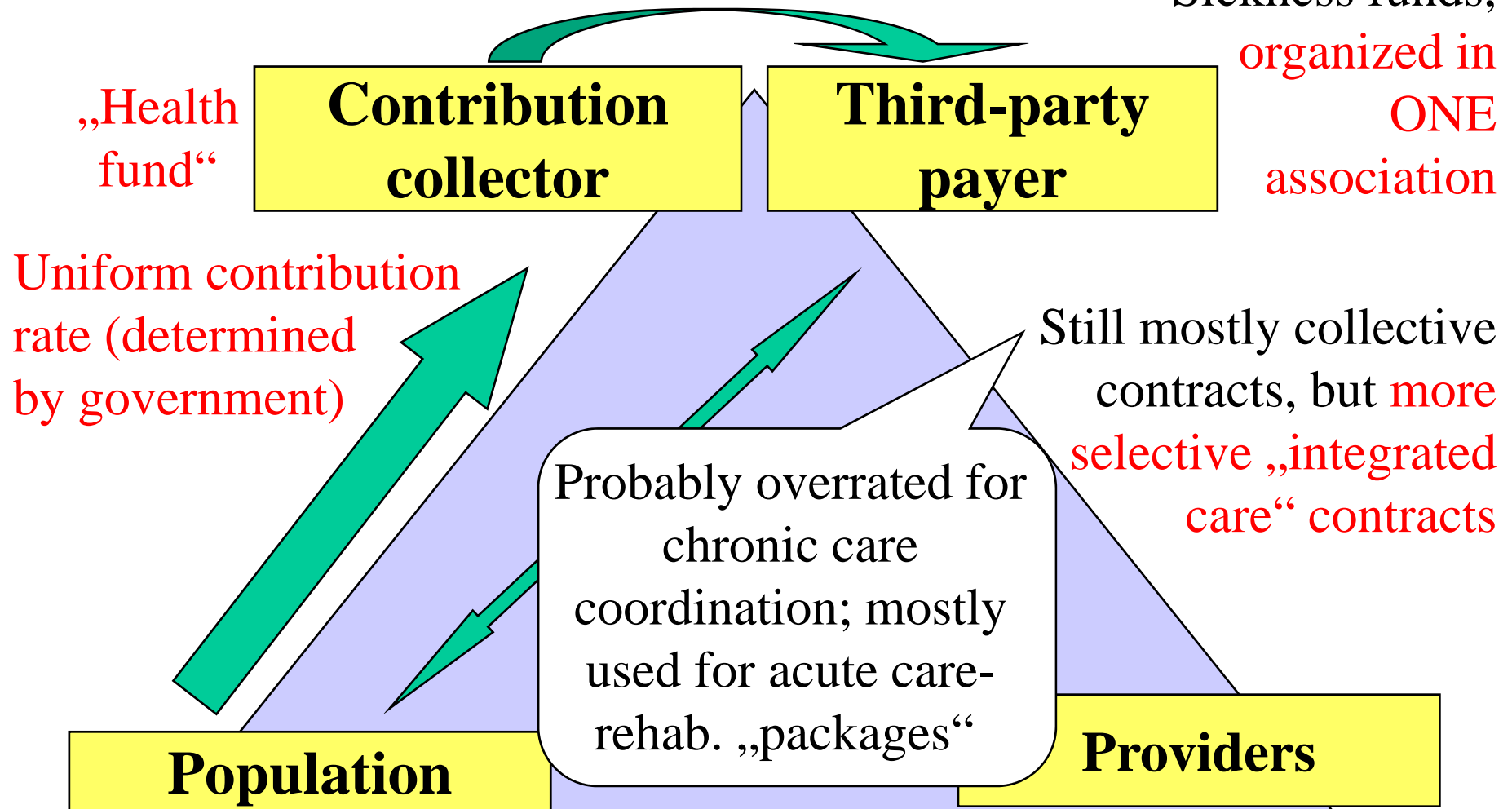
Redesigning the risk-adjusted allocation  
formula to include supplements for 50



PHI remains but: universal coverage + obligation to contract (for a capped premium)

Redesigning the risk-adjusted allocation  
formula to include supplements for 50 to 80 diseases

Sickness funds,  
organized in  
**ONE**  
association



PHI remains but: universal coverage +  
obligation to contract (for a capped premium)