



# HSRM

Capacity-building in Health Systems  
Research and Management

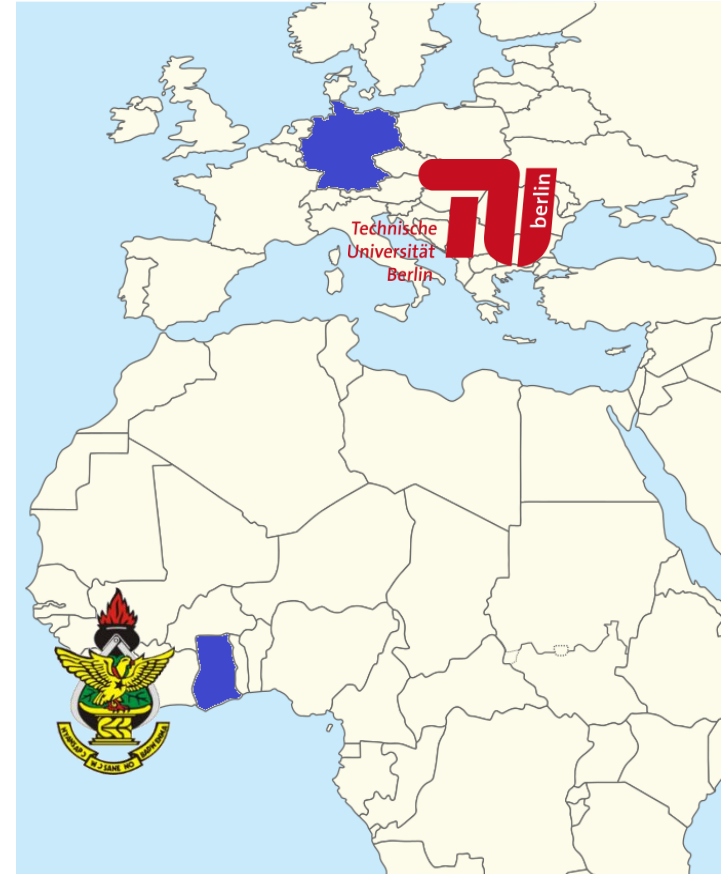


# Health Systems: Goals, Functions, Actors Financing 2

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WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Systems Research and Management

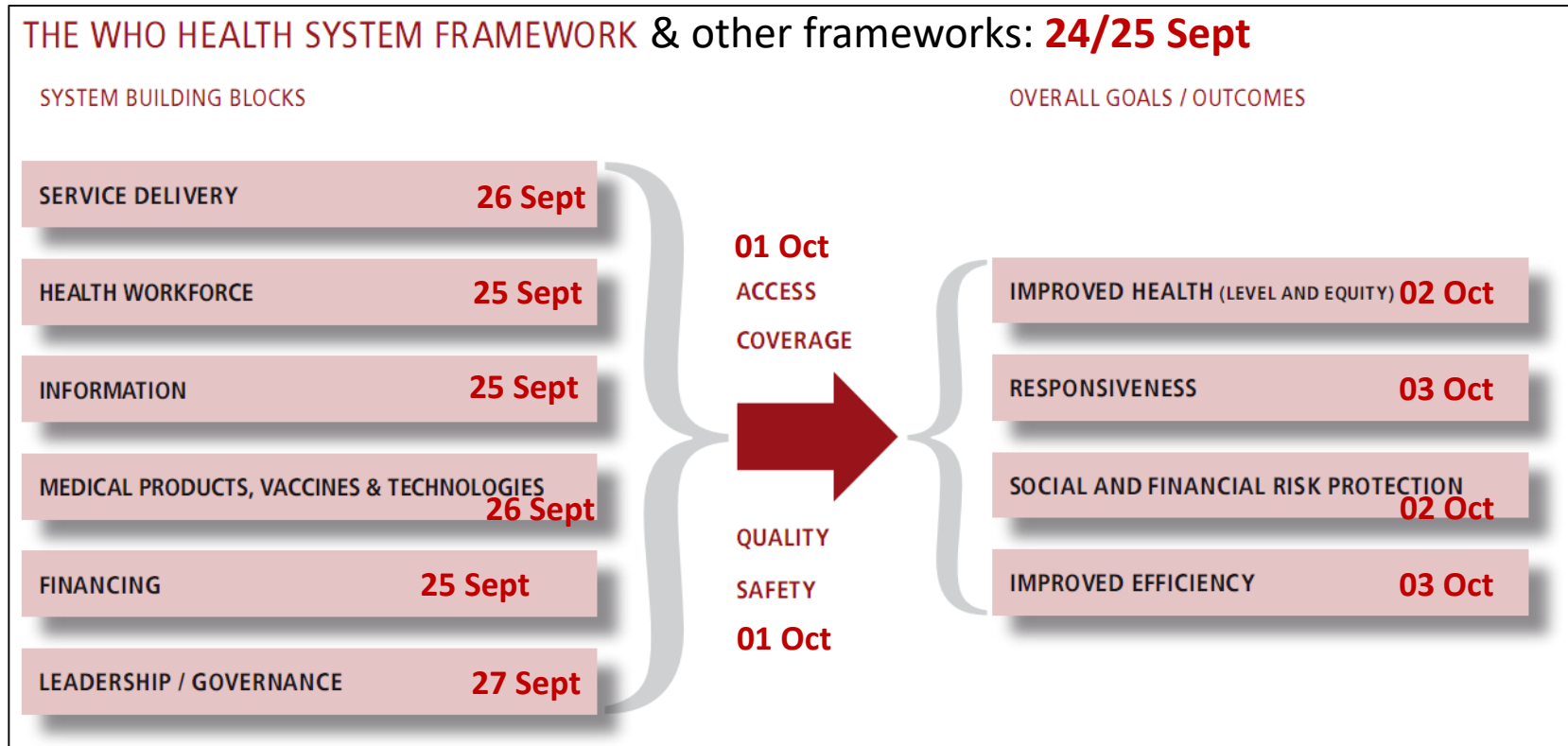


SCHOOL OF  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH





# Guiding framework for the module



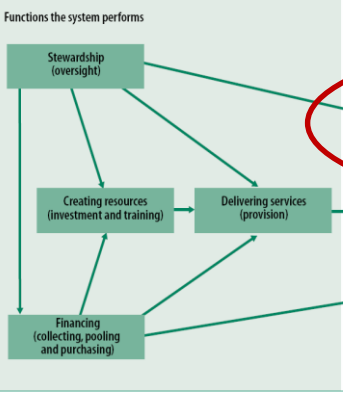
Summary: **27 Sept**

Performance assessment: **03 Oct**

WHO 2007



# Functions

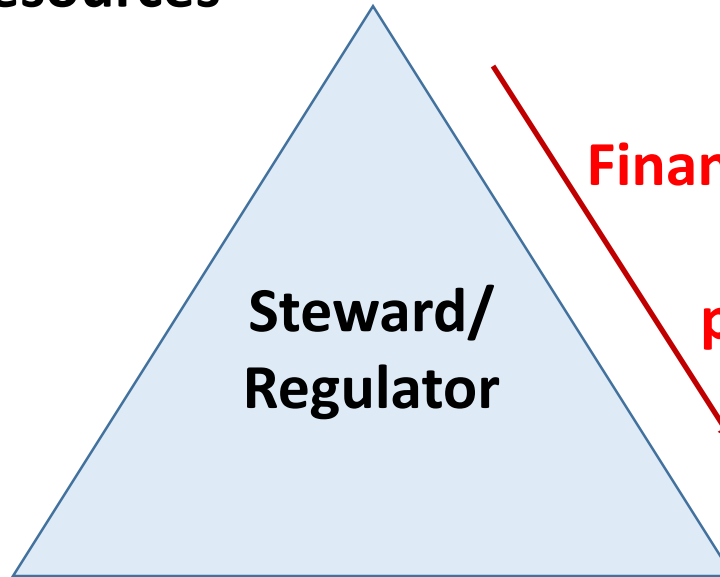


**Financing II:  
Resource pooling & allocation**

**Collector of  
resources**



**Third-party Payer**



**Financing III: Purchasing/  
contracting/  
paying providers**

**Population**

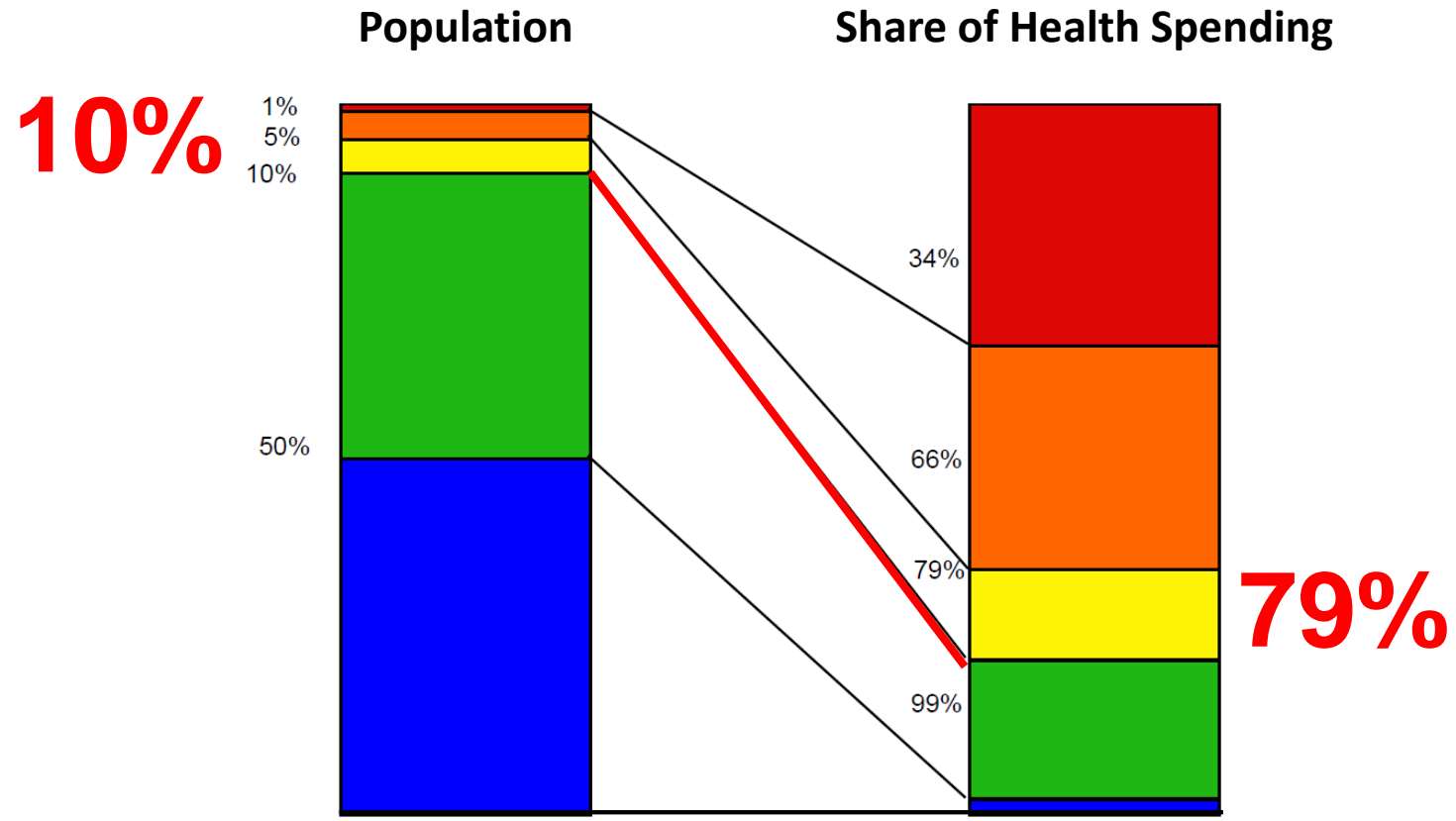
**Providers**



# Expenditure is highly skewed I



Ontario, Canada (2008)



Source: BMC Health Services Research 2014

25 September 2019

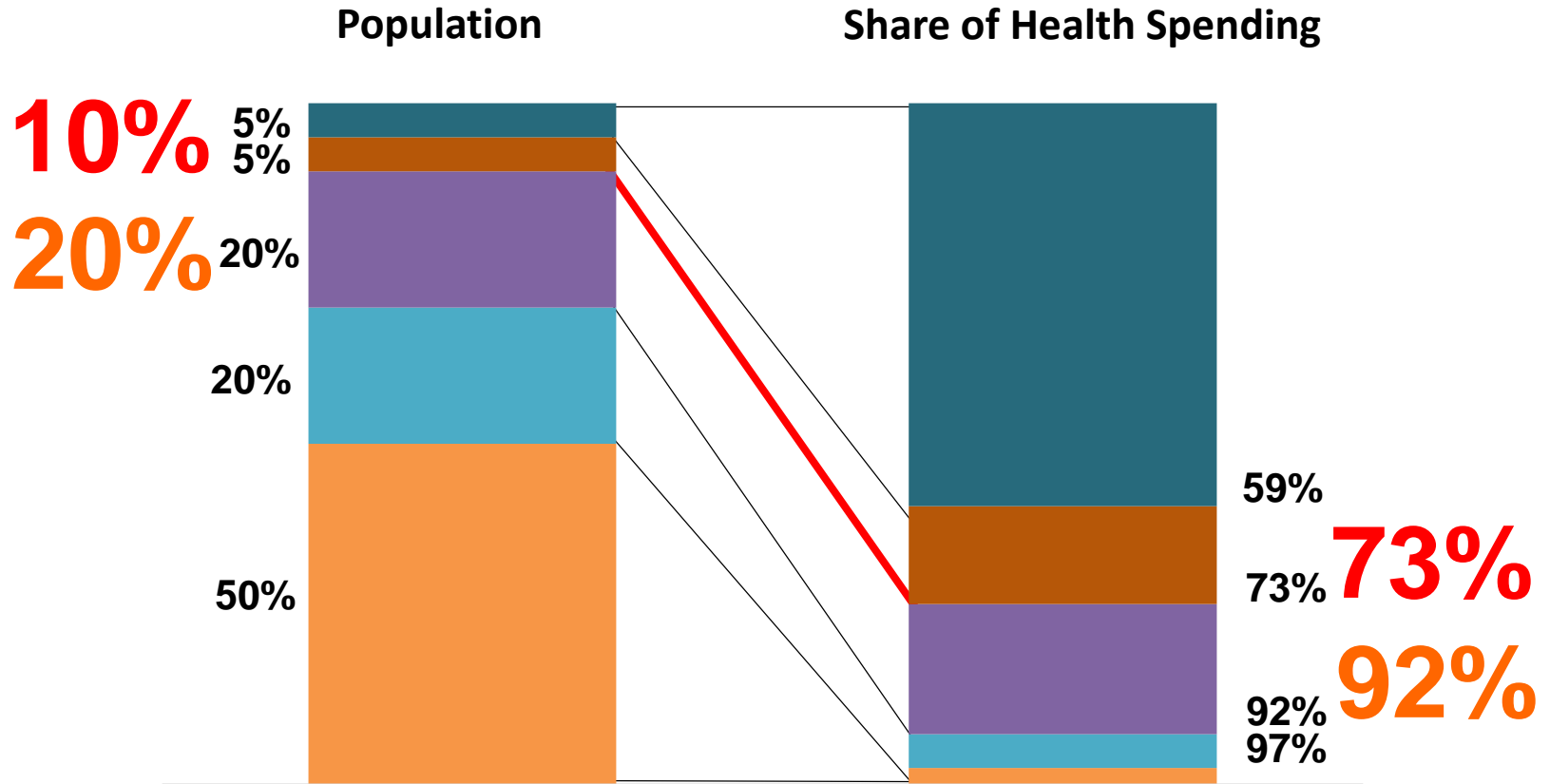
Financing 2



# Expenditure is highly skewed II



Denmark (2012)



Source: Institute for Fiscal Studies 2016

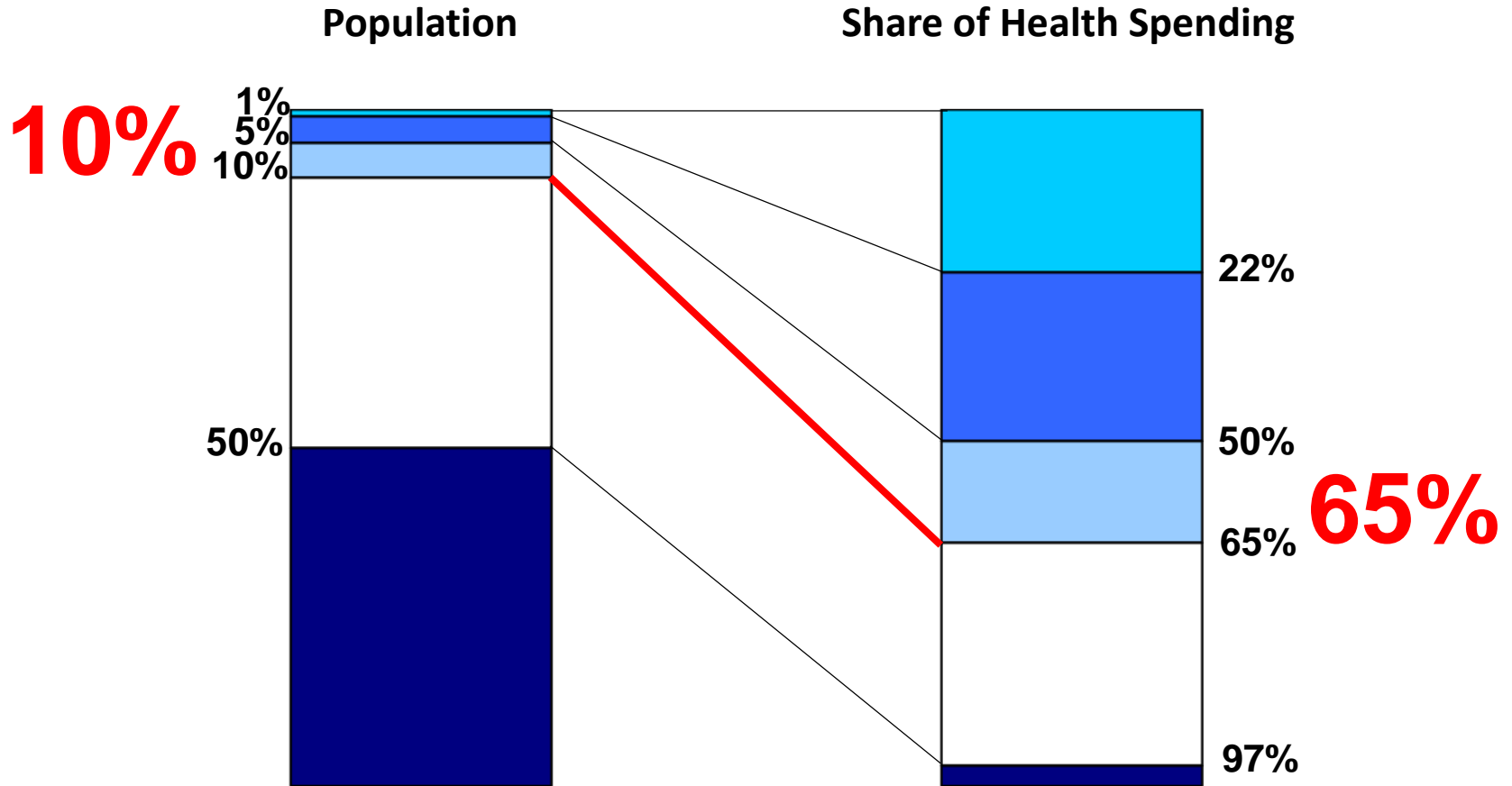
25 September 2019



# Expenditure is highly skewed III



USA (2014)



Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality analysis of 2014 Medical Expenditure Panel Survey

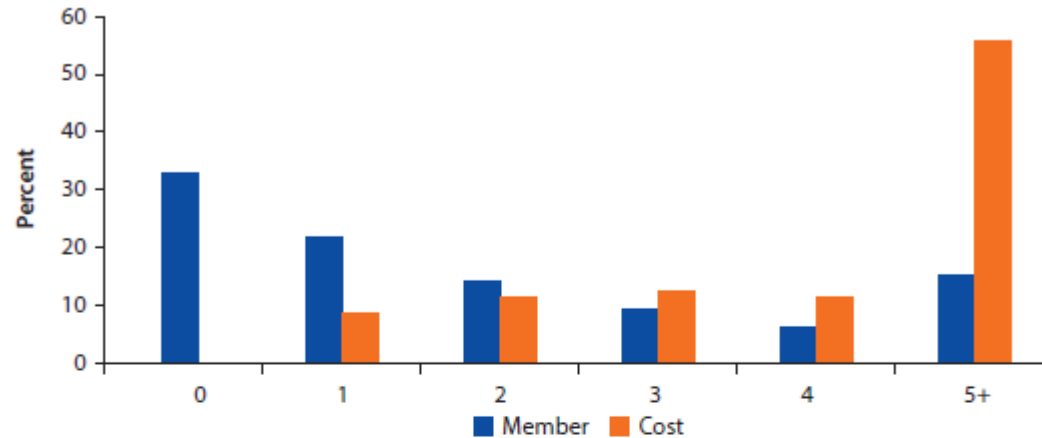


# Expenditure is highly skewed IV



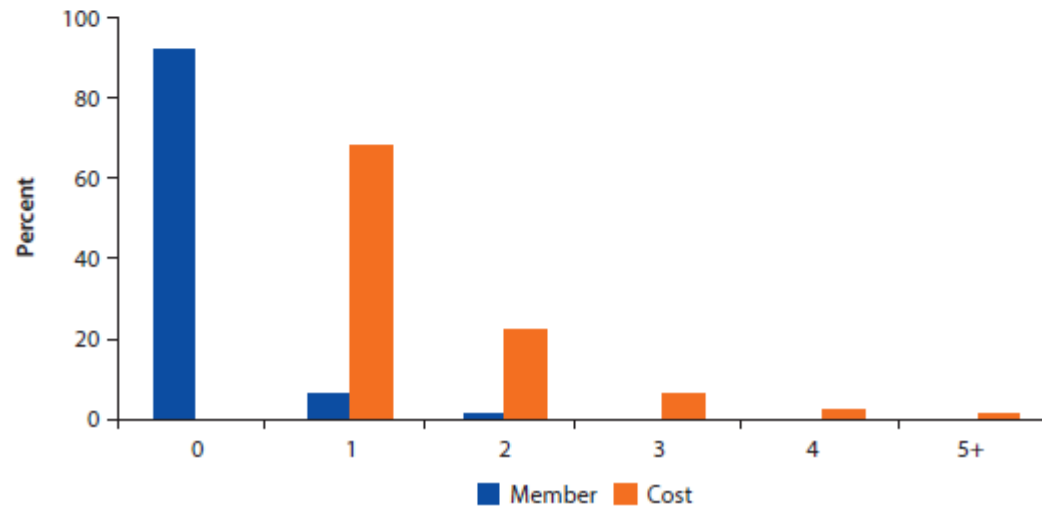
## Ghana (2014)

Figure 4.13 NHIS Members and Claims Expenditures, by Number of Outpatient Visits, Volta, 2014



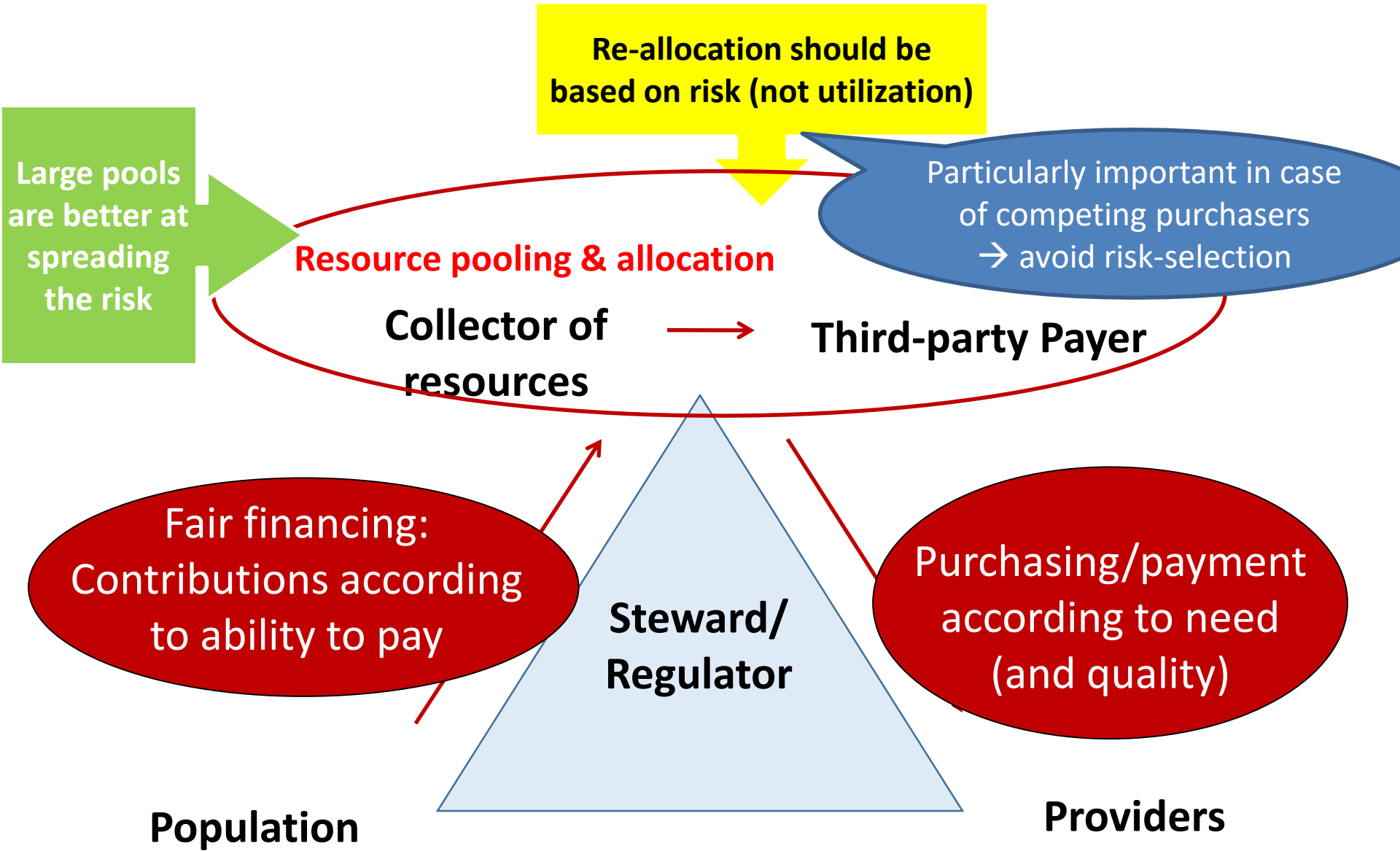
Source: Ghana NHIS claims expenditure in Volta region.

Figure 4.14 NHIS Members and Claims Expenditures, by Number of Inpatient Admissions, Volta, 2014





# Pooling and (re-)allocation is important







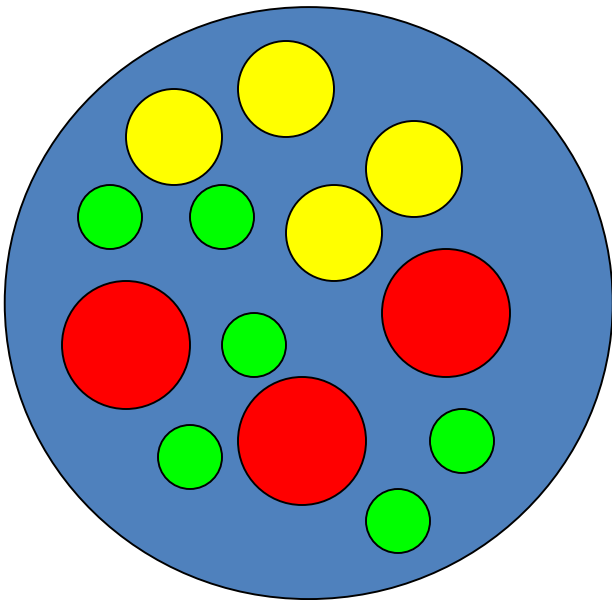
# Problems of (limited) pooling



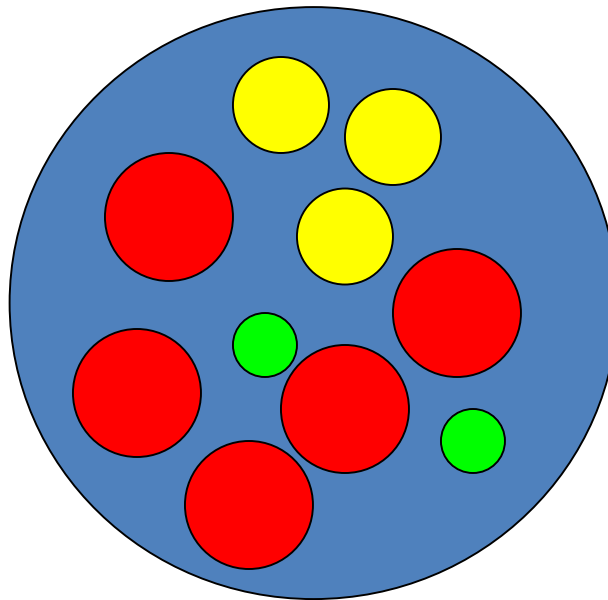
## 1. Risk selection and adverse selection

# Adverse selection (problem with non-mandatory insurance)

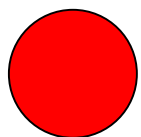
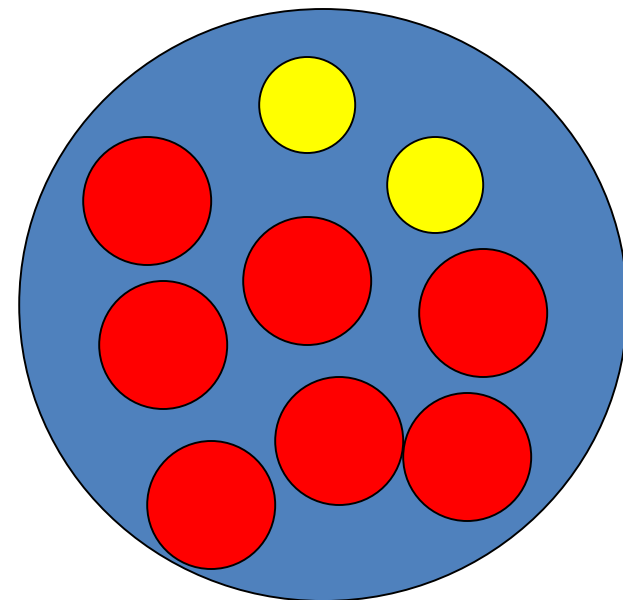
Stage 1



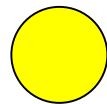
Stage 2



Stage 3



**Sick**



**A bit sick**



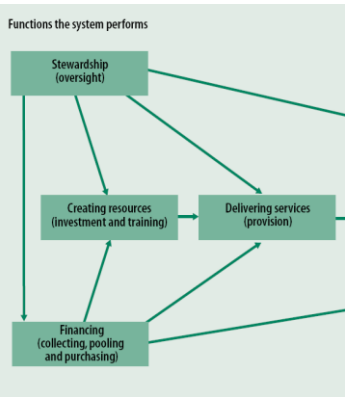
**Healthy**



# Problems of (limited) pooling



1. Risk selection and adverse selection
2. Vertical inequities (rich – poor):  
insufficient funding for health care of the poor
3. Horizontal inequities:  
differences across regions/ health insurance funds



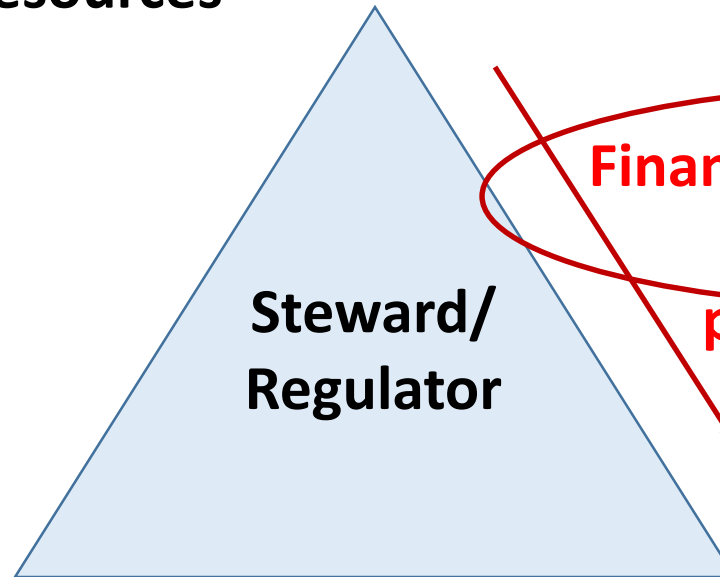
## Financing II: Resource pooling & allocation

Collector of  
resources

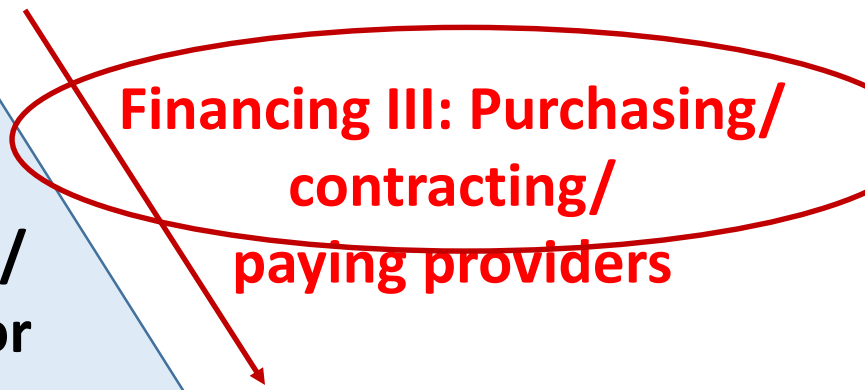


Third-party Payer

Population



Providers



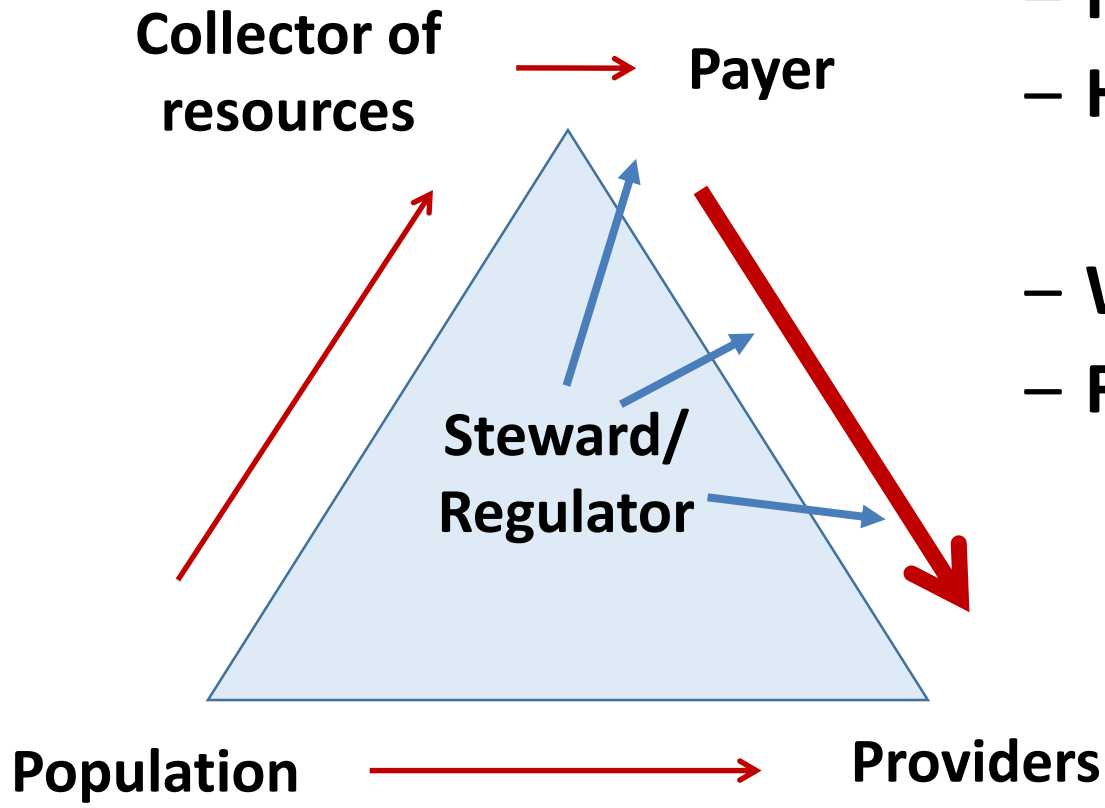


# What is purchasing?





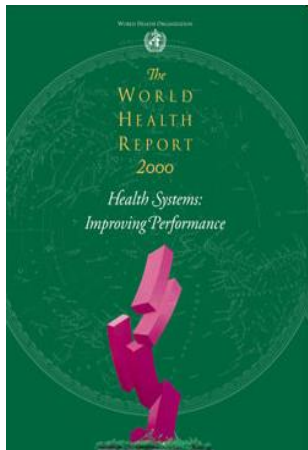
# What is purchasing?



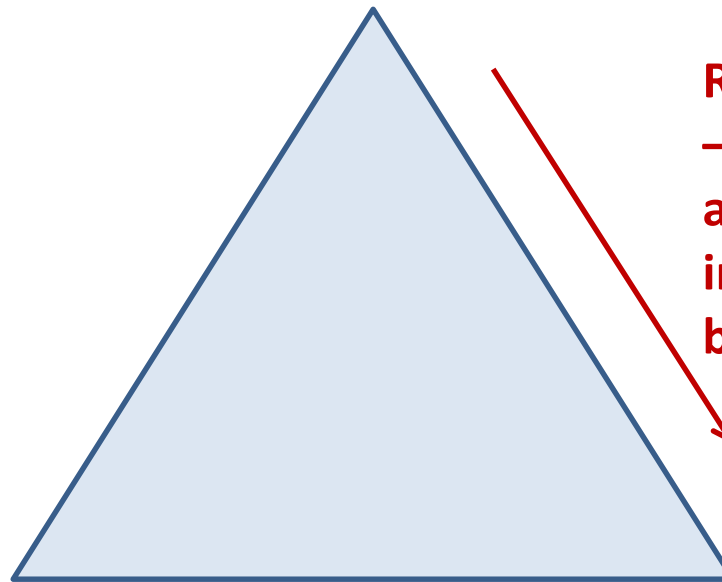
- What services?
- How much?
- From whom?
- How to buy?
  
- Who should buy?
- For whom?

Strategic purchasing = “proactive decisions ... about which services should be purchased, how and from whom” (WHO 2000)

- Ideological context
  - 1990s: ‘New Public Management’ ideas influenced public service reforms especially in US, UK, Australia, New Zealand
  - World Bank influential with World Development Report 1993: *“for some services provided by the public sector, the system of provision is so grossly inefficient that it is unlikely to be cost-effective... Such inefficiencies have been criticised so clearly and for so long that it is evident that they will only be overcome by radical changes in the organisation of health care - such as a shift in the government’s role from providing care to financing care and stimulating competition between providers”*
- Historical context
  - from traditional integrated systems to new NHS type system



## Passive Purchasers (MoH, region, sickness funds)



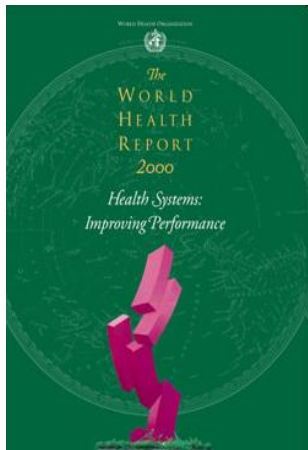
**Resource allocation**  
– based on geographical  
and (more often)  
institutional/ historical  
basis/ paying bills

**Providers**

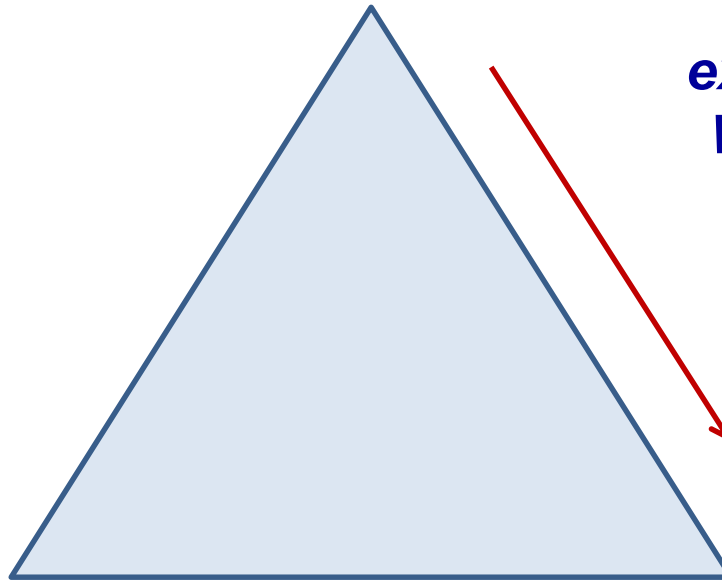
*Advantage: providers  
know budget in advance / can influence  
their revenues*

*Disadvantage: not based on actual  
workloads, outcomes or new technologies*





**Active Purchasers  
(MoH, region, sickness  
funds)**



***Purchasing  
based on contracts:  
explicit decisions about  
WHICH interventions  
(cost-effectiveness,  
needs), HOW  
(incentives), FROM  
WHOM (quality etc.)***

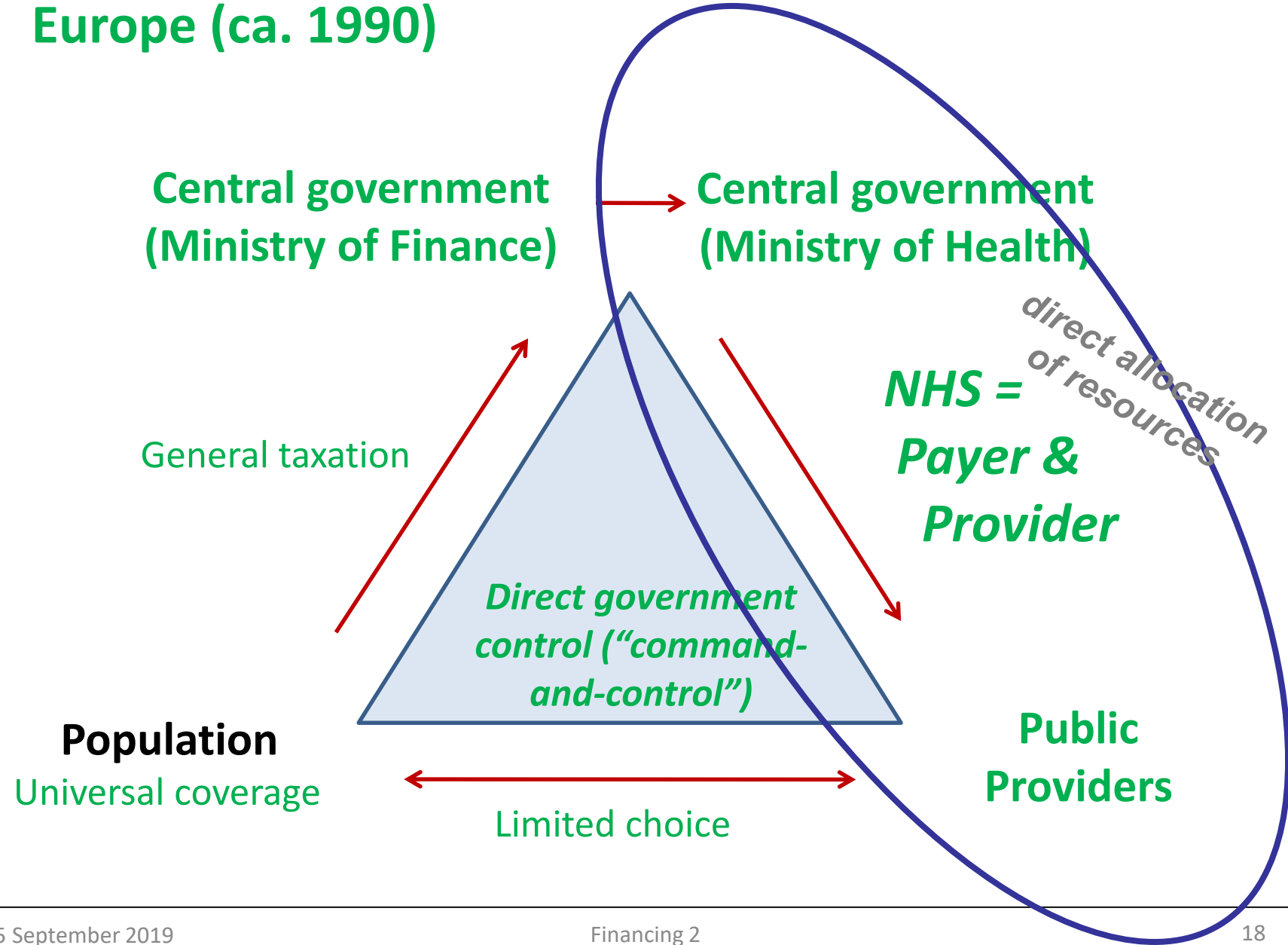
**Providers**

*Advantage: services (ideally) financed according to population health needs, cost-effectiveness etc.*

*Disadvantages: requires information which is often not available or comparable*



# Traditional integrated NHS-type system in Europe (ca. 1990)

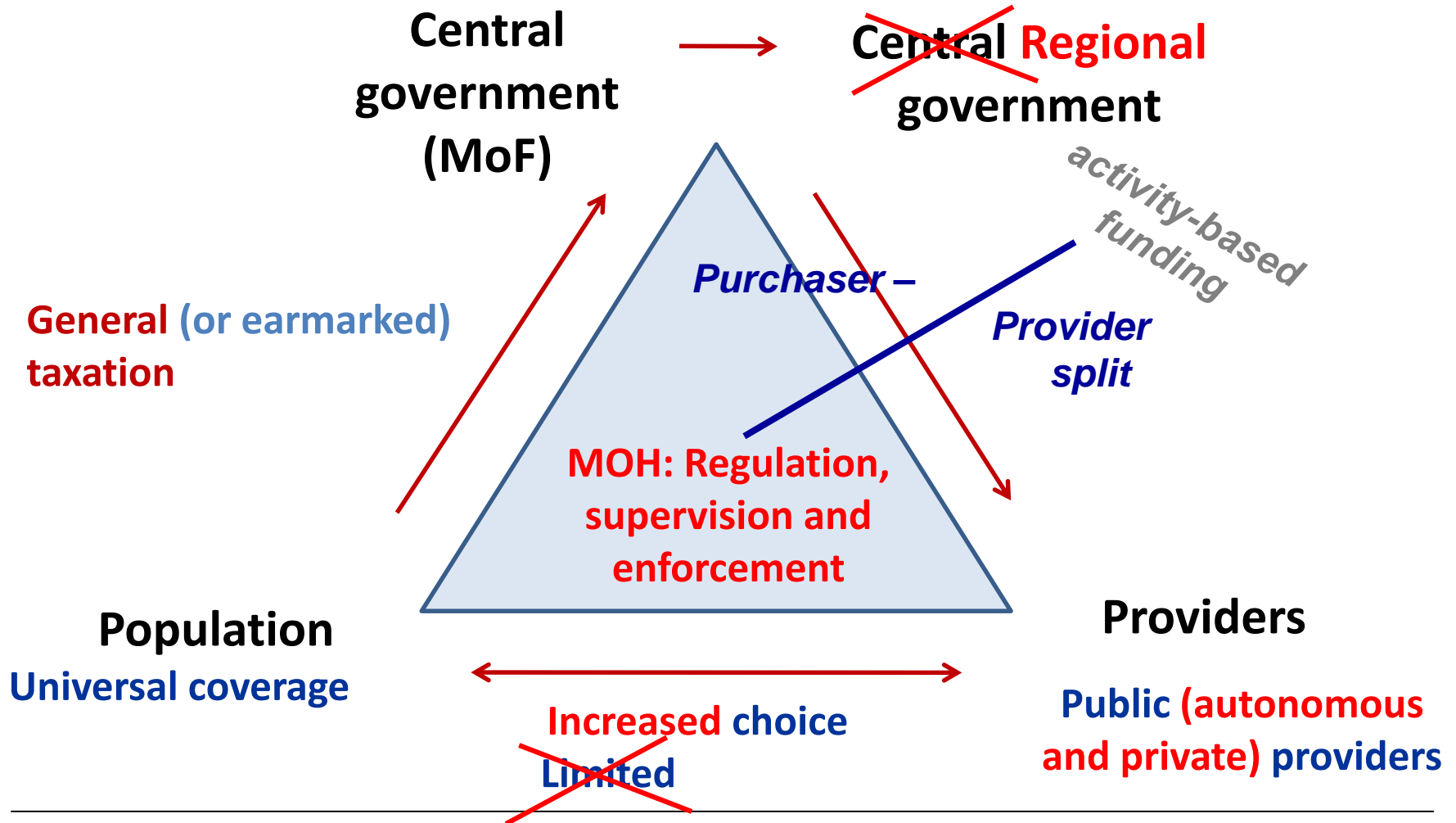




# New NHS-type systems in Europe



→ Convergence with SHI systems

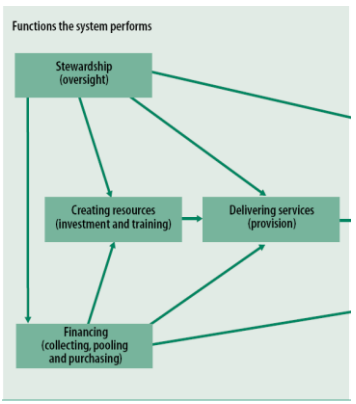




## Purchasing in theory... it ought to work!



- Links resource allocation to plans/ priorities
  - Gives levers to influence provider behavior
  - Encourages management decentralization
  - Enables purchaser and provider competition
- *Improves performance!***

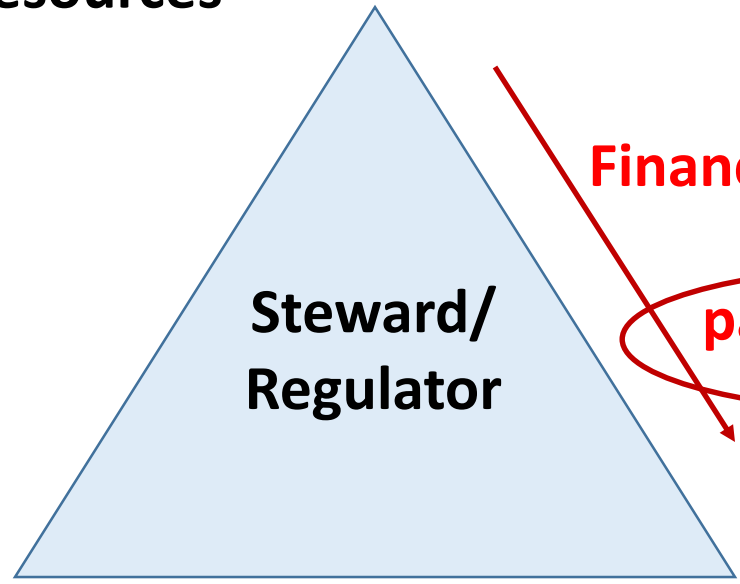


## Financing II: Resource pooling & allocation

Collector of  
resources



Third-party Payer



Financing III: Purchasing/  
contracting/  
paying providers

Population

Providers



## Aims of provider payment:

### What do we want providers to do? That...



- they care for patients when they need care?  
... and do not risk-select ...
- they provide services? ... and are not idle ...
- services are provided only if appropriate?  
... and not unnecessarily ...
- expenditure is well controlled? ... and not sky-rocketing ...
- services are efficiently provided? ... and money not wasted ...
- service provision is transparent? ... and not opaque ...
- provided services are of high quality?  
... and do not endanger patient safety ...



# Basic forms of payment



- **Fee-for-service (FFS):** every single service is paid separately (each ECG, each physical examination ...)
- **Capitation:** a provider (most often a general practitioner) receives a sum of money per patient per year (or 3 months) for all services for that patient during that period
- ***Per diem:*** *an inpatient provider receives a sum of money per patient per day (independent of diagnosis and treatment)*
- **Diagnosis-related group (DRG) payment:** a provider (usually an acute care hospital) receives a sum of money for a patient depending on diagnosis for all services (from admission to discharge including surgery, pharmaceuticals ...)
- **Global budget** (for hospitals/ institutions) and **salary** (for physicians): a fixed sum of money for all patients treated within a certain period of time



# Advantages and disadvantages of different hospital payment mechanisms



Payment mechanism	Patient needs (risk selection)	Activity		Expenditure control	Technical efficiency	Transparency	Quality	Administrative simplicity
		Number of cases	Number of services/cases					
Fee-for-service	+	+	+	-	0	0	0	-

**Risk of overtreatment**





# Advantages and disadvantages of different hospital payment mechanisms



Payment mechanism	Patient needs (risk selection)	Activity		Expenditure control	Technical efficiency	Transparency	Quality	Administrative simplicity
		Number of cases	Number of services/cases					
Fee-for-service	+	+	+	-	0	0	0	-
							Risk of overtreatment	
Global budget	-	-	-	+	0	-	0	+
							Risk of undertreatment	



# Advantages and disadvantages of different hospital payment mechanisms



Payment mechanism	Patient needs (risk selection)	Activity		Expenditure control	Technical efficiency	Transparency	Quality	Administrative simplicity
		Number of cases	Number of services/cases					
Fee-for-service	+	+	+	-	0	0	0	-
DRG based case payment	0	+	-	0	+	+	0	-
Global budget	-	-	-	+	0	-	0	+



# Advantages and disadvantages of different physician payment mechanisms



Payment mechanism	Patient needs (risk selection)	Activity		Expenditure control	Technical efficiency	Transparency	Quality	Administrative simplicity
		Number of cases	Number of services/case					
Fee-for-service	+	+	+	-	0	0	0	-
						Risk of overtreatment		
Salary	0	-	-	+	0	-	0	+
						Risk of undertreatment		



# Advantages and disadvantages of different physician payment mechanisms



Payment mechanism	Patient needs (risk selection)	Activity		Expenditure control	Technical efficiency	Transparency	Quality	Administrative simplicity
		Number of cases	Number of services/case					
Fee-for-service	+	+	+	-	0	0	0	-
Capitation	- (if not risk-adjusted)	+	-	+	+	-	0	0
Salary	0	-	-	+	0	-	0	+



# Conclusions



- Pooling and (re-)allocation are important to ensure purchasing and service provision according to need and – in case of purchaser competition – to avoid risk-selection.
- Resource allocation should be based on risk, i.e. health needs of the population covered by purchaser
- Strategic purchasing can – in theory – contribute to improving performance... but difficult to implement.
- Payment systems have far reaching consequences for efficiency and quality of care. Blended payment systems (combining basic mechanisms) can reduce unintended incentives of basic payment mechanisms



**Thank you very much!**



*Health System Financing will be further explored in the Financing module 4 Nov – 15 Nov.*