



Swiss TPH



Global Health in the 21st Century: Covid-Impact: The Science Perspective

Marcel Tanner

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute

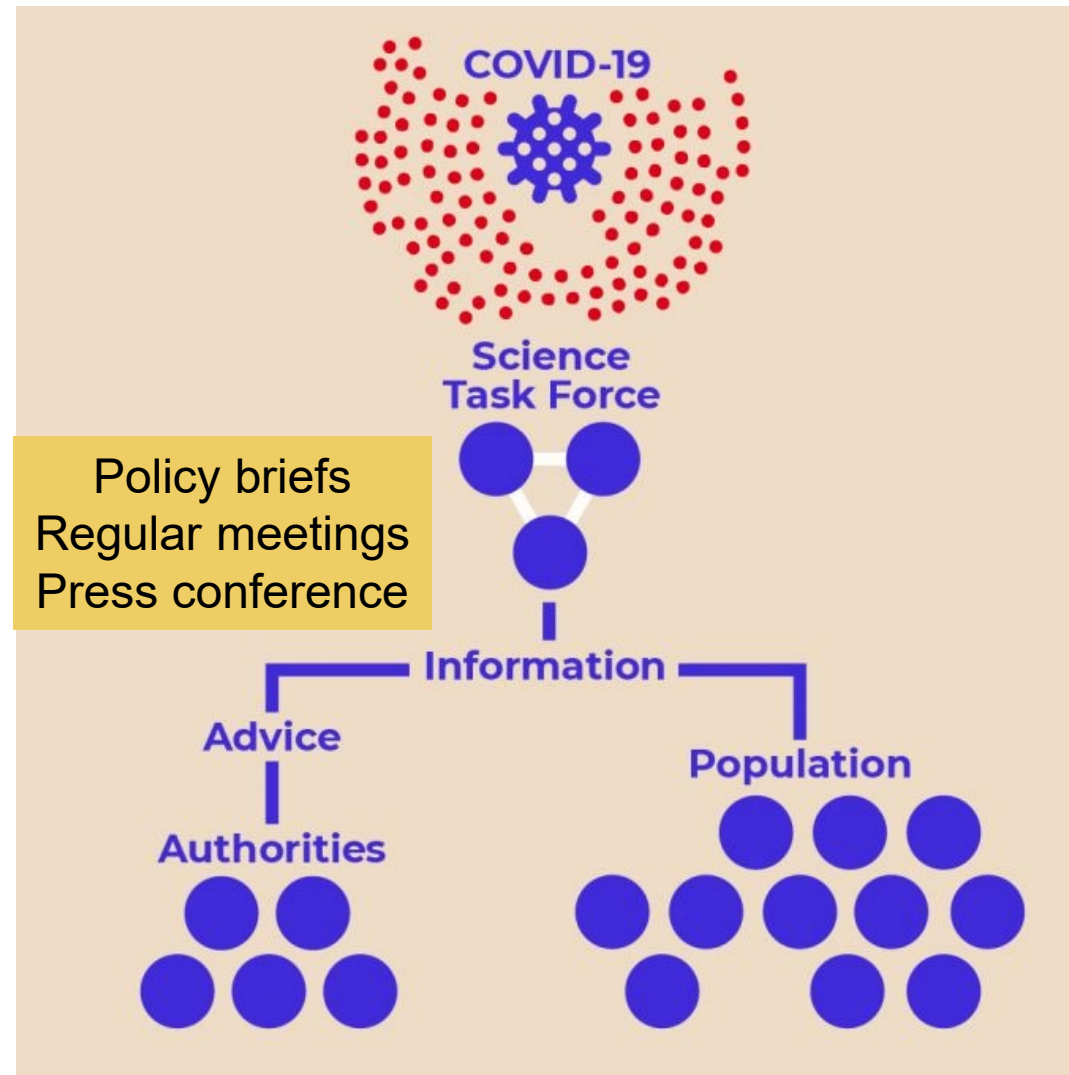
Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences

Basel, 29 June 2021

Swiss National Science Covid-19 Task Force

Back to session 2: Getting evidence into systems

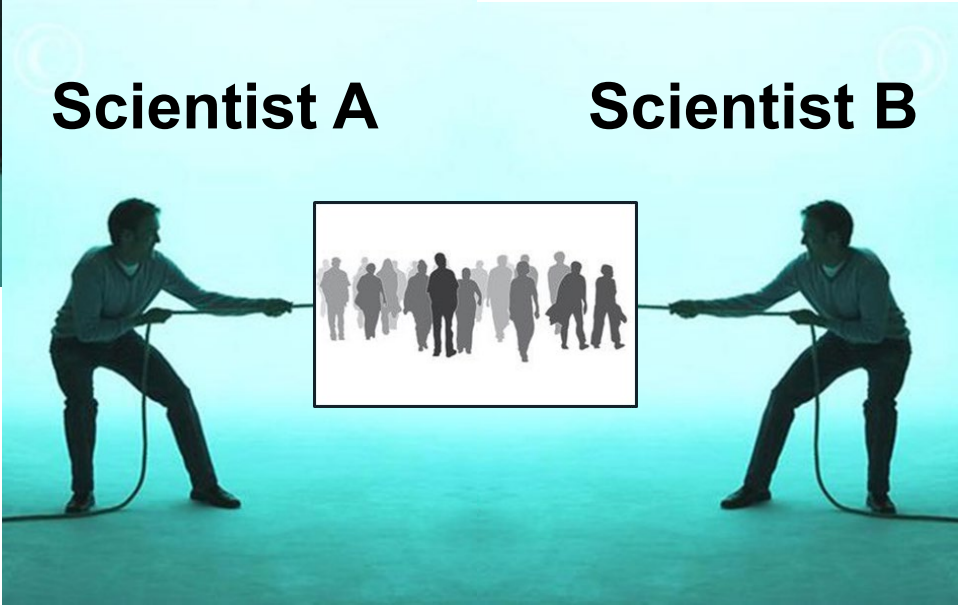
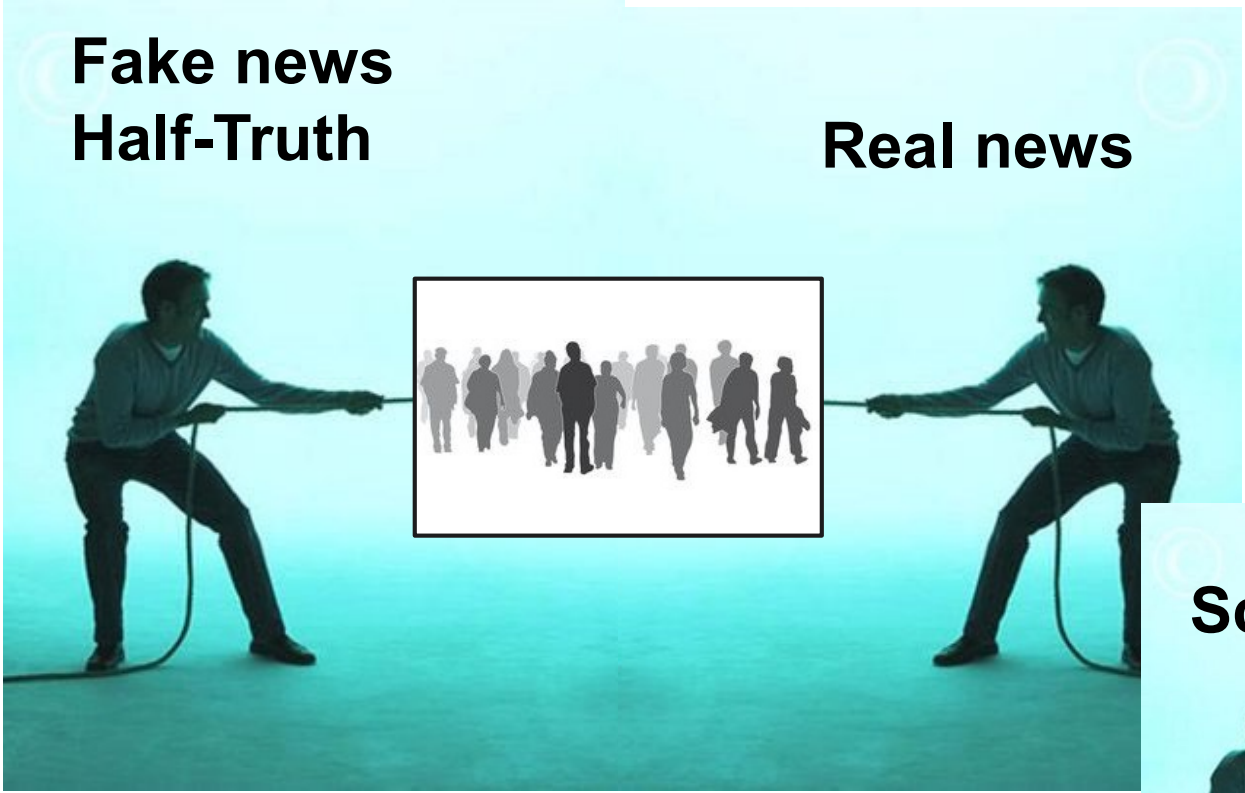
Swiss National Science Covid-19 Task Force



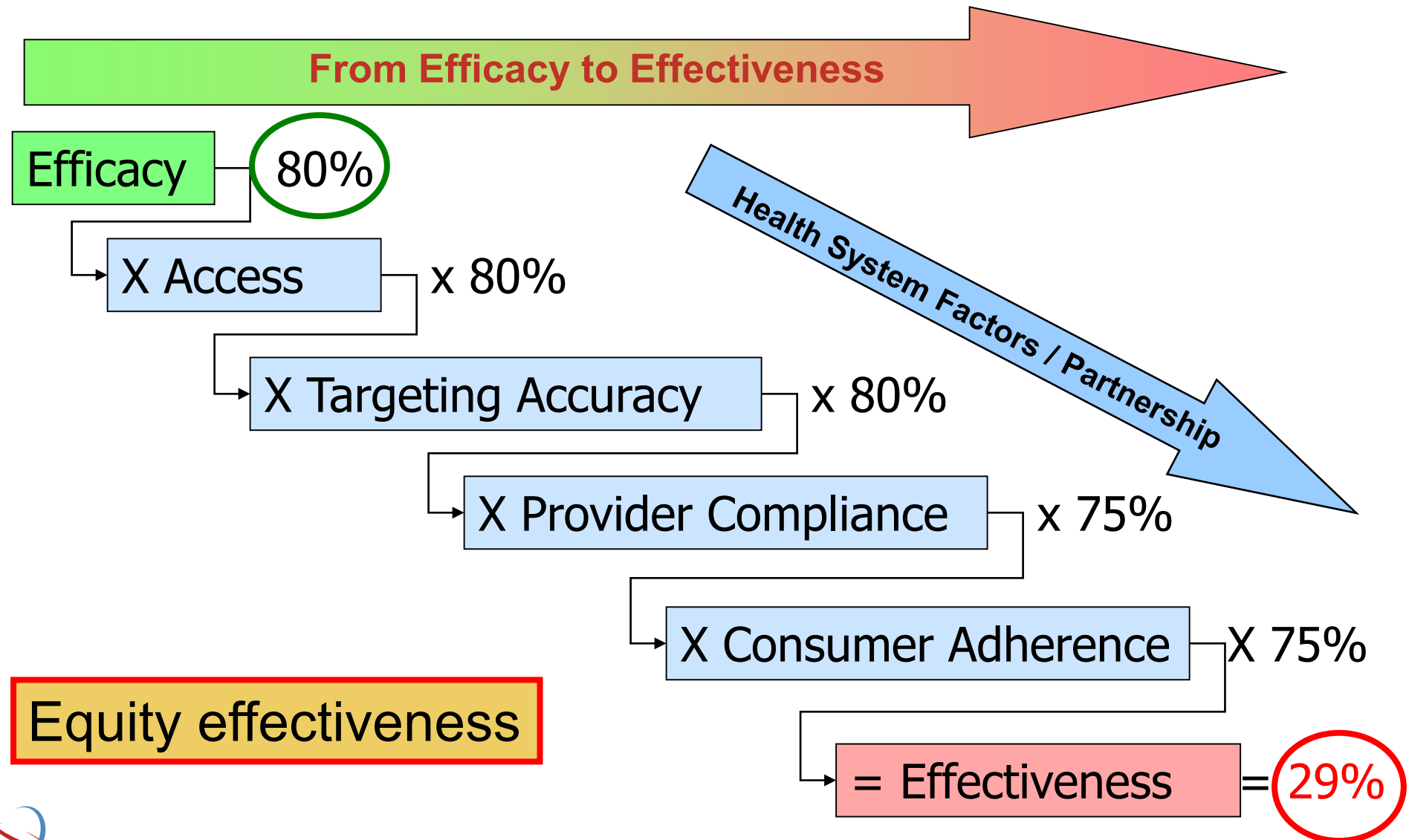
The first pandemic event in the age of social media



A crisis only amplifies

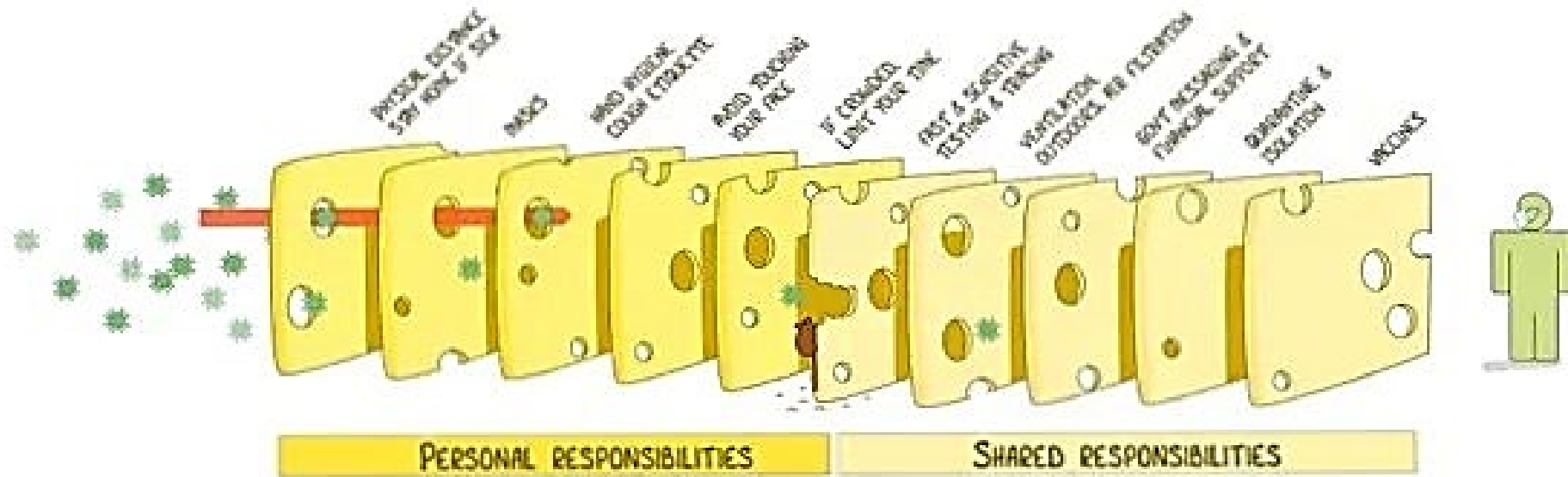


From efficacy to community effectiveness – be effective



THE SWISS CHEESE RESPIRATORY VIRUS PANDEMIC DEFENCE

RECOGNISING THAT NO SINGLE INTERVENTION IS PERFECT AT PREVENTING SPREAD



EACH INTERVENTION (LAYER) HAS IMPERFECTIONS (HOLES).
(MULTIPLE LAYERS IMPROVE SUCCESS.)

Processes – Roles and Responsibilities
Decentralization – Federal Systems
Pandemic a Global Public Health Problem and no health-economics dichotomy
«we are in the same and one boat»

Strategy: Surveillance – Response

Identify foci and chains of transmission to allow targeted and tailored action

- Systems are established but rapid processes with well assigned roles and responsibilities must be optimized.
- Regional approaches possible – decentralization
- **Public Health response packages tailored to transmission situation/setting - to avoid regional and national lockdowns**
- **Also:** Surveillance of inequities - response

Backbone: efficient TTIQ - “traditional” and/or with Apps (Swisscovid-App)



Science to policy – Science to Society

Overcome Infodemic in times of Pandemic, and always

Content

- Tell what we know and also what we do not know yet - and quality of evidence
- Show options for actions within **context of situation and with risk-benefit perspective**

➤ Policy relevant statements NO policy prescriptions

Process – the transmission belt – scientist as honest broker

- Iterative – «story telling» to inform and not to persuade
- No propaganda, teaching or preaching – communication (balance, accessible, comprehensible!)
- Provide perspectives

Key Issue: Culture of Science

Translation

Authorities: national - cantonal

- Roles and responsibilities, particularly in federalist system/decentralization depending on pandemic state

Media

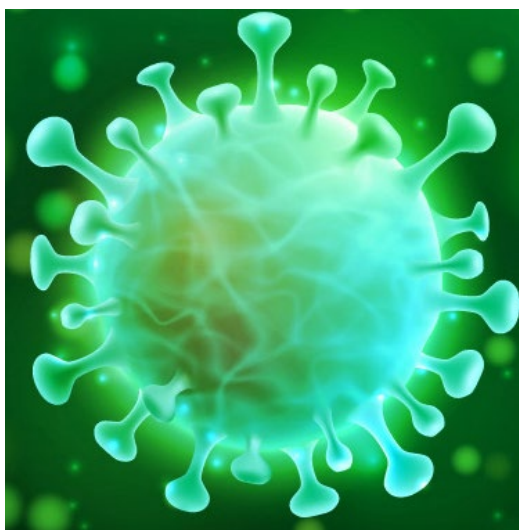
- Iterative process
- Science journalism
- Editors

Population

- Communication processes: general and targeted
- Creative listening – be inclusive not exclusive



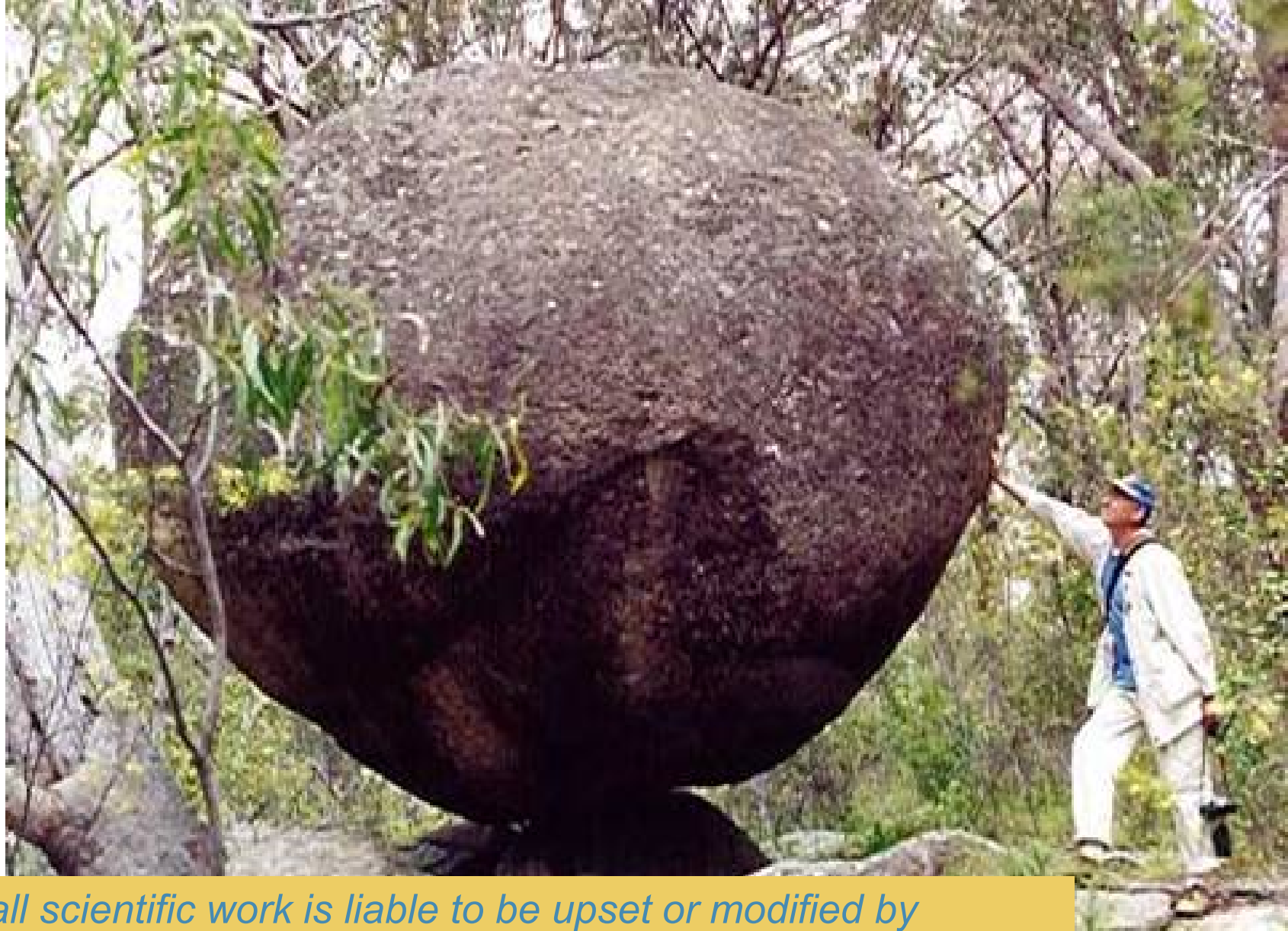
Covid-19 Pandemie



«Silent» AMR Pandemie



...The ethical dimension and context... and more humble and pragmatic...



„...all scientific work is incomplete...all scientific work is liable to be upset or modified by advancing knowledge. That does not confer to us a freedom to ignore the knowledge we already have, or to postpone the action that it appears to demand at a given time...”

A.B. Hill (1965)

Thank you very much!

