

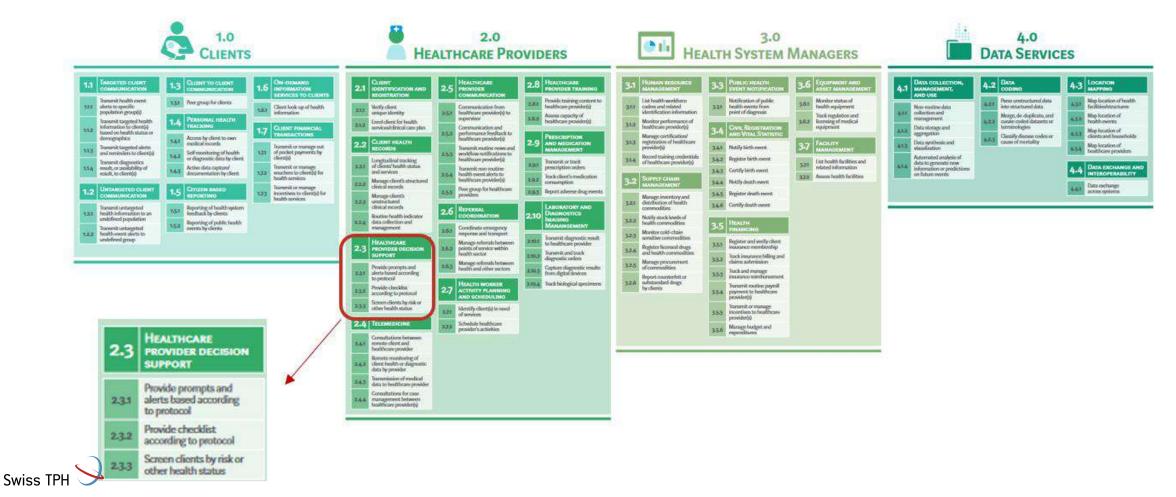
# **Clinical Decision-Support Systems**

Presented by: Talia Salzmann Digital Health Unit, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute



### Digital Health interventions for Health Systems Strengthening





### What is a Clinical Decision-Support System (CDSS)?



'digitized job aids that combine an individual's health information with the health worker's knowledge and clinical protocols to assist health workers in making diagnosis and treatment decisions'

WHO 2019





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WHO 2019

"any on-screen tool designed to improve adherence of physicians to a recommended process of care"

Kwan et al 2020

[the process that] "provides clinicians, staff, patients, or other individuals with knowledge and person-specific information, intelligently filtered or presented at appropriate times, to enhance health and health care"

Osheroff et al 2007

CDS do not simply assist with the retrieval of relevant information; they **communicate information** that takes into consideration the **particular clinical context**, offering **situation-specific information** and **recommendations**.

Musen et al 2021

#### What does a CDSS look like?



Infobuttons – targeted links to relevant information, articles, guidance

**Alerts** e.g. penicillin allergy, need to assess vaccination status, suggesting a generic alternative for a drug

**Order sets** – e.g. pre-selected list of investigations for patient with specific disease / syndrome

**Calculations** of risk score, drug dosage...

**Organisation / display** of patient information e.g. dashboards / reports

**Diagnostic and treatment support** 



#### Bronchial asthma

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory condition with reversible airway obstruction. Symptoms usually start after 2 years of age but may present earlier.

Diagnostic criteria

- Paroxysmal respiratory distress
- Recurrent cough
- Wheeze
- Chest tightness
- Forced expiratory volume 1 of less than 80%
- Good response to treatment with a bronchodilator

#### Investigation

- FPB
- ABG analysis
- Chest X-ray: often normal, therefore not routinely required
- Spirometry

#### Treatment

Nonpharmacological

Give oxygen 2–4 L/min.

Pharmacological

- Severe asthma
- Admit to hospital:
  - Give nebulized salbutamol 5 mg (i.e., 0.5 mL of the 5 mg/mL nebulizer solution) PLUS budesonide 0.25 mg once daily.
  - Repeat intermittently every 4-6 hours until the child is stable.
  - Step down to metered dose inhalation for stable children.

• Introduce two puffs (200 mcg) into the spacer chamber every 6–8 hours For persistent asthma, give salmeterol 50 mg every 12 hours and fluticasone metered dose inhalation: 50 mcg/puff, 125 mcg/puff, 250 mcg/puff, starting dose 50–250 mg every 12 hours can be used.

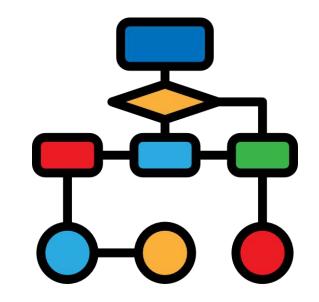
#### Note:

- Mild asthma: Use salbutamol metered dose inhalation 400 mg as needed.
- Intermittent asthma: Use salbutamol/budesonide every 12 hours.
- Chronic, persistent asthma: Use salmeterol/fluticasone every 12 hours.

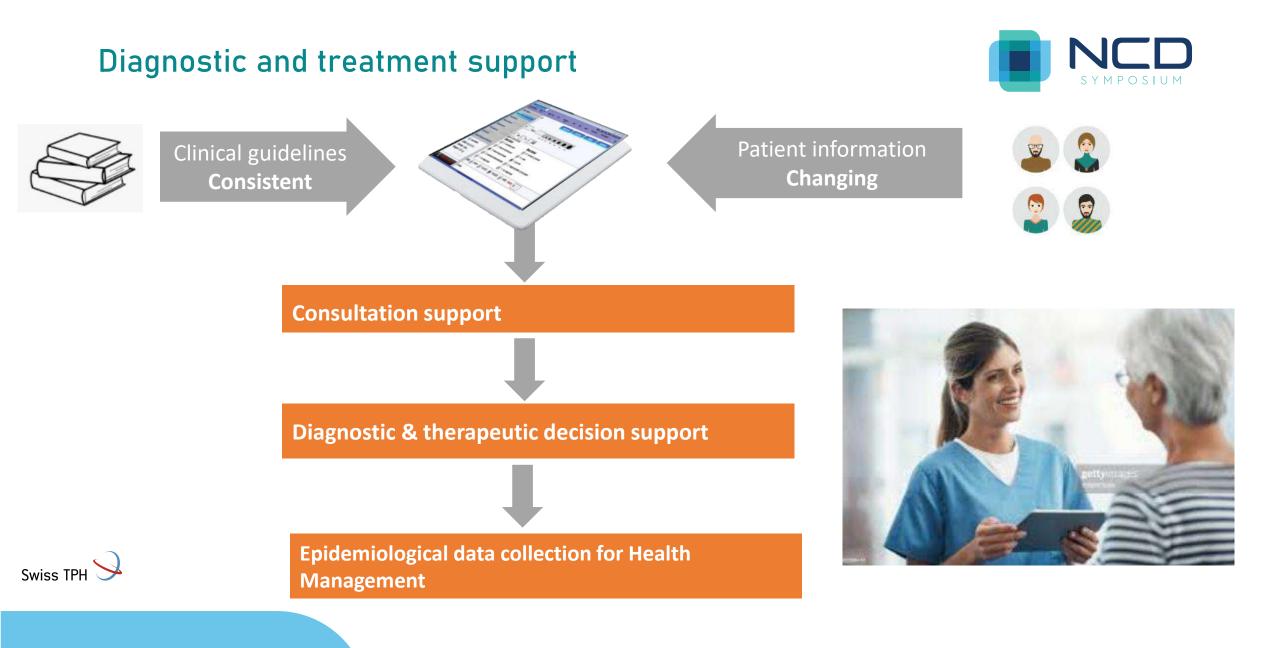


#### Combine:

- Knowledge base
- Individual health information
  - Using decision-logic







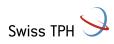
The tool guides the healthcare provider through the encounter

Suggests what is relevant for this specific patient:

- Examinations and diagnostic tests
- Diagnosis / risk scores
- Treatment
  - including dose calculation
- Referral
- Explanations & follow-up advice













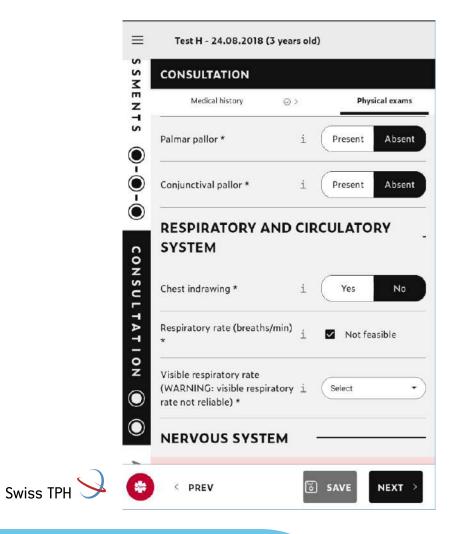


**₽**⊘

Lab tests

#### Additional supportive features can be built in







### Drug dosage calculation - example

Treatment

- » Antibiotic Pre-referral treatment
- \*Is it possible to give Ceftriaxone (IM)?
  - YesNo

Give first dose of **Ceftriaxone (IM)**: (80-100mg/kg/dose, single dose per day)

Powder vial of 1 g (1000mg): mix the powder (1g) with 3.5ml of sterile water for injection, to obtain a solution containing 250mg Ceftriaxone per 1ml (or 1g per 4ml)

For this child, give one dose of **3.0 ml** [250mg/ml] of Ceftriaxone IM







## Many shapes and sizes



Patie

Medical problems

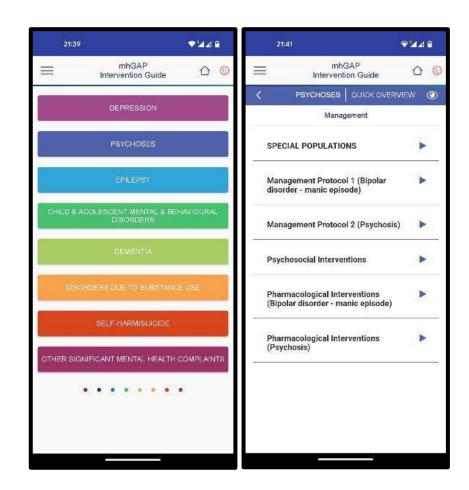


- Different level of care: PHC, specialised hospitals...
- Different users: assistant nurses, doctors, specialists...
- Different clinical scope

& also

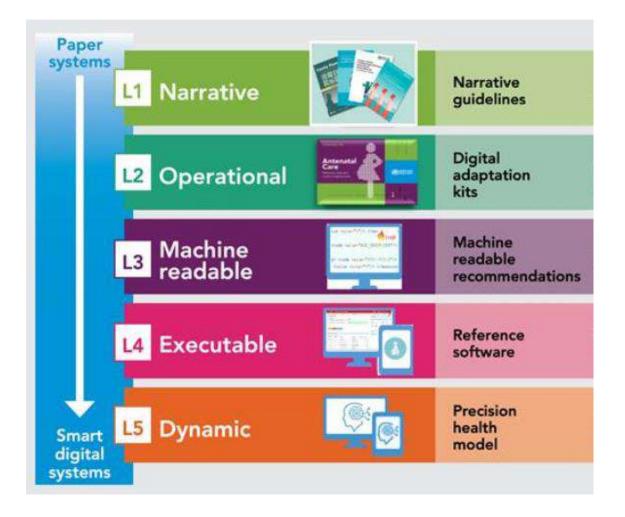
- Clinical approach: Integrated, disease-specific, triage...
- Different devices: mobile phones, tablets, computers...
- Different place in the Health Information Management System: standalone, integrated with an EMR...





## From paper guidelines to a digital app





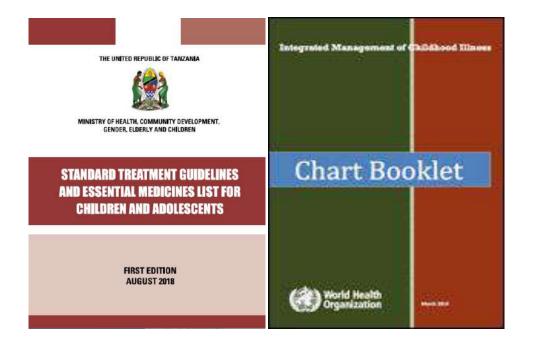


# Step 1: Review and compile available guidelines



Working with Ministries of Health, National Technical Expert Groups, Research Institutions, WHO and others

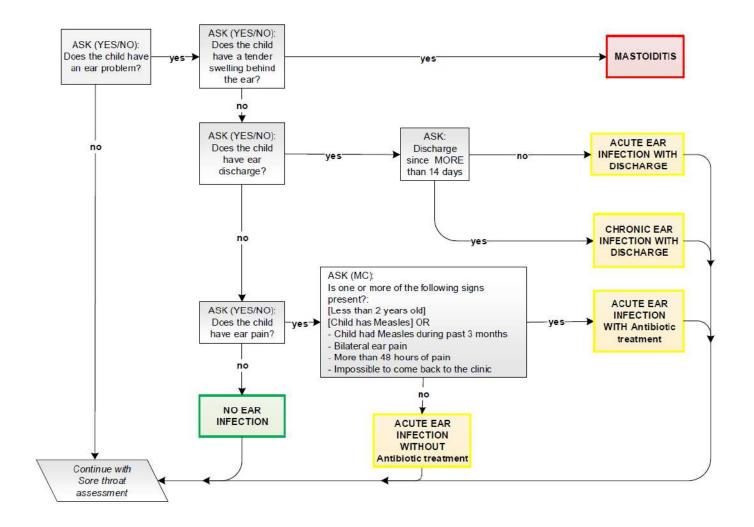
*Resolve issues Update or adapt* 





# Step 2: Convert guidelines into a decision-tree / algorithm







#### Step 3: Convert into machine-readable format



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#### Step 4: Convert into an app



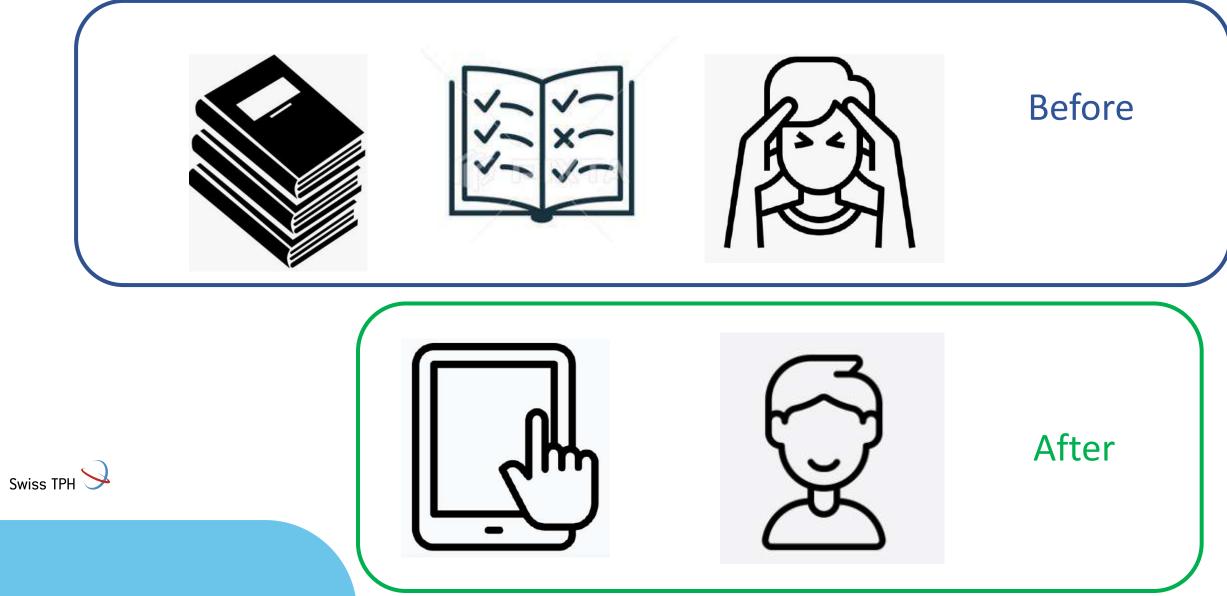
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# Healthcare provider:





# Health information: aggregated data

As «side-effect», large amounts of data can be collected

This data can inform:

- Epidemiological surveillance
- Planning of health services at regional or facility-level
- $\,\circ\,$  Training and mentoring of clinicians
- Public health interventions
- 0 ...

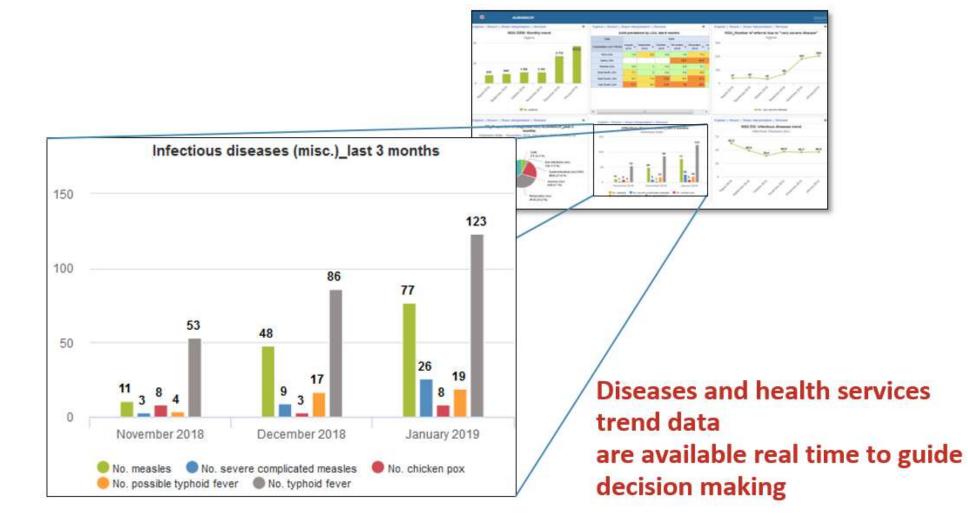






#### Aggregated data - example





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## A new and evolving body of research

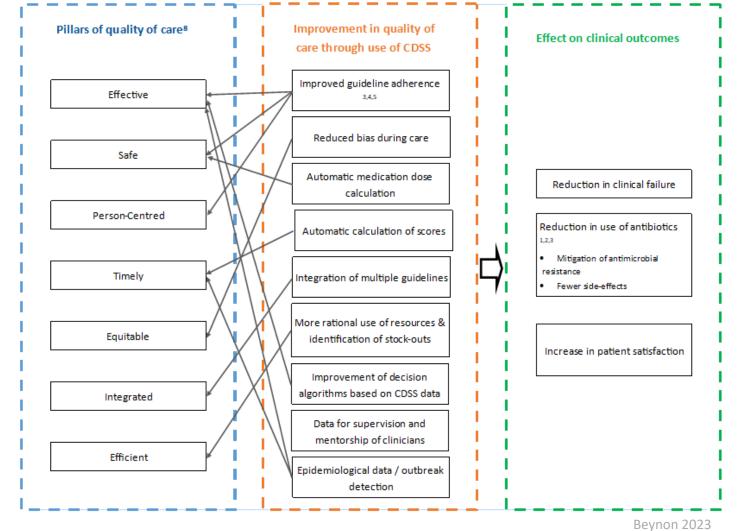


| Effect o  |   | al Medicine<br>cal Decision-Support Systems   | Review            |                                 |
|---|---|---|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| A Systematic<br>Tiffani J. Brigh<br>Gregory Sams<br>Gillian D. Sand |   | Computerised clinical decision support systems and absolute improvements in care: meta-analysis of controlled clinical trials   |                   |                                 |
|   | Janice L<br>George<br>the <b>bmj</b> li | Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews Review - Intervention<br>Decision-support tools via mobile devices to improve quality of care<br>in primary healthcare settings   |                   |                                 |
| _   |   | Smisha Agarwal, Claire Glenton, Tigest Tamrat, Nicholas Henschke, N<br>Simon Lewin Authors' declarations of interest<br>Version published: 27 July 2021 Version history<br>https://doi.org/10.1002/14651858.CD012944.pub2 🗗 | licola Maayan, Ma | arita S Fønhus, Garrett L Mehl, |



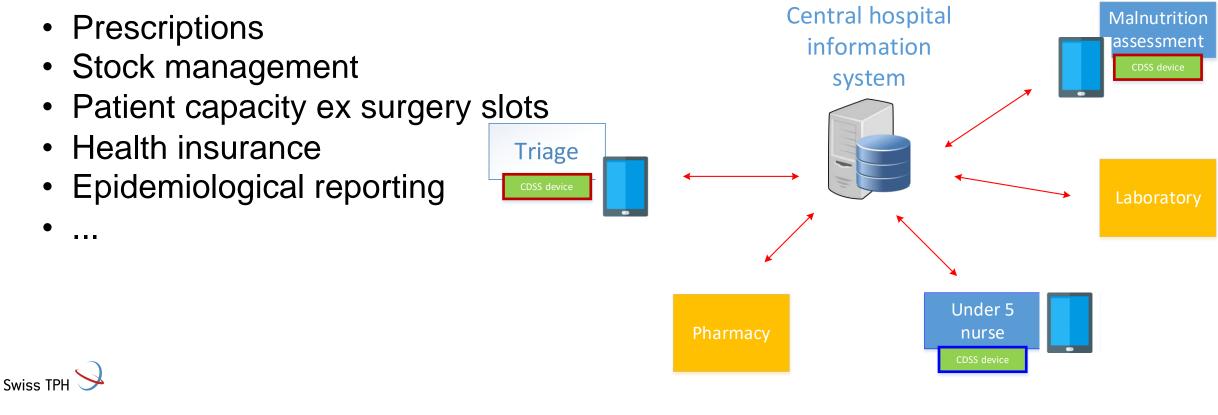
### CDSS and quality of care







- Better communication with the patient / caregiver
- Enhanced referral



### Interoperability in the digital health ecosystem

Test results



### CDSS for NCDs?

- Longitudinal follow-up
- Polypharmacy / drug interaction
- Standardised screening both for initial diagnosis and complications
- Comprehensive counselling
- Multimorbidity

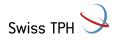


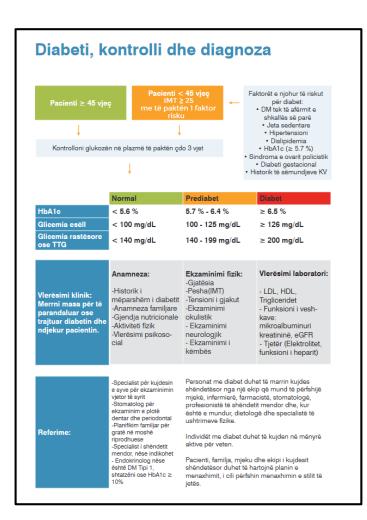




### CDSS for diabetes?

- General triage / screening for (pre)diabetes
- Management of acute cases (hypo/hyper)
- Screening for complications/non-acute follow-up
- Longitudinal follow-up ex: HbA1C history



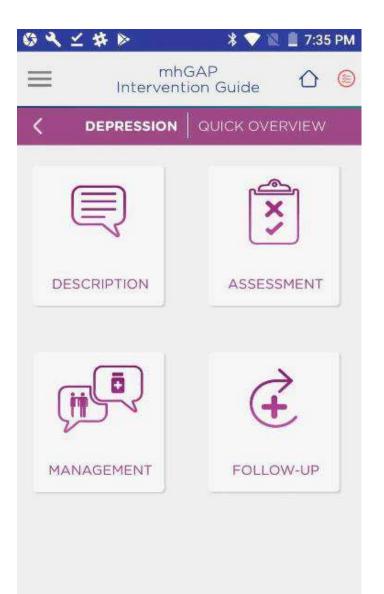




# Thank you

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#### STEP 1: Assess for depression

Has the person had at least one of the following core symptoms of depression for at least 2 weeks?

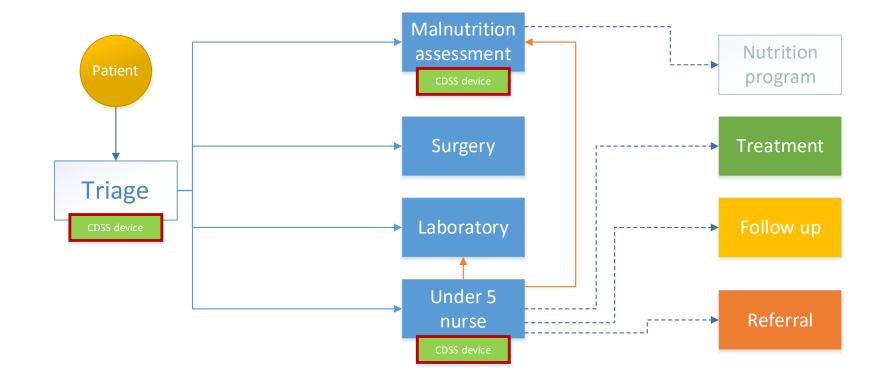
- · Persistent depressed mood
- Markedly diminished interest in or

pleasure from activities



#### Integrating a CDSS in the care pathway





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#### Universal Health coverage and CDSS



#### FIGURE 1 LAYERS OF UHC ACHIEVEMENT AFFECTED BY HEALTH SYSTEM PERFORMANCE HEALTH SYSTEM CHALLENGES LIMITING UHC FOR TARGET POPULATION FINANCIAL COVERAGE The proportion of patients • AFFORDABILITY protected from impoverishment due to health-related costs EFFECTIVE COVERAGE The proportion of individuals QUALITY receiving satisfactory health services among the target population CONTINUOUS COVERAGE The extent to which clients receive POTENTIAL the full course of intervention required to be effective for the second second second second second second 2 DEMAND FOR CONTACT COVERAGE Proportion of clients who have contact with DIGITAL relevant facilities, providers and services among the target population HEALTH INTERVENTIONS AVAILABILITY OF COMMODITIES AND EQUIPMENT Ensuring availability of commodities and equipment H **AVAILABILITY OF HUMAN RESOURCES** SUPPLY Ensuring availability of human resources ACCESSIBILITY OF HEALTH FACILITIES Ensuring access to health facilities ACCOUNTABILITY COVERAGE ACCOUNTABILITY 0:0 The proportion of those in the target population registered into the health system TARGET POPULATION

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Source: adapted from Tanahashi, 1978.

#### Quality of care





#### **EFFECTIVE COVERAGE**

The proportion of individuals receiving satisfactory health services among the target population

#### **ILLUSTRATIVE HEALTH SYSTEM CHALLENGES**

Poor adherence to guidelines

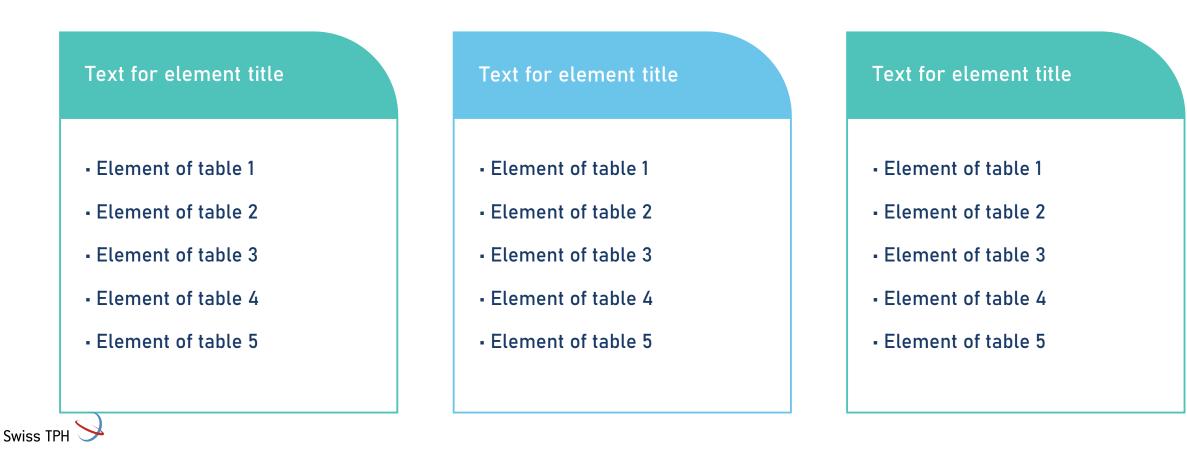
Lack of or inappropriate referrals

Insufficient health worker competence



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#### Title 1

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