

ECCMID 2019

Fast and furious in infection control: how to be successful in seven steps

***Third: organise information flow
among infection control, antibiotic
stewardship, and microbiology teams***

Walter Zingg, PD, MD

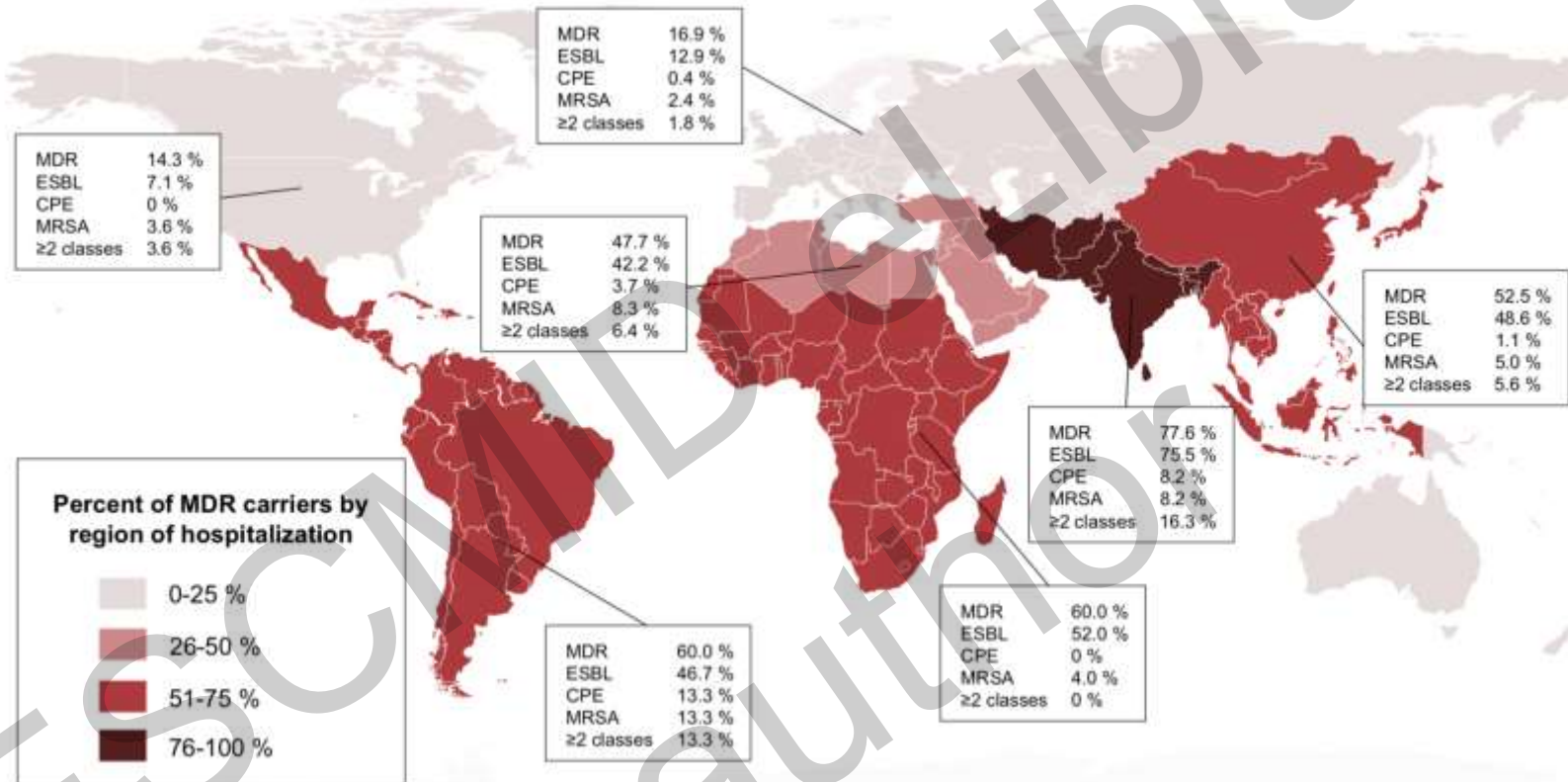
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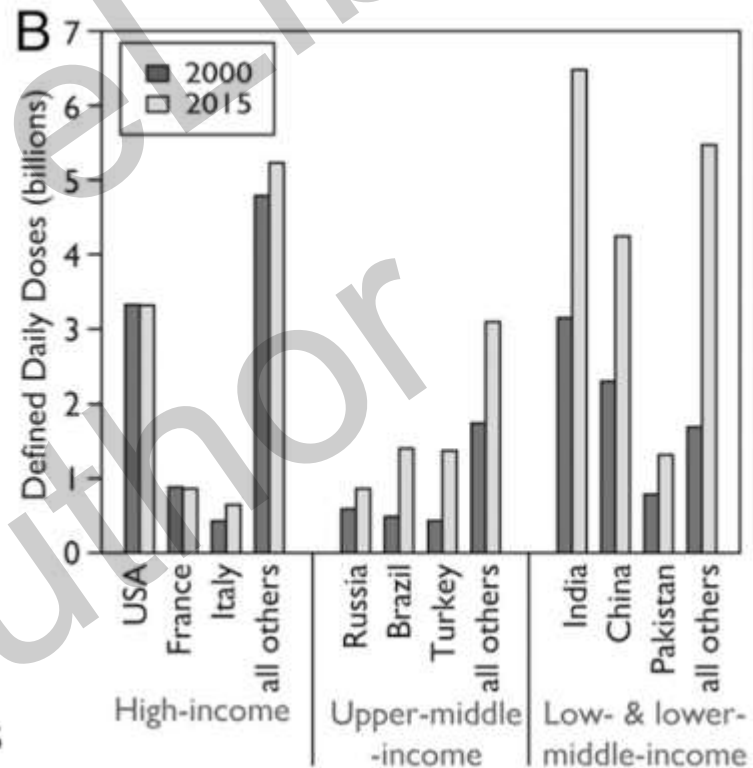
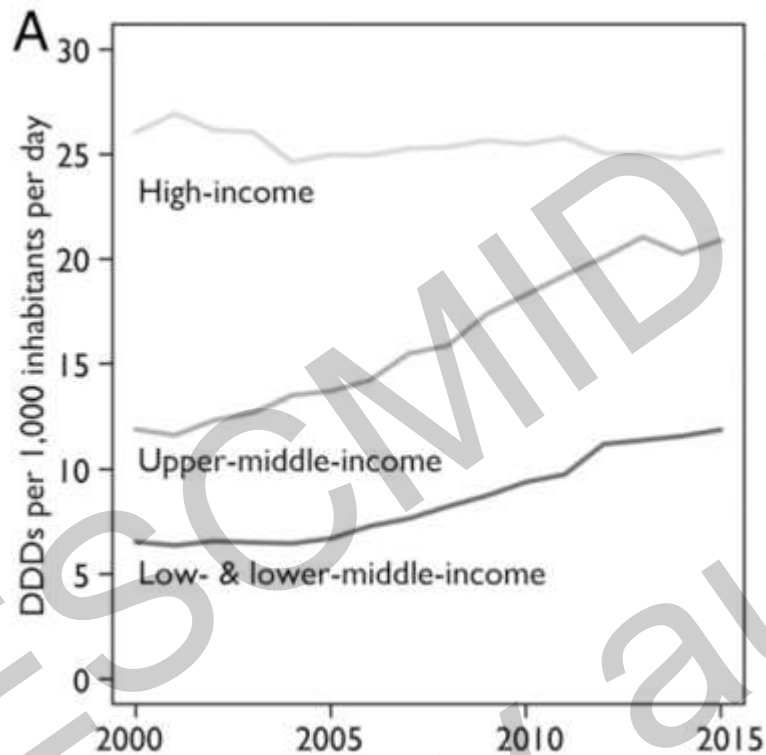


Multidrug-resistant organisms in patients hospitalised abroad



1122 patients returning to Finland after being hospitalised abroad

Antimicrobial consumption



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Infection prevention and control professionals

| CBIC domains | TRICE areas | APIC domains |
|--|--|--|
| Management and communication (leadership) | Programme management | Leadership and programme management |
| Surveillance and epidemiologic investigations | Surveillance and investigation of healthcare-associated infections | Technology Infection prevention and control |
| Preventing/controlling the transmission of infectious agents | Infection control activities | Performance improvement and implementation science |
| Education and research | Quality improvement | |
| Identification of infectious diseases processes | | |
| Employee/occupational health | | |



HOSPITAL

Nurse

Pharmacist

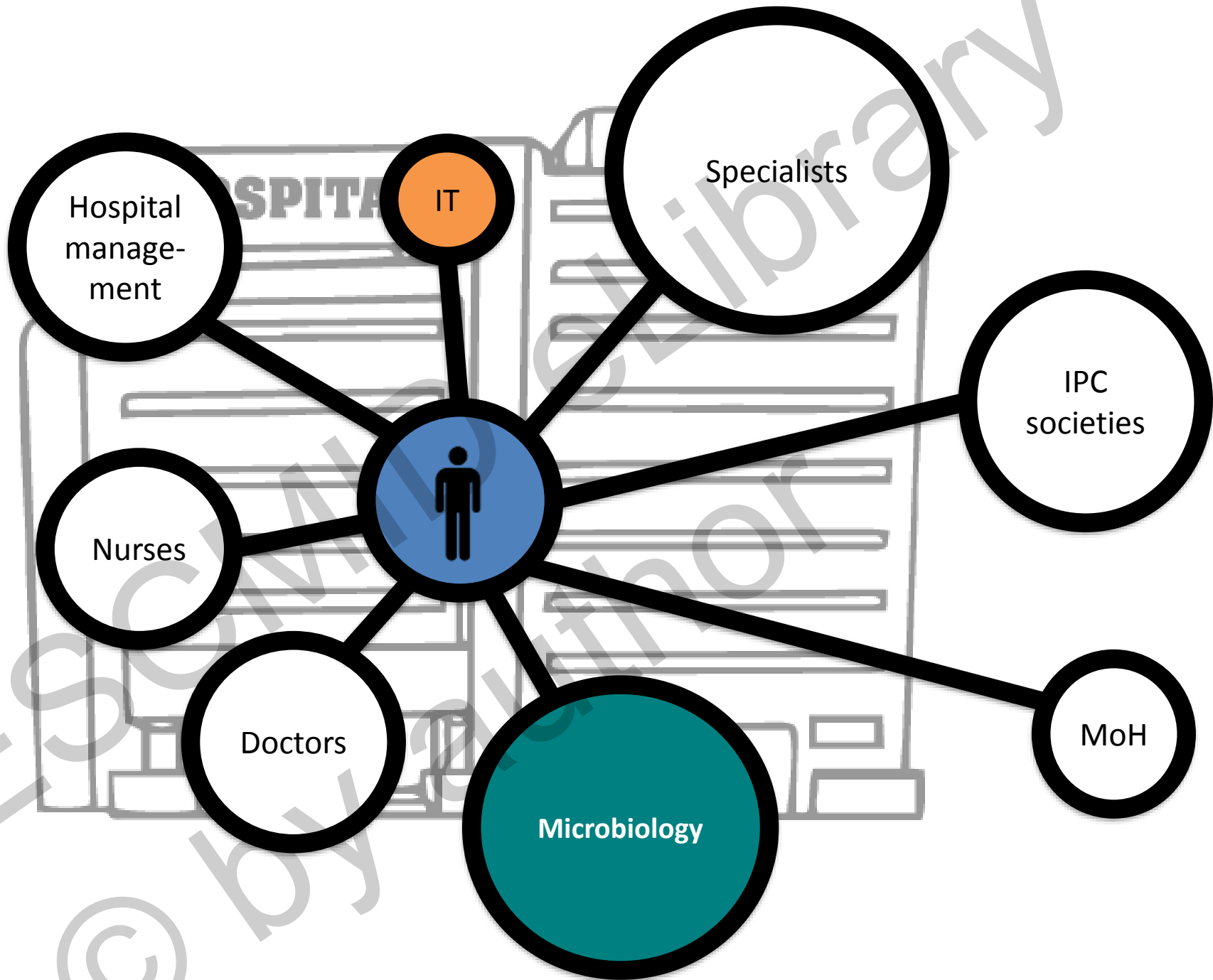
**Specialist in hygiene
and environmental
medicine**



**Infectious diseases
specialist**

Microbiologist





The role of the clinical microbiology in HAI-prevention

Surveillance

Outbreak detection

Antimicrobial stewardship

Advisory

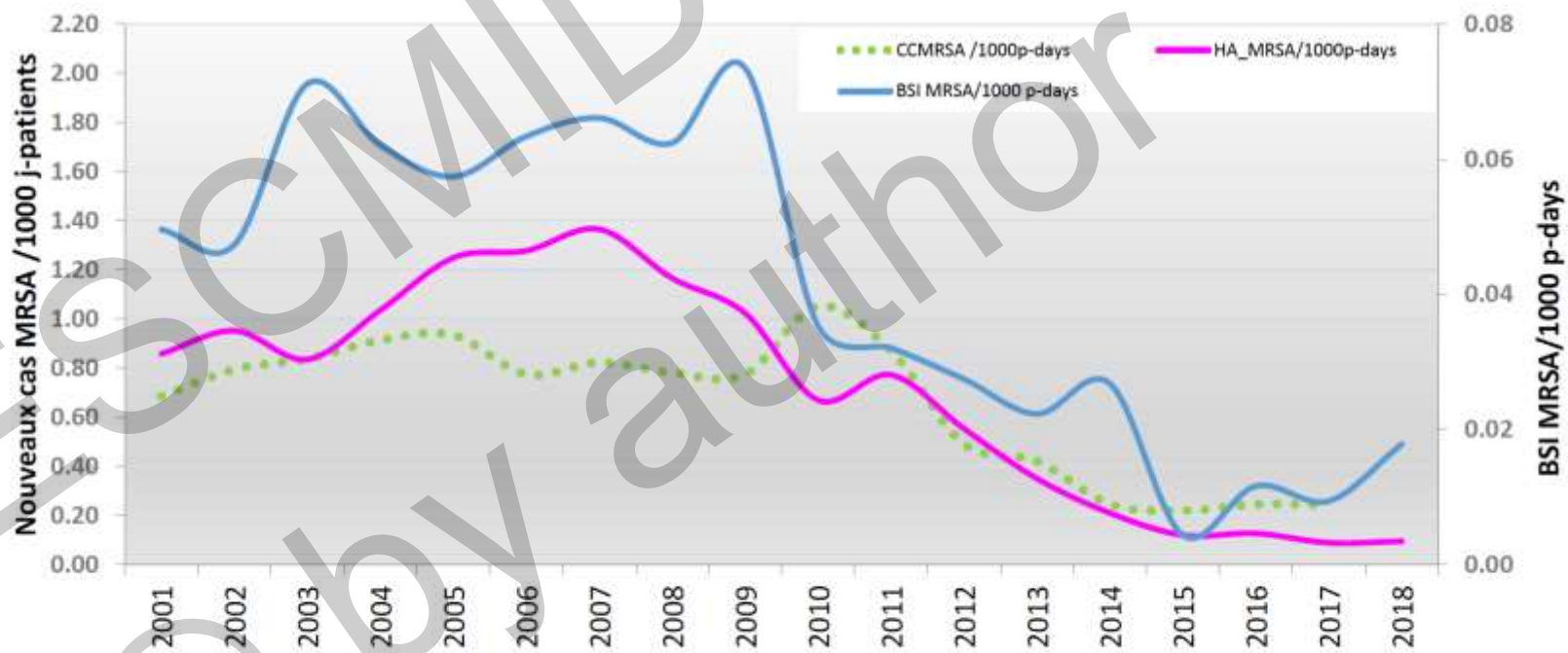
Surveillance

Establish a reporting system...

1. Select antimicrobial **“resistance”**
 - phenotypic resistance, conventional testing/rapid testing
 - resistance genes
 - pathogen-resistance combinations
 - multidrug-resistance (3-MRGN etc.)
2. Select **pathogens of interest (PAI)**
 - Seasonal screening?
 - Patient screening on admission or in high risk areas?
 - Air/water sampling?
 - Quality assurance (e.g. VRE/*C. difficile* after terminal cleaning)?

Surveillance

Trends in MRSA HUG 2001-2018



Outbreak detection

Detecting an outbreak

Investigating an outbreak

Managing an outbreak



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Outbreak detection

1. Detecting → Surveillance

2. Investigating

- Screening exposed patients
- Environmental sampling (surfaces, water, air)
- Phenotypic methods: swabs, contact plates, selective media, filters, compactors
- Typing: testing clonality or genetic relatedness on species level but also on genetic resistance level (pathogenicity islands, mobile genetic elements between strains and species) – interpretation on the microbiology side may need epidemiological information from IPC.
- Produce meaningful data to act on, and at acceptable expenses

3. Managing (isolation precaution measures, audits, screening)

Outbreak detection

| Typing method | Comments |
|----------------|--|
| PFGE | Labor-intensive method with excellent discriminatory power. Was considered gold standard for most common HAI-pathogens. Useful in outbreak surveillance. |
| PCR-Ribotyping | Simple, low-cost method, used extensively for subtyping <i>C. difficile</i> |
| MLST | Limited discriminatory power, 100% typability and high reproducibility. Best for phylogenetic studies and large-scale typing. |
| MLVA | MLST approach using virulence-associated genes. |
| WGS | Gold standard for discriminatory power. |

Whole genome sequencing (WGS) is a process of determining the **complete sequence** of an organism's chromosomal DNA at a single time – today in less than a day

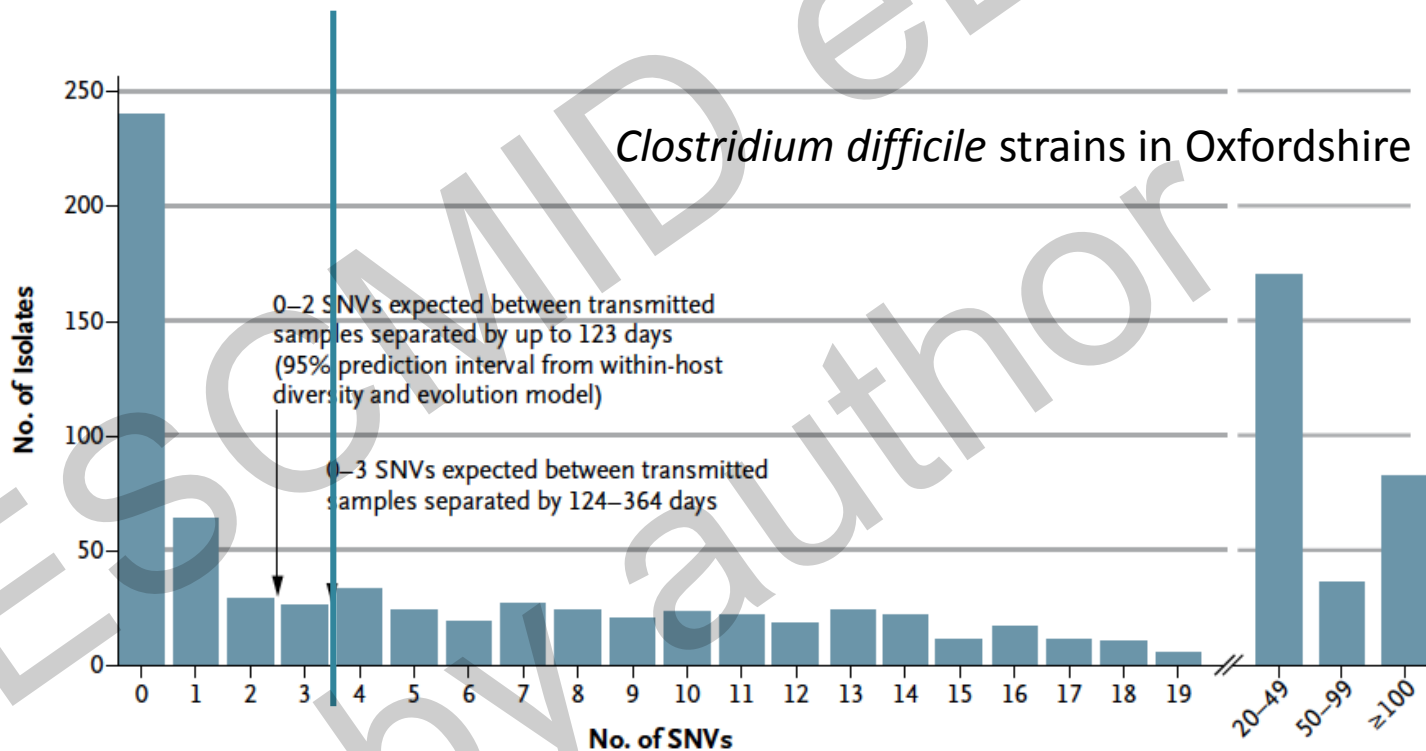
The technology is rapidly evolving, and it is endorsed by ECDC and US-CDC

- Fast species identification
- Direct identification of an emerging range of antimicrobial resistance (mechanisms)
- Epidemiology (global epidemiology/evolution of antimicrobial resistance/outbreak investigation)

Genomic distance is measured by determining single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP)

Sameness is time- and species-dependent!

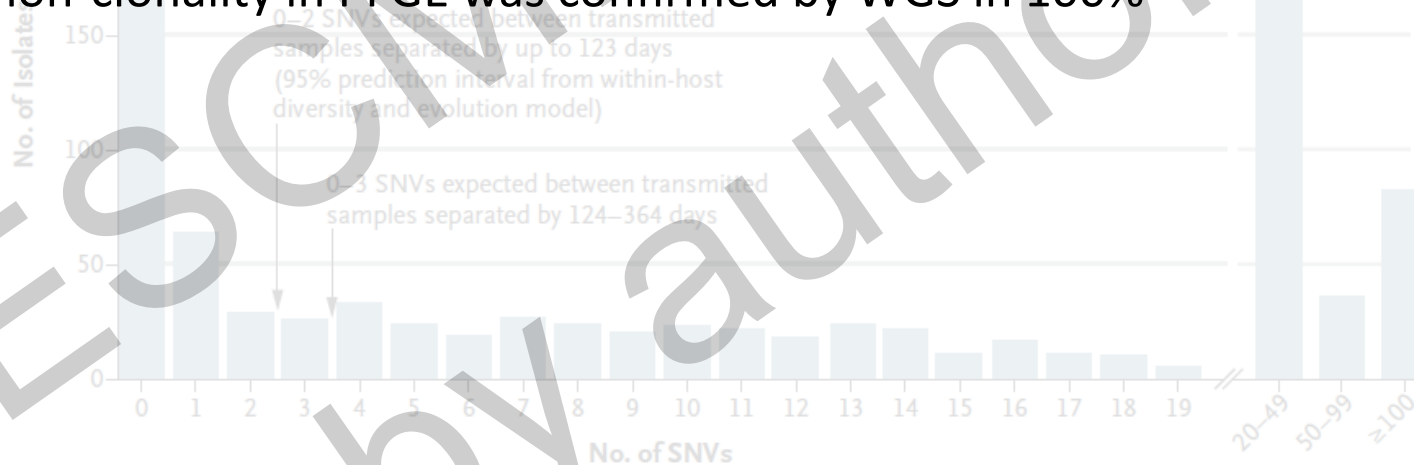
Epidemiology \longleftrightarrow microbiology

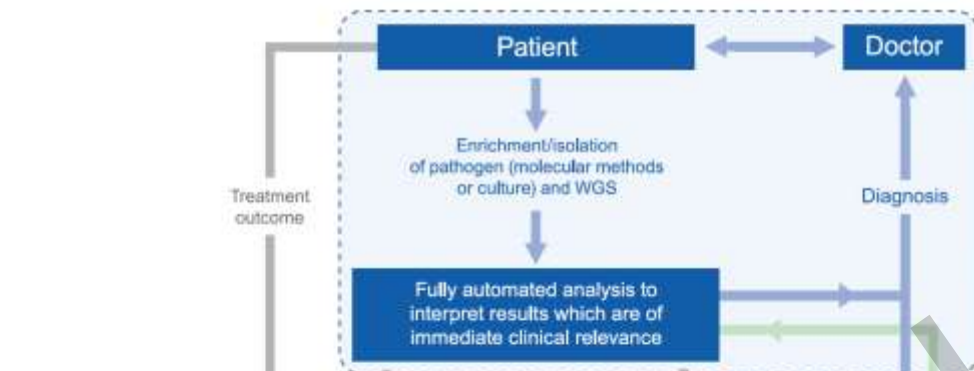


Genomic distance is measured by determining single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP)

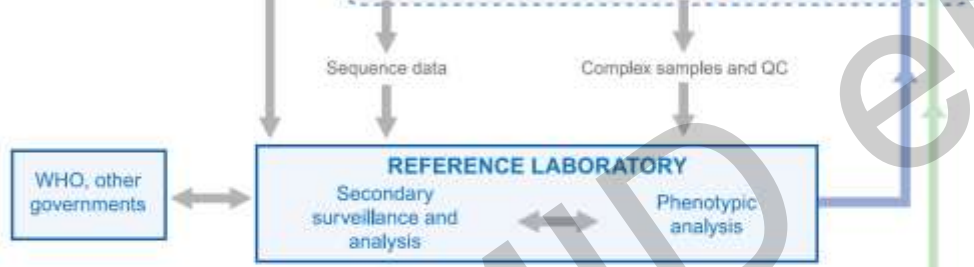
Sameness is time- and species-dependent!

A total of 28.9% of isolates (*Enterococcus faecium* (n=19), methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (n=17), and *Acinetobacter baumannii* (n=15)) which were indistinguishable by PFGE were non-clonal by WGS, but non-clonality in PFGE was confirmed by WGS in 100%





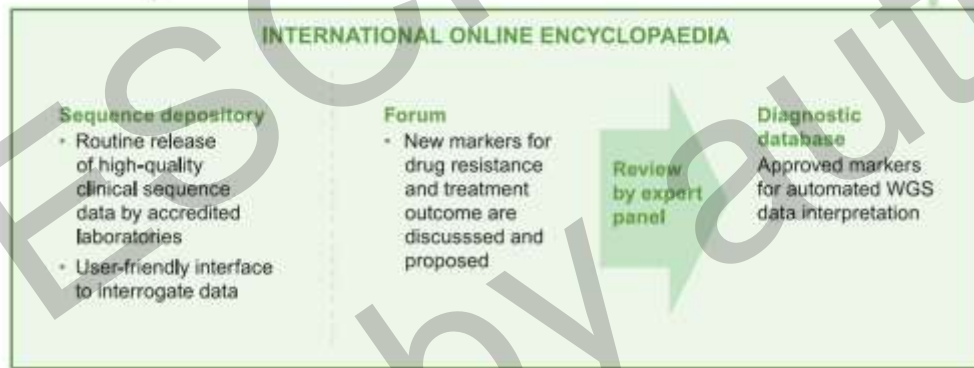
Institution



Region/country



Global



Antimicrobial stewardship

Includes also infectious diseases and pharmacy!

1. improve **diagnostics** (get a sample before antimicrobial treatment)
2. map **local epidemiology** of antimicrobial resistance
3. report susceptibility in due time (**rapid methods**)
4. feed computer-based decision support systems with microbiology data
5. define **local empirical treatment**

Advice

The microbiologist should provide advice on...

1. basic microbiology principles and correct interpretation of laboratory methods
2. advantages, limitations, scope, and accuracy of the different laboratory methods
3. resources (cost and staff)
 - reimbursement system
 - contingency fund to finance outbreaks
4. changes of break-points with the resulting consequences in reporting susceptibility
5. taxonomy confusions e.g. by using MALDI-TOF (coagulase-negative Staphylococcus, diphtheroids) – species identification instead of groups such as diphtheroids (application of HAI-definitions)

Surveillance

Advisory

IT

IPC

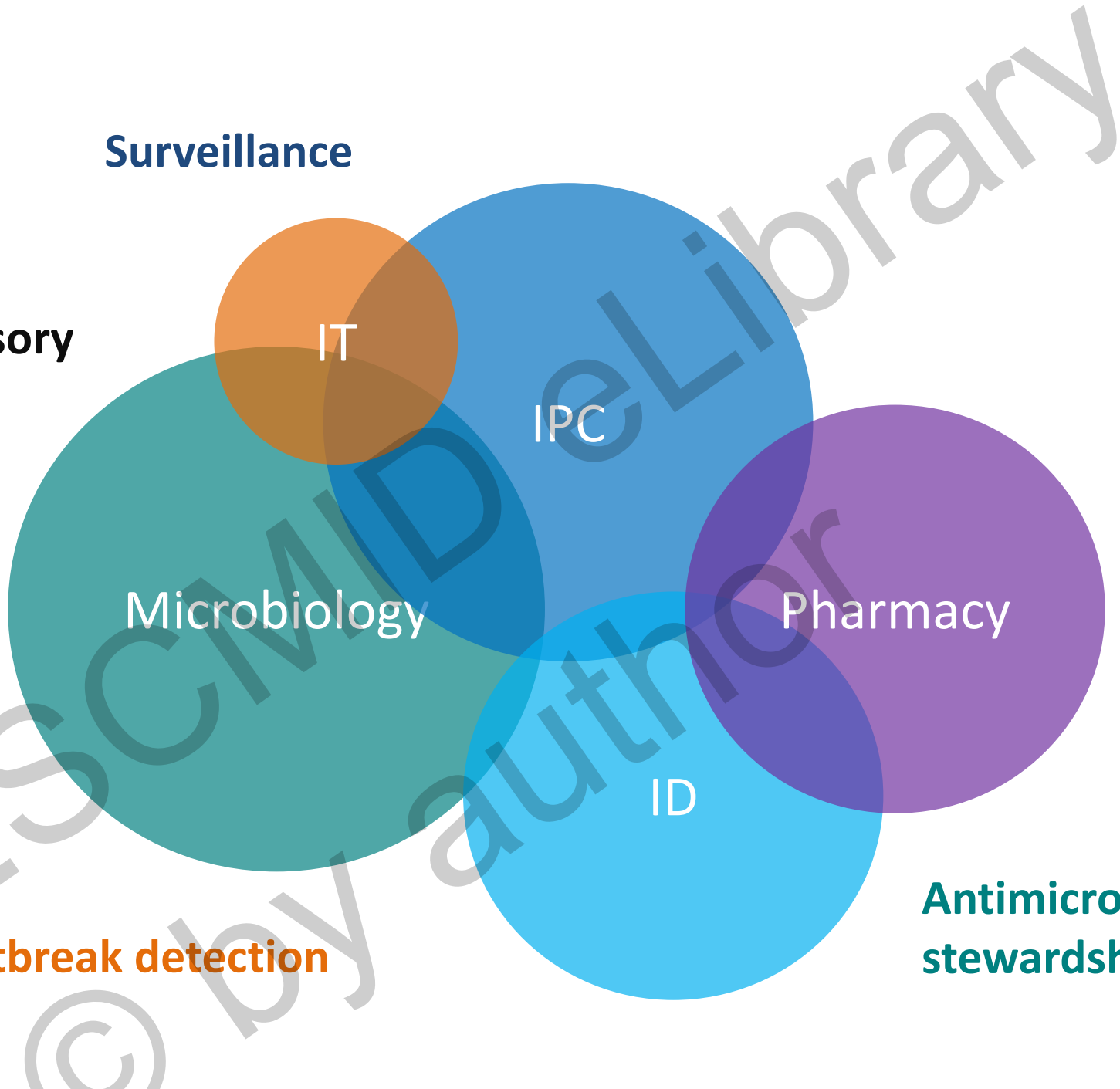
Microbiology

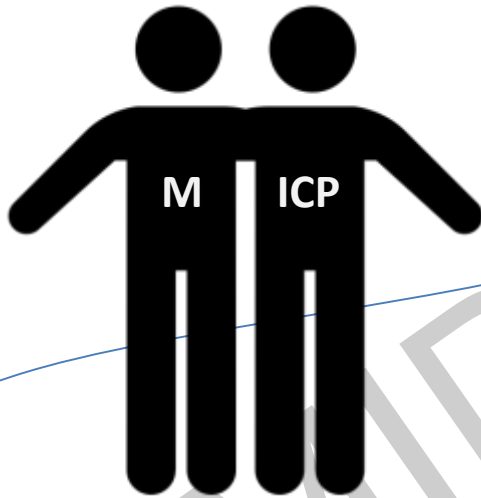
Pharmacy

ID

**Antimicrobial
stewardship**

Outbreak detection





Outbreak
detection

Surveillance

AMS

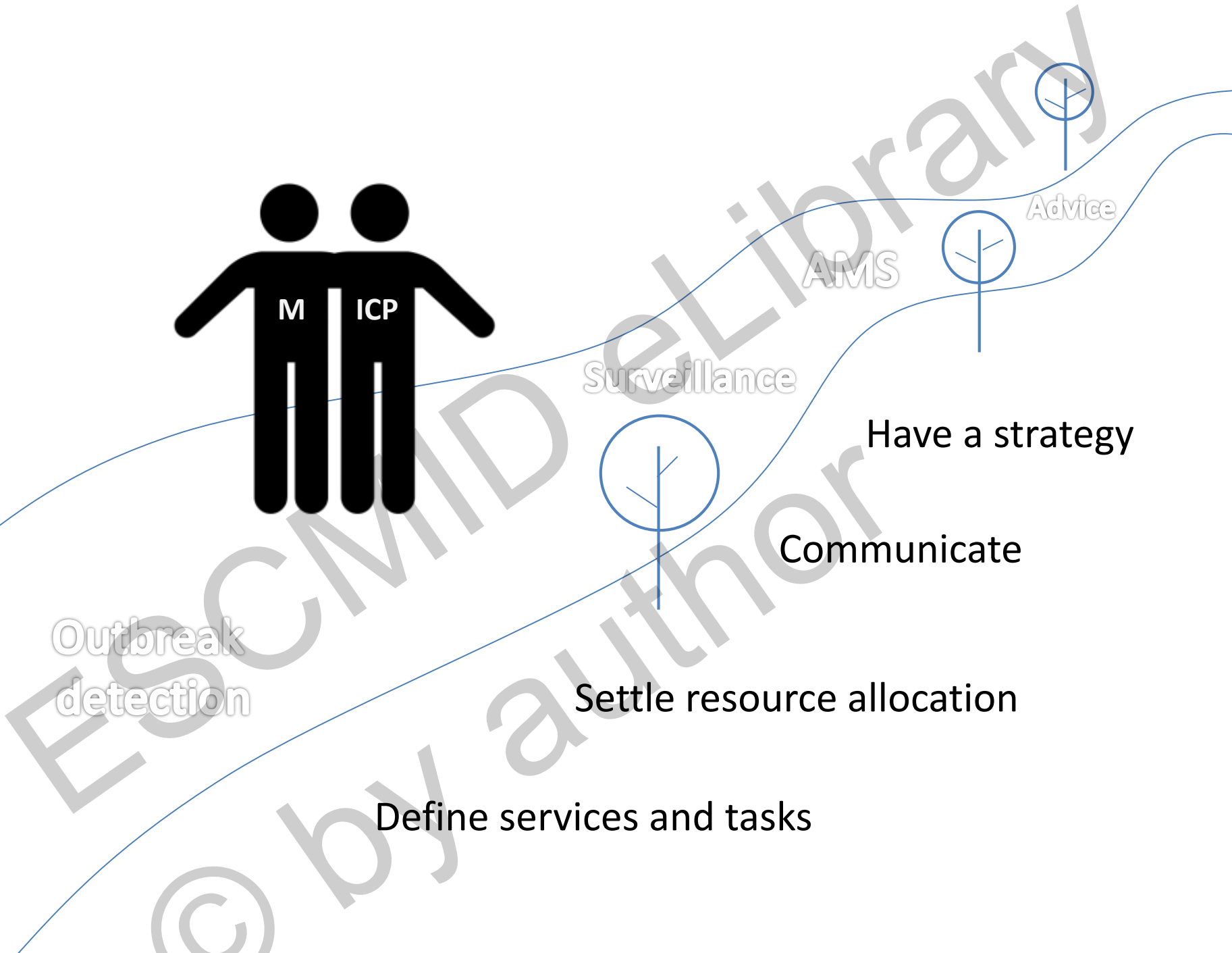
Advice

Have a strategy

Communicate

Settle resource allocation

Define services and tasks



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Third: organise information flow
among infection control, antibiotic

Thank you for your attention!

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