Need for awareness among funders, grant proposal reviewers, researchers and research ethics committees about ethical priority setting for research

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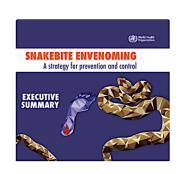


Research Case Study*:

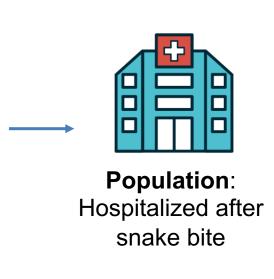
Incidence and performance of novel diagnostics for acute kidney injury (AKI) secondary to snake bite in a low income country



Principal investigator: foreign researcher



Research topic: AKI after snake bite







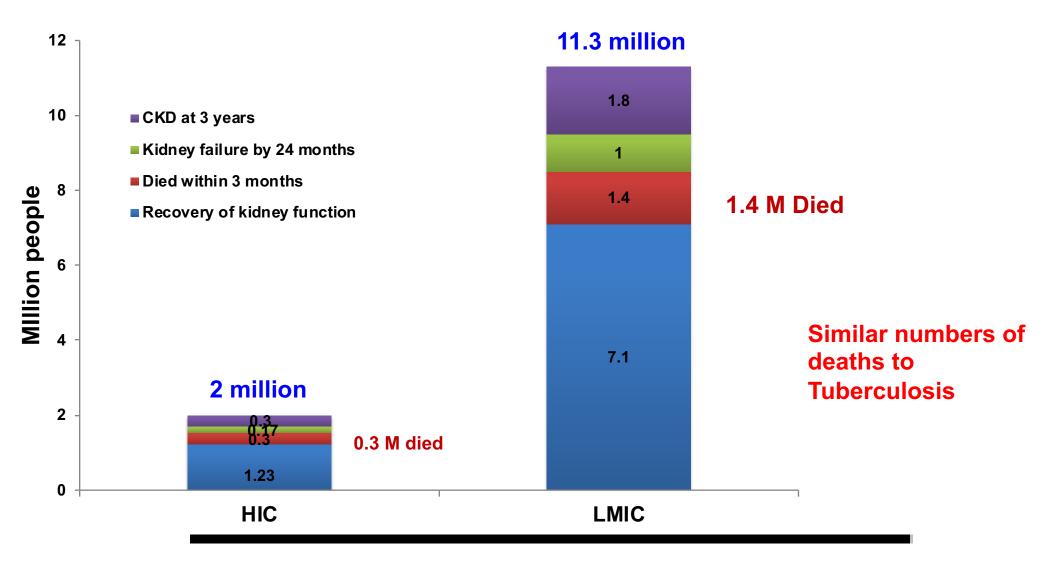


Diagnosis: AKI **Outcomes**: alive/dead

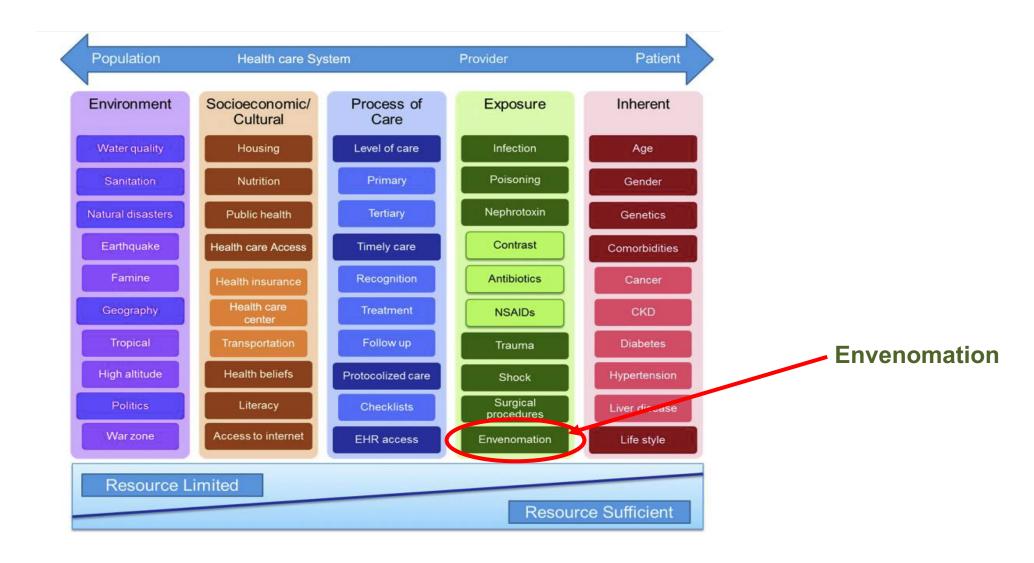


Diagnostics: performance

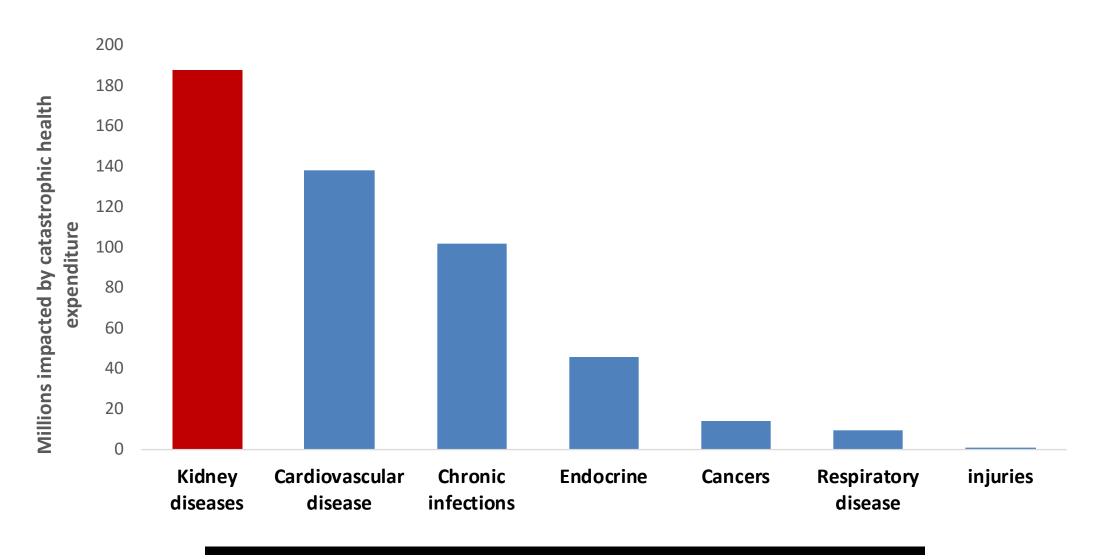
Background: Global burden of AKI



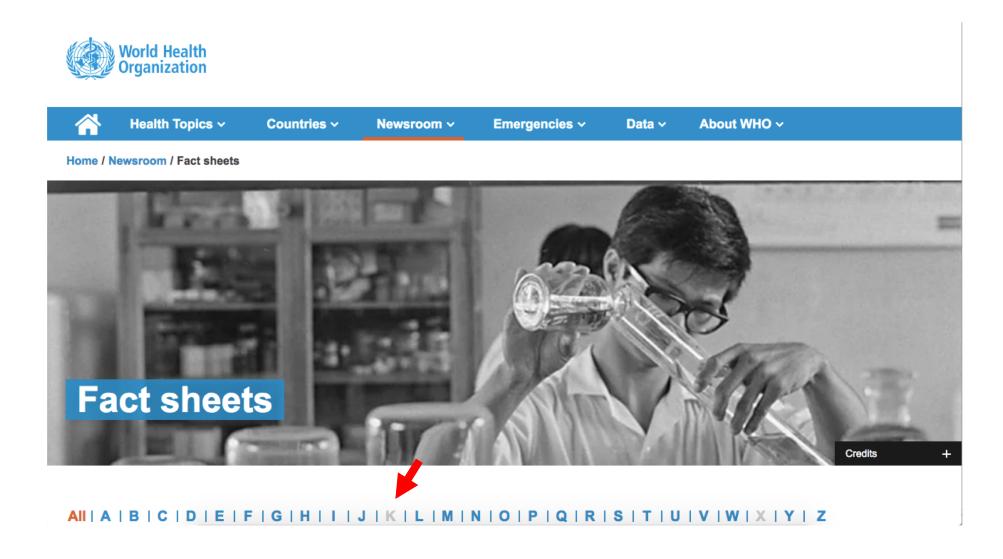
Risk dimensions and risk factors for AKI



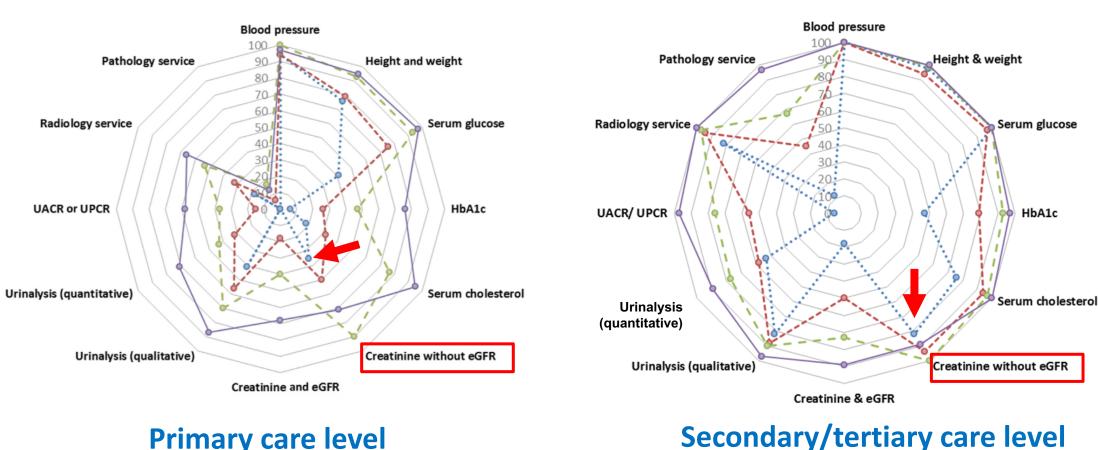
Kidney diseases (all) are leading causes of catastrophic health expenditure in low and middle income countries



Kidney disease is not prioritized on global agenda



Global inequities in AKI diagnostics: serum creatinine, urine output



Primary care level

--o -- Lower middle income - o - Upper middle income - o High income · • · · Low income

Research Case Study*: what should be expected from researchers?



Incidence AKI after snake bite only



Clinicians informed

No management suggestions

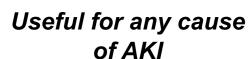
> alive/dead at discharge



No follow up



Performance of multiple diagnostics tests.



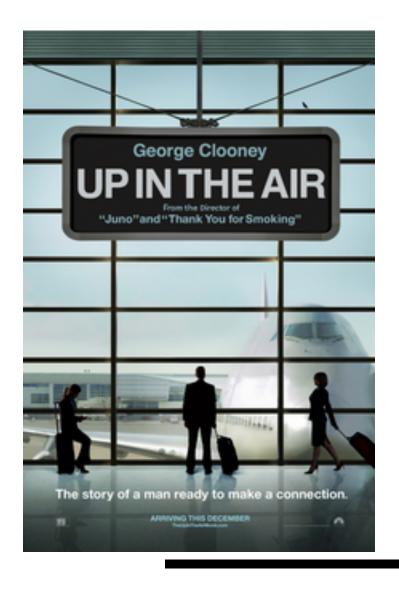
No assurance of post-study availability





No costing data

Global research agenda often driven by "frequent flyers"...



Research topics



Researchers



Researcher institutions



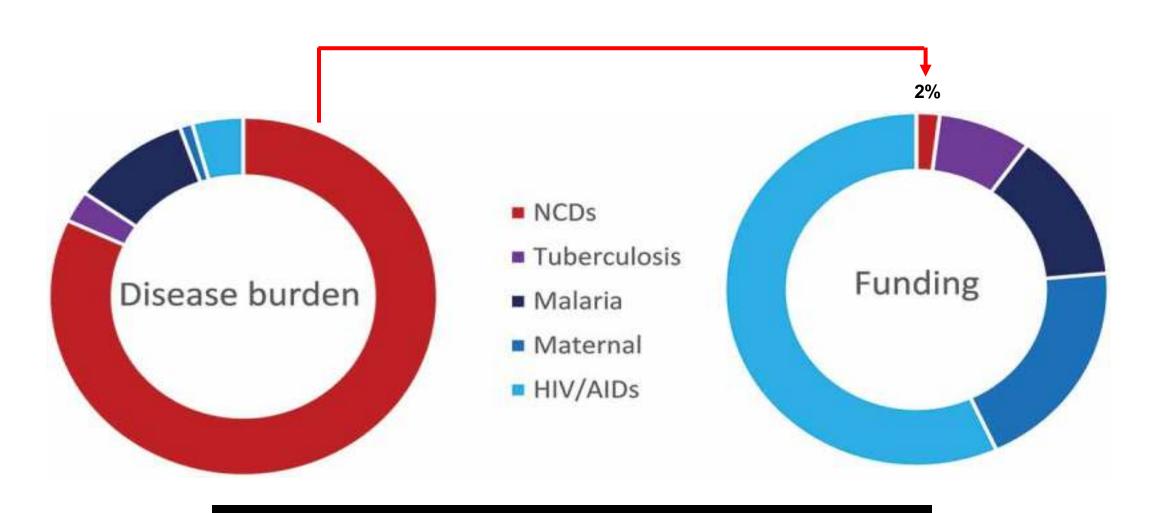
Researcher funders \$



Lower hanging fruit



Disproportion in disease burden (DALYs) vs. global development aid spending since early 2000s

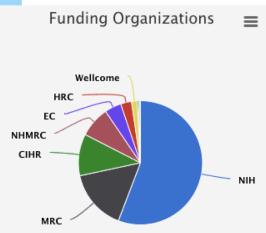


Kidney research funding, last 5 years





77% in/from high income countries



It takes 17 years to get evidence into practice...

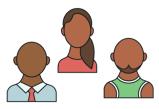


Who should set/oversee research priorities?



Funders?





Local ethics committees?



Institutional ethics committees?



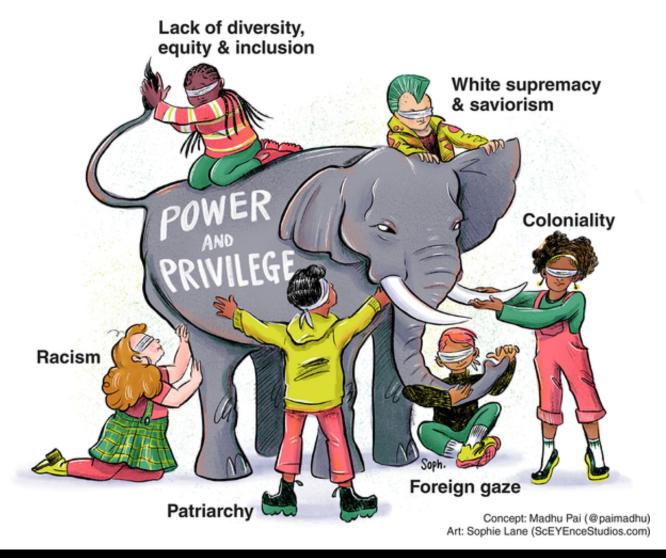
Expert reviewers?



Global oversight bodies?

Conclusion:

Blindfolds must come off to see research agenda clearly...





COVID-19: UN Secretary-General says the world has failed an ethics test



"This [COVID -19 vaccine distribution] is a moral indictment of the state of our world...

We passed the science test.

But we are getting an F in Ethics"

Let's strive for better marks on the global research agenda!