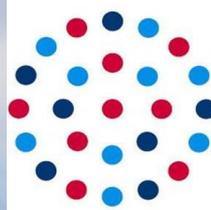




University
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Health
Protection
Scotland



Are some pieces missing from the One Health jigsaw?

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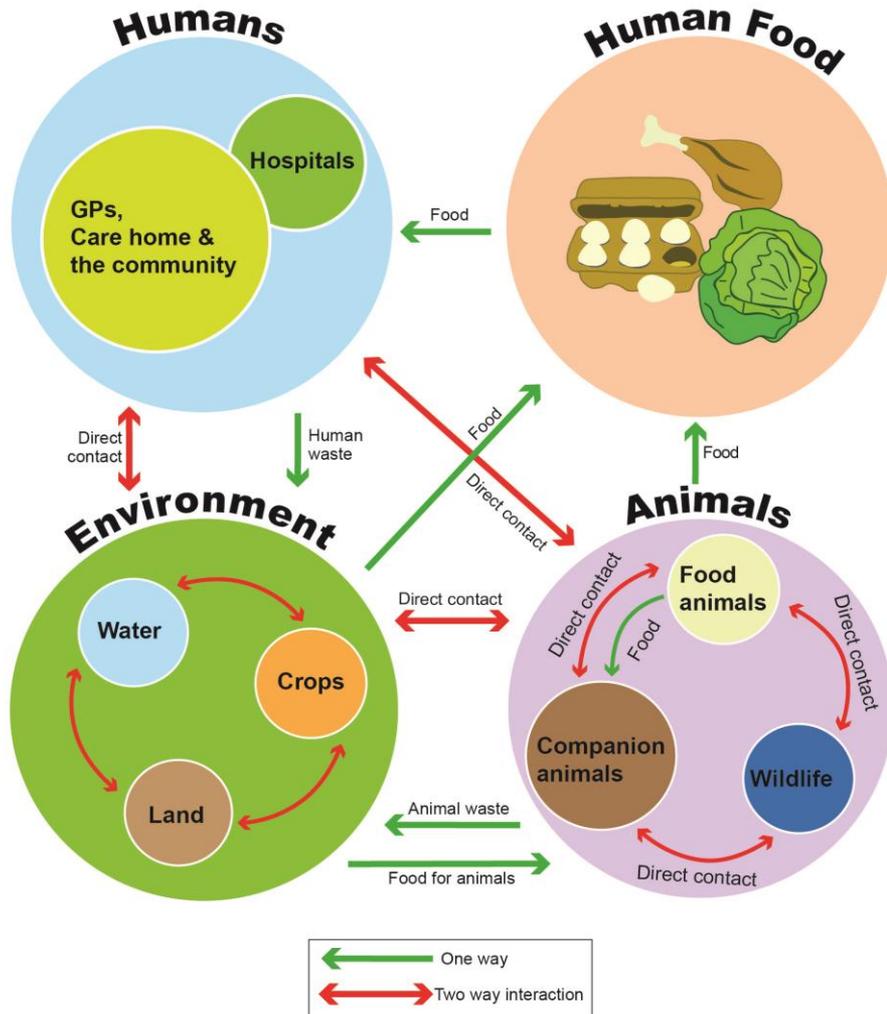
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INSPIRING
PEOPLE



A 'One Health' approach

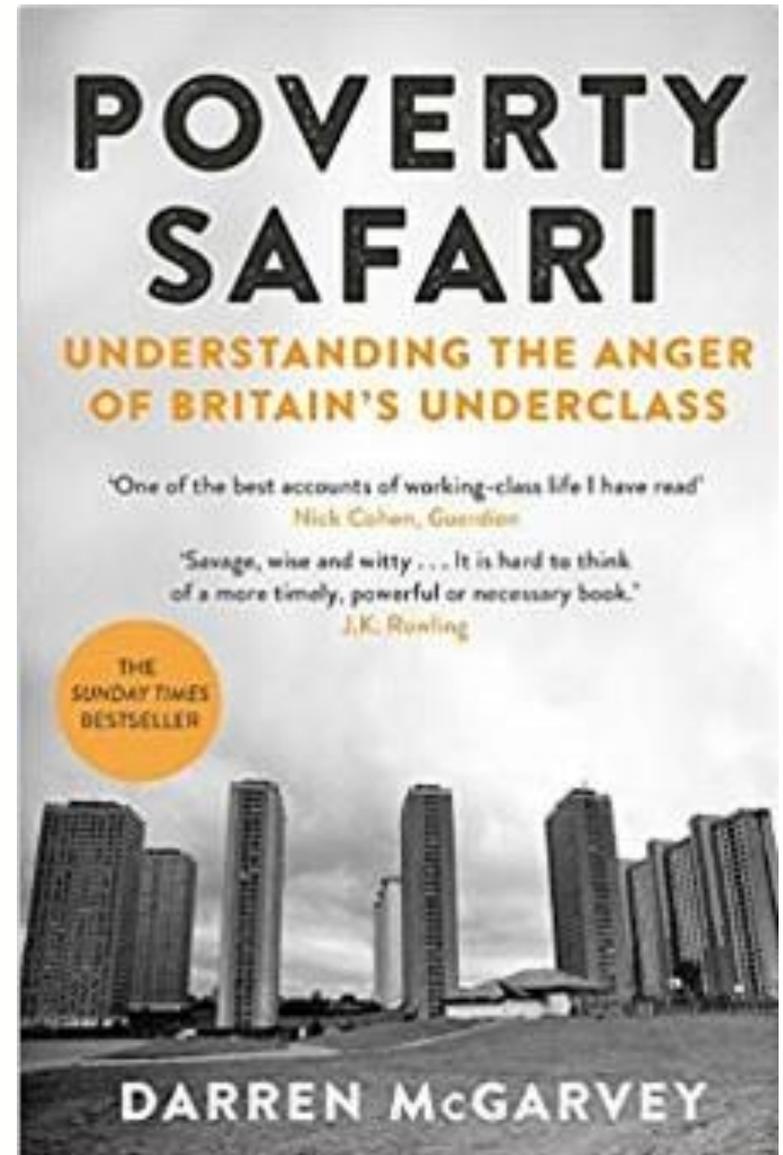


- 'One Health' recognizes that the health of humans, animals and ecosystems are interconnected.
- It involves applying a **coordinated, collaborative, multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral** approach to address potential or existing risks that originate at the animal-human-ecosystems interface.

Complexity

“By now, I’ve hopefully established that one of the biggest problems we face as a society is stress;...”

“But our collective stupidity is similarly limitless, **as are the configurations of complexity** at play in our relatively young civilisation.”



Poverty Safari (Darren McGarvey, 2017, Picador)

Research and Operational Practise

RESEARCH

Translation

**Proof
of
Concept**

**Demonstration
of
Benefit**

**Operational
Implementation**

Translation

PRACTISE

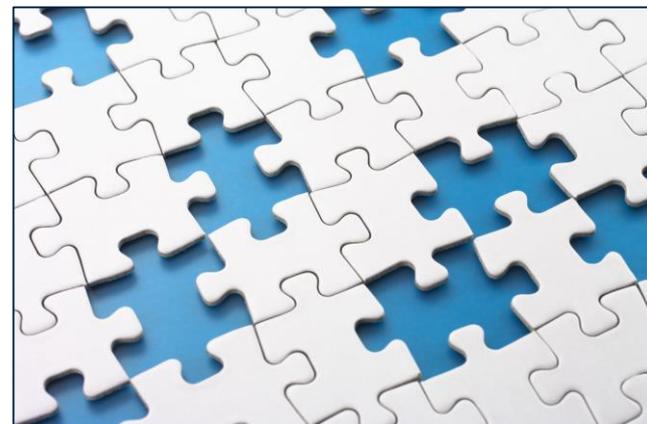
A 'Virtuous Circle'?

“Research is very important, but it’s not occupational therapy for researchers.”

Concerns (for an epidemiologist)

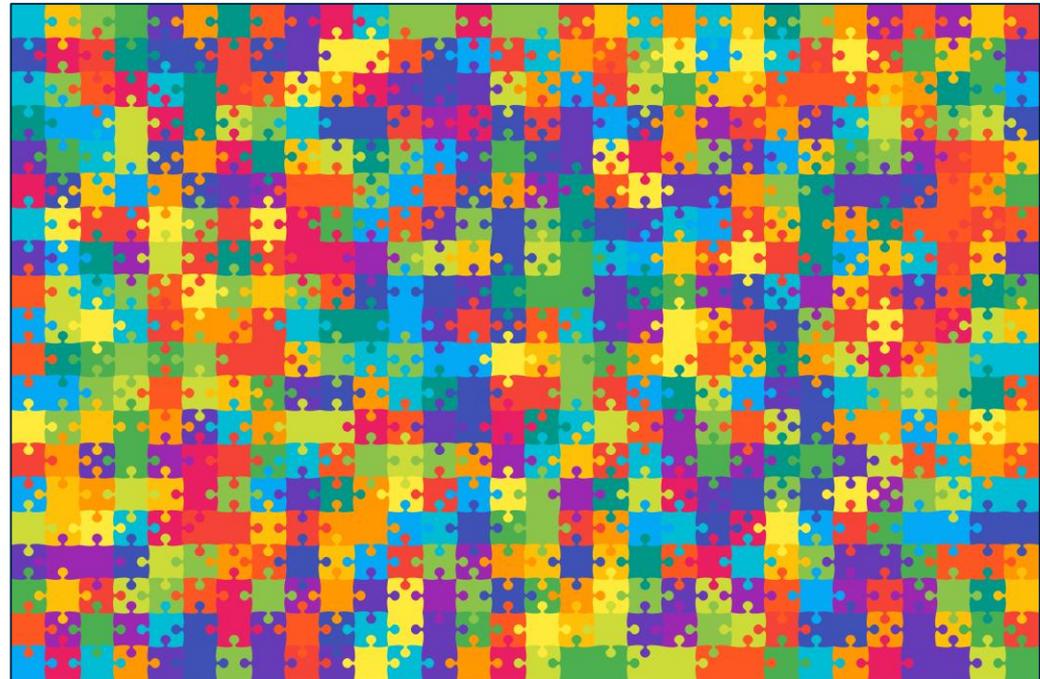
- **Fully understanding causation at ecosystem level is as elusive as ever!**
 - Policy and intervention based on assumption
 - Unforeseen and unintended consequences
- **Lack of coordination in relation to a ‘live’ gap analysis**
 - Several versions of the same ‘piece of the jigsaw’, whilst some pieces are still missing
 - Terrible waste of effort and resource
 - Reputational damage

“Too much notice is taken of single studies.”

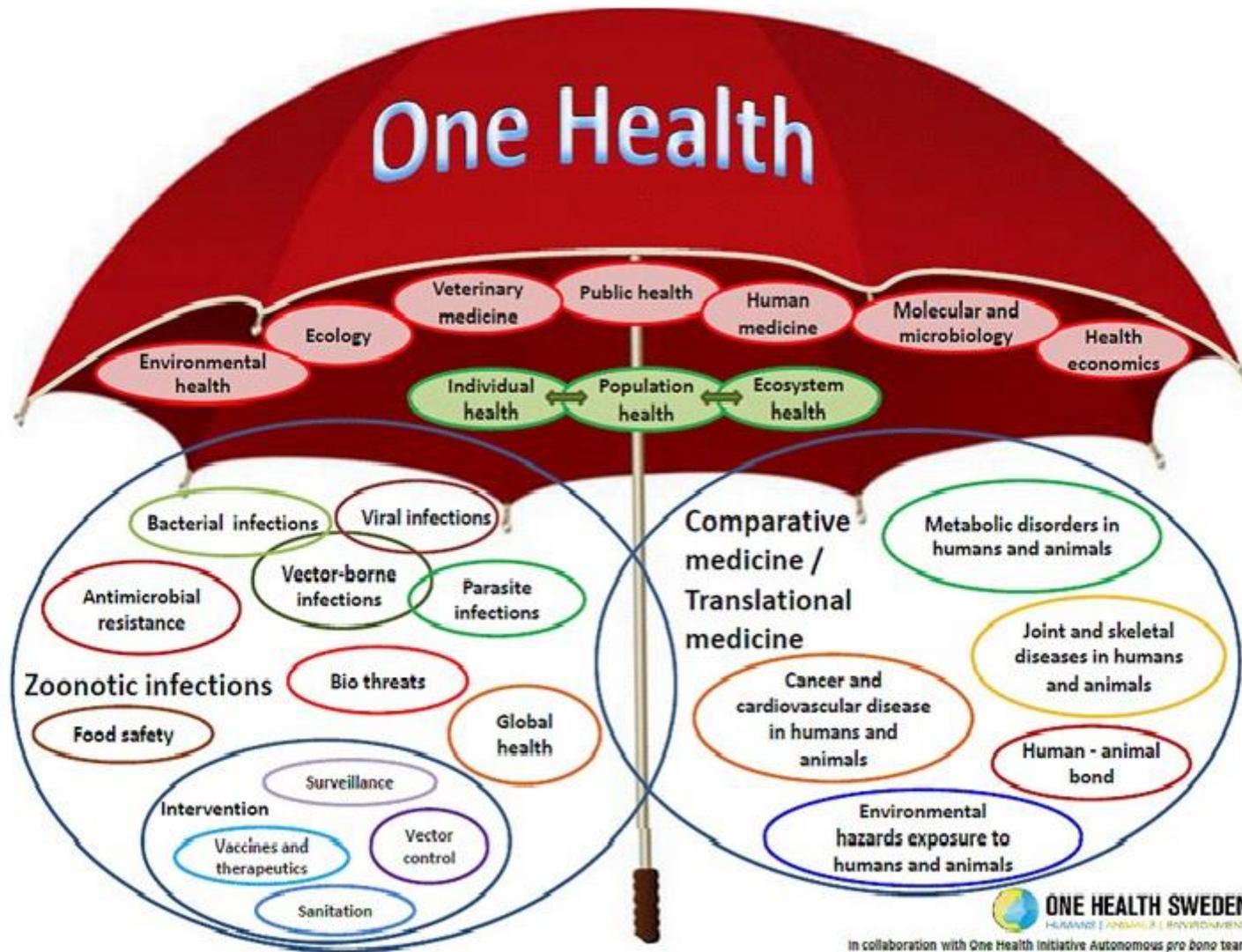


One Health: A framework for interpretation & coordination

- Specialist 'silos' in 'individual pieces' are OK, and necessary: none need be explicitly 'One Health'...and all contribute
 - Traditionally likely to be easier to resource
- One Health is about seeing, integrating and working with the whole of the big picture
 - Naturally generalist
 - Unconventional to resource

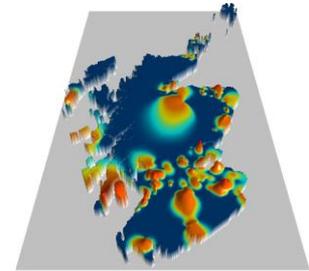


Who's the umbrella?



Discussion

- Inter-disciplinary ≠ Multi-disciplinary ≠ ‘Pan’-disciplinary
- Complexity!
- Integration has to be someone’s/small group’s job
 - Generality
 - Credibility
 - Acceptability
 - Communication
- Trade offs ≠ paralysis



“The problem with the Precautionary Principle is not that it leads in the wrong direction, but that – if taken for all it is worth – it leads in no direction at all.”

RISK

Does the Precautionary Principle point us in any helpful direction?

The Paralyzing Principle

BY CASS R. SUNSTEIN
University of Chicago

ALL OVER THE WORLD, THERE IS increasing interest in a simple idea for the regulation of risk: the Precautionary Principle. Simply put, the principle counsels that we should avoid steps that will create a risk of harm, until safety is established through clear evidence, we should be cautious. In a catchphrase: Better safe than sorry.

In ordinary life, pleas of this kind seem quite sensible. People buy smoke alarms and insurance. They wear seatbelts and motorcycle helmets, even if they are unlikely to be involved in an accident. Should national regulators not follow the same approach as well? Many people believe so.

In many ways, the Precautionary Principle seems quite sensible, even appealing. To justify regulation, a certainty of harm should not be required; a risk, even a low one, may well be enough. It makes sense to expend resources to prevent a small chance of complete disaster, consider the high costs, pecuniary and otherwise, that are spent to reduce the risk of terrorist attack. On reasonable assumptions, the costs are worth incurring even if the probability of harm — in individual cases or even in the aggregate — is relatively low.

The Precautionary Principle might well be seen as a plea for a kind of regulatory insurance. Certainly the principle might do some real-world good, spurring us to attend to neglected problems. Nonetheless, the principle cannot be fully defended in those ways, simply because risks are on all sides of social situations. Any effort to be universally precautionary will be paralyzing, forbidding every imaginable step, including no step at all.

DEFINITION AND APPEAL
The Precautionary Principle enjoys widespread international support. But what does the principle mean or require? There are numerous definitions, and they are not all compatible with one another. We can imagine a continuum of understandings. At one extreme are weak versions to which no reasonable person could object; at the other extreme are strong versions that would appear to call for a fundamental rethinking of regulatory policy.

