

THE CAPABILITIES APPROACH & HEALTH ECONOMICS

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SPANISH HEALTH ECONOMICS CONFERENCE (AES)



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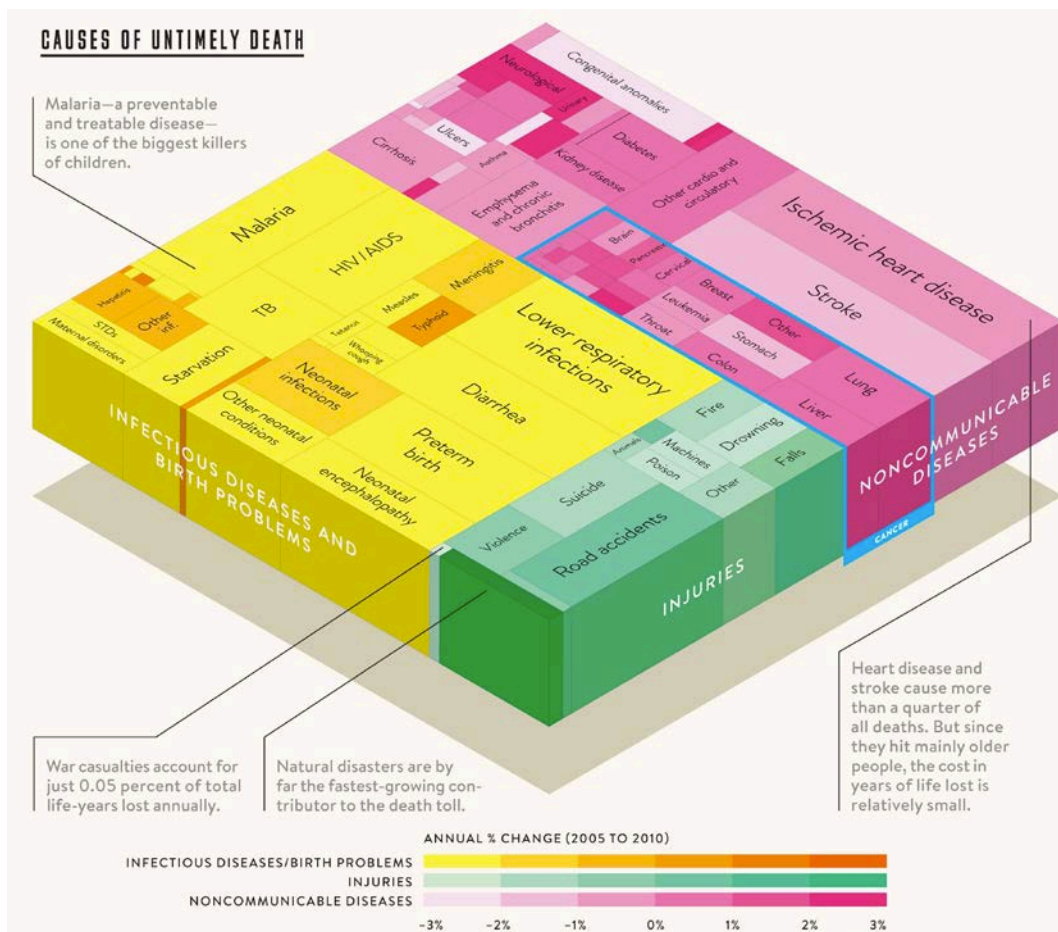
WHAT IS GOING ON?

- **Alternative approaches to the measurement of health and individual welfare - capability/capabilities**
- **“Health as a capability” – the ability to be and do certain things that make up a life of equal human dignity.**
 - **Contra**
 - health as absence of disease / statistically normal functioning.
 - health as socially valued states of being.
 - health as index of five domains of physical achievements.
 - health as being alive and without impairments.
 - Etc.

BUT IS THIS WHY WE ARE HERE?

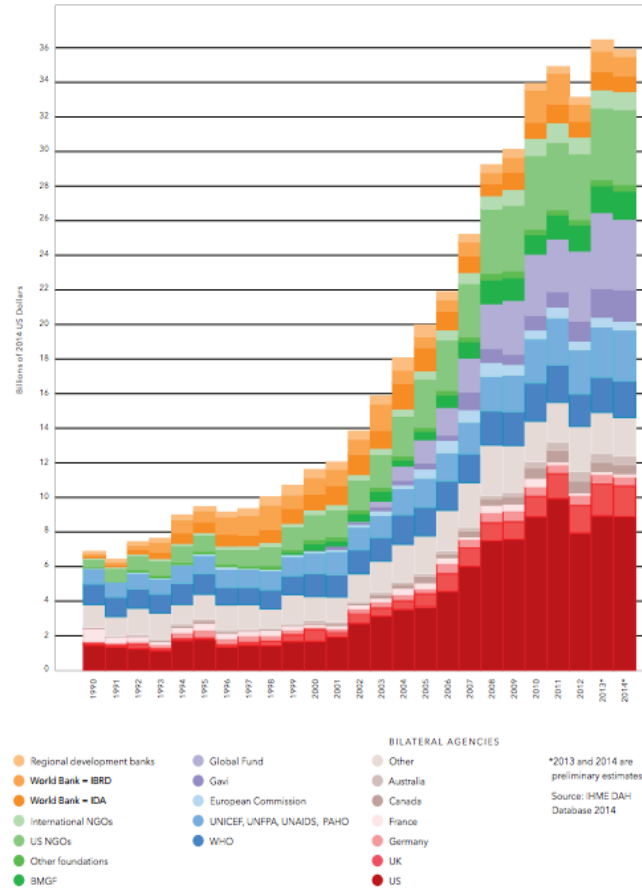
- We may disagree on conceptions of health, but this is only the tip of the iceberg in our disagreements. We may be disagreeing on many other fundamental issues
 - important disagreements such as on the scope and purpose of health economics.

1.7 BILLION YEARS OF LIFE LOST PER YEAR



1990 (\$7 BILLION) 2013 (\$36 BILLION)

FIGURE 2
DAH by channel of assistance, 1990-2014



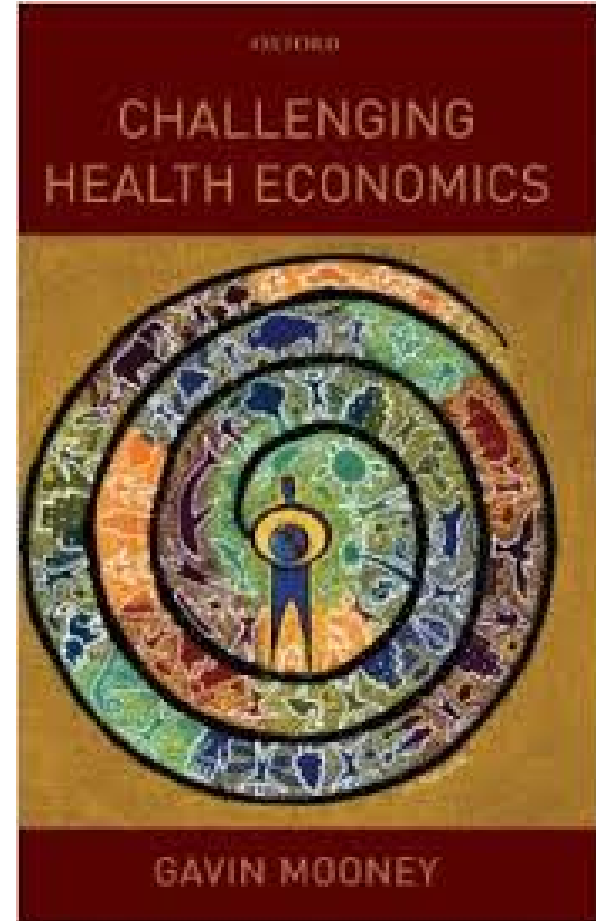
SEN & WILLIAMS ON UTILITARIANISM

- It is strictly welfarist
- It is strictly consequentialist
- It demands sum ranking/ aggregation and cardinal ranking

- How much can we tweak the prevailing paradigm in health economics before we look for a new one?

GAVIN MOONEY

- Hospital as a social institution
- What does society want from doctors
- Community values
- Social determinants of health
- Value imperialism



THE CAPABILITIES APPROACH

- Capabilities & Functionings
- Freedom
- Objectivity
- Equity

ECONOMIC EVALUATION & BEYOND

- **Capability conceptions of health for HTA**
 - OCAP-18
 - ICECAP
 - ASCOT
 - ETC

 - CALY
- **Bigger questions**
 - Economists
 - Social epidemiologists
 - Sociologists

 - Where are the health economists?