



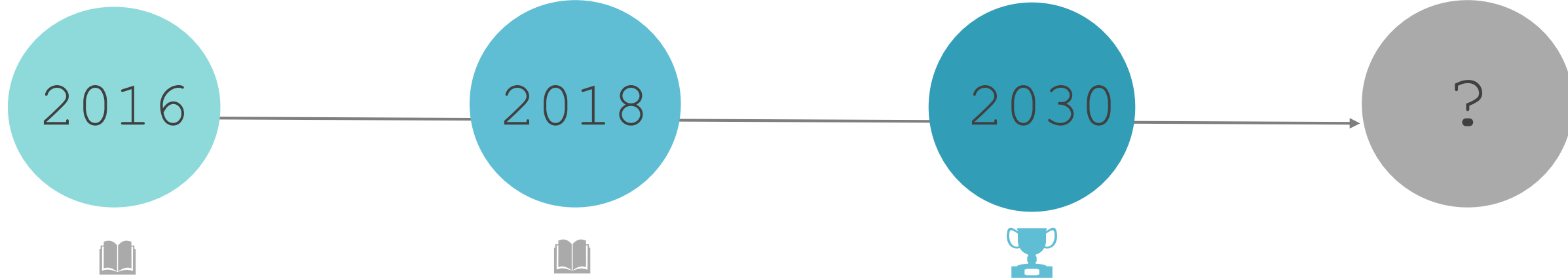
Refusing HCV screening and treatment: Individual vs. Social Benefits

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WHO's global strategy

Most of the progress made only in a small number of high-income countries



WHO. Global health sector strategy on viral hepatitis 2016–2021: towards ending viral hepatitis. World Health Organization. 2016.

WHO. Progress report on access to hepatitis c treatment. Focus on overcoming barriers in low-and middle-income countries. World Health Organization. 2018.

65% reductions in HCV-related mortality and 80% in new infections, relative to 2015 levels



Keeping the number of individuals treated high

Promoting the emergence of the undeclared

EPATITIS C

The obstacles to overcome will not only
be economic and organizational

An overall strategy

Treatment of infected
individuals



COORDINATED
ACTION

Prevention of
new infections

The State

Health
protectio
n



Law

Individual
Right
Common
Good

Beneficenc
e



Ethics

Individual
Benefit
Social
Benefit

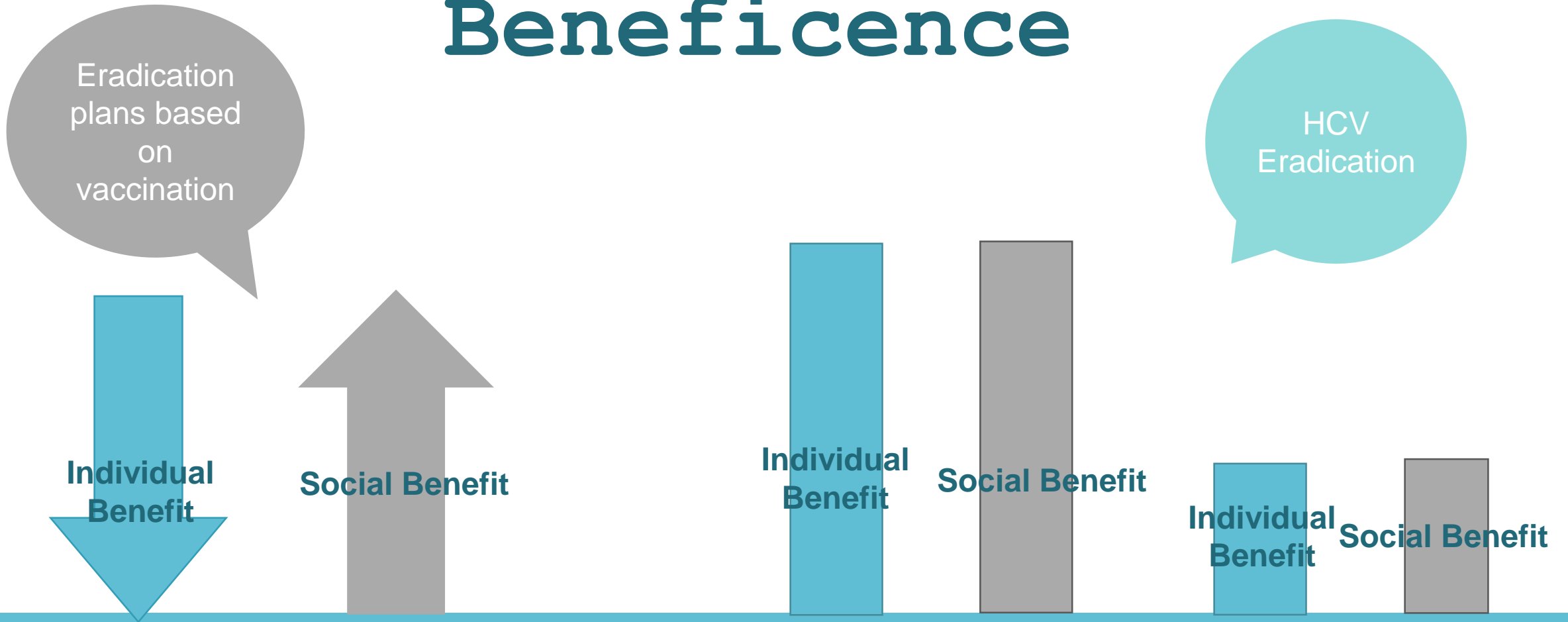
Justi
ce



Ethics

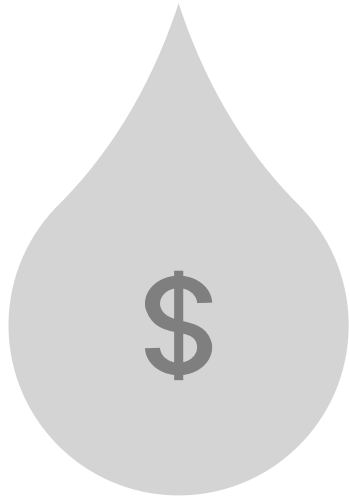
Equity

Beneficence



In HCV eradication the benefit is twofold and consistent

Justice



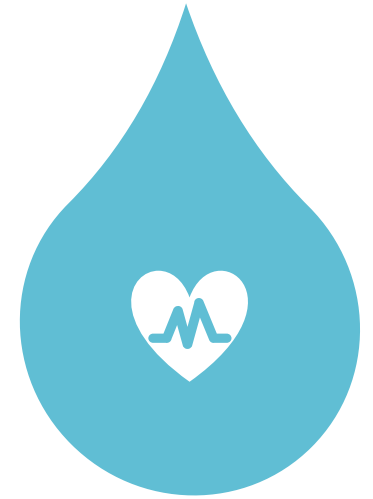
The eradication campaign has to be cost-effective to be ethical



The campaign will have to proceed quickly and effectively to be cost-effective



Evaluate the results over a longer period



Responsibility for Global Health Promotion
Responsibility for the future



The individual

Freedom



Law

Autonomy



Ethics

Obligation does not always give optimal results and shows a failure in trying to educate public about health culture

TARGET POPULATIONS

Specific features:

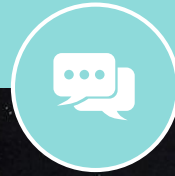
- Not aware of their condition
- Do not want to know it or do not want to be cured
- Low health-related values
- Low trust in institutions
- Difficulties in accessing treatment
- Poor compliance

They will not refer to the health system, it is the health system that should try to approach them

INVOLVEMENT



COMMUNICATION



PROTECTION
OF VULNERABLE SUBJECTS





Screening

Diagnosis

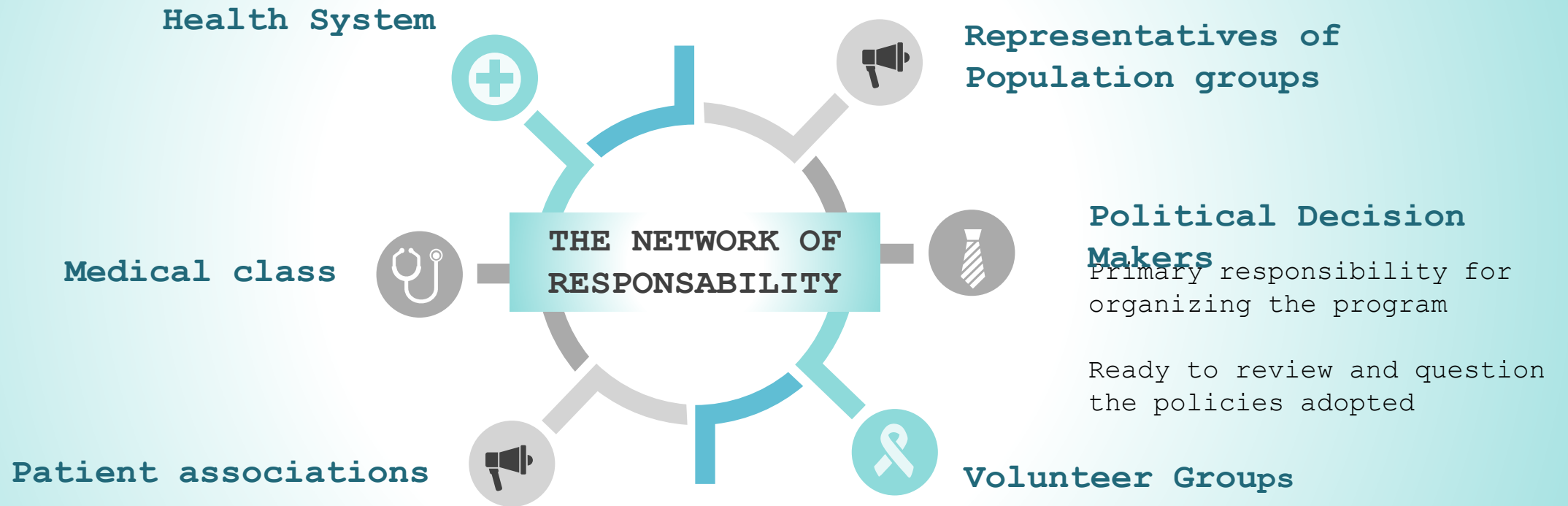
Treatment

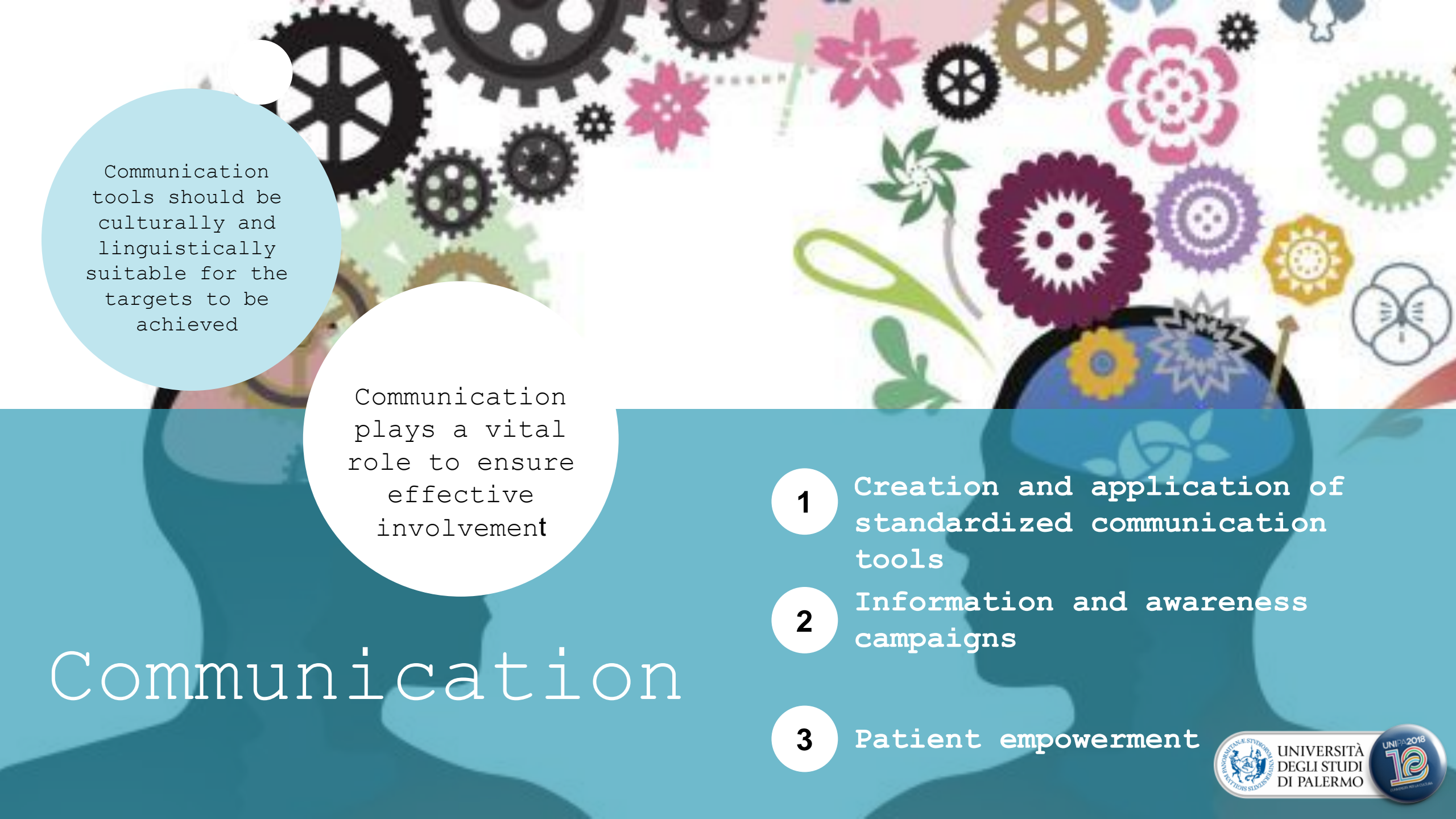
Prevention

“Person-centered Care”: seeing health from the patient's point of view and adapting the care to better meet the needs and expectations of individuals

WHO. Guidance on ethics of tuberculosis prevention, care and control. World Health Organization 2016

Involvement





Communication tools should be culturally and linguistically suitable for the targets to be achieved

Communication plays a vital role to ensure effective involvement

Communication

- 1 Creation and application of standardized communication tools
- 2 Information and awareness campaigns
- 3 Patient empowerment

PATIENT
DECISION
AIDS

Communication
to choose

1

Created to support patients in the decision process

2

They contain information about a specific health condition and available treatment options

3

Paper or electronic format

Assist patients who have problems with adherence to therapy

Try to drive individuals on the path of screening and therapy

Communication to empower

1

Patients who refuse screening or treatment should receive counseling about the risks they run for themselves and for the others

2

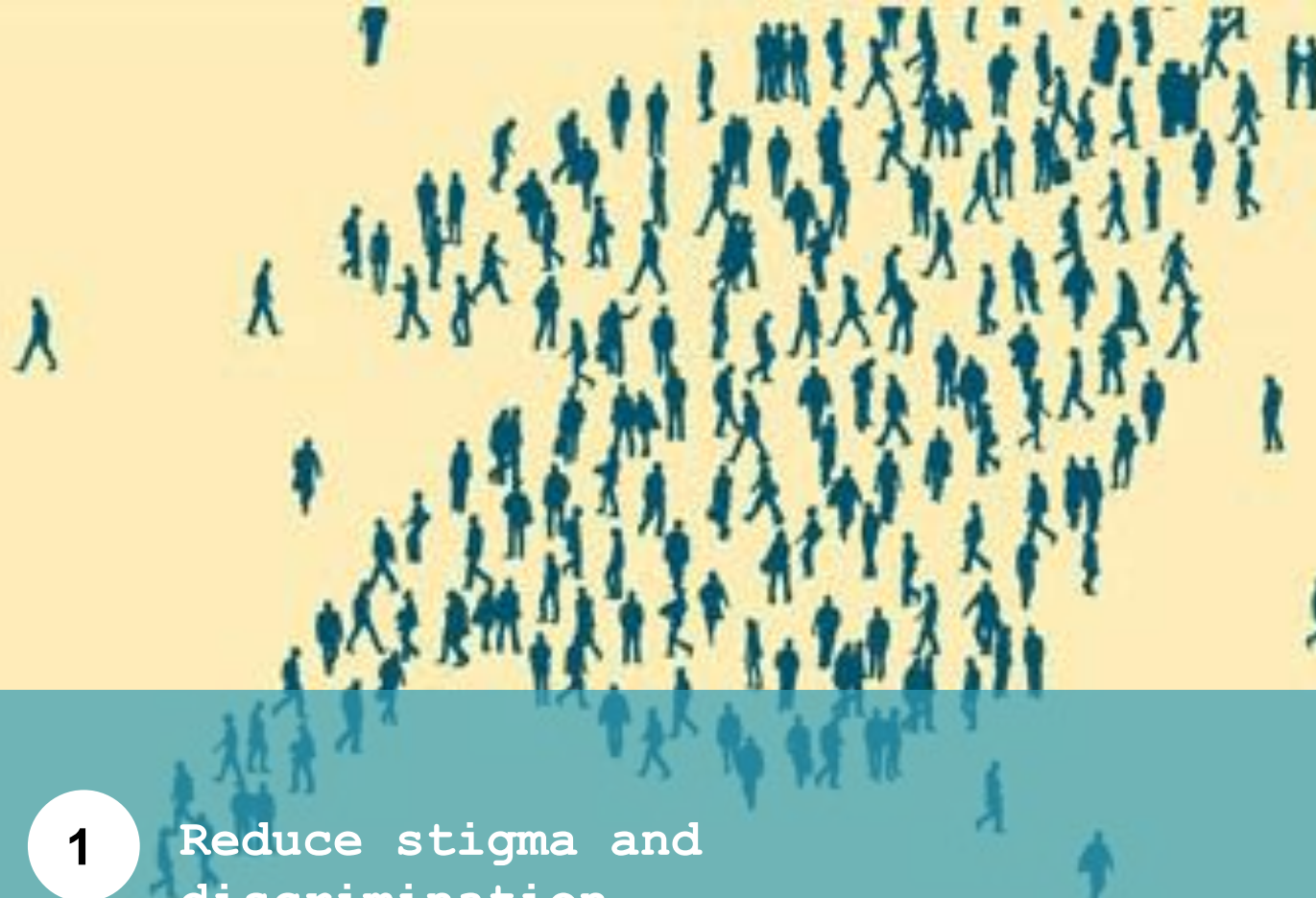
Operators should try to understand the reasons for the refusal and try to work together to identify ways to meet the subject's concerns and fears

3

Any attempt to contact patients who do not show up for treatment must be carried out in such a way as to minimize intrusions


Reduced
ability and
willingness to
have access to
treatment or
screening

Vulnerability
is defined as
an increased
susceptibility
to harm or
injustice



Protection of vulnerable subjects

- 1 Reduce stigma and discrimination
- 2 Develop community education plans
- 3 Reduce linguistic barriers for migrants



Is HCV eradication feasible?

The goal of elimination in each single country will be a fundamental brick in the achievement of global eradication

HCV eradication campaign will lead to a significant reduction in the incidence of the disease

It will convey a very important message: public health interventions should be thought in a global perspective

THANK YOU

