

How Health NZ uses their data to shape the services they purchase

Alzheimers NZ Conference 2026

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Service reviews

- General practice capitation reweighting
- Palliative care services
- Community pharmacy services
- Aged Residential Care casemix funding
- Oral Health Services

Need for evidence to support decisions



**First we ask the
questions**



Shaping services: funding decisions and model of care

Who?

Does what?

For (or on behalf of) whom?



More questions:

- How much variation is there?
- What sort of inequities do we see, and why?
- How is demand changing?
- How are costs changing?
- What are the constraints upon the service?



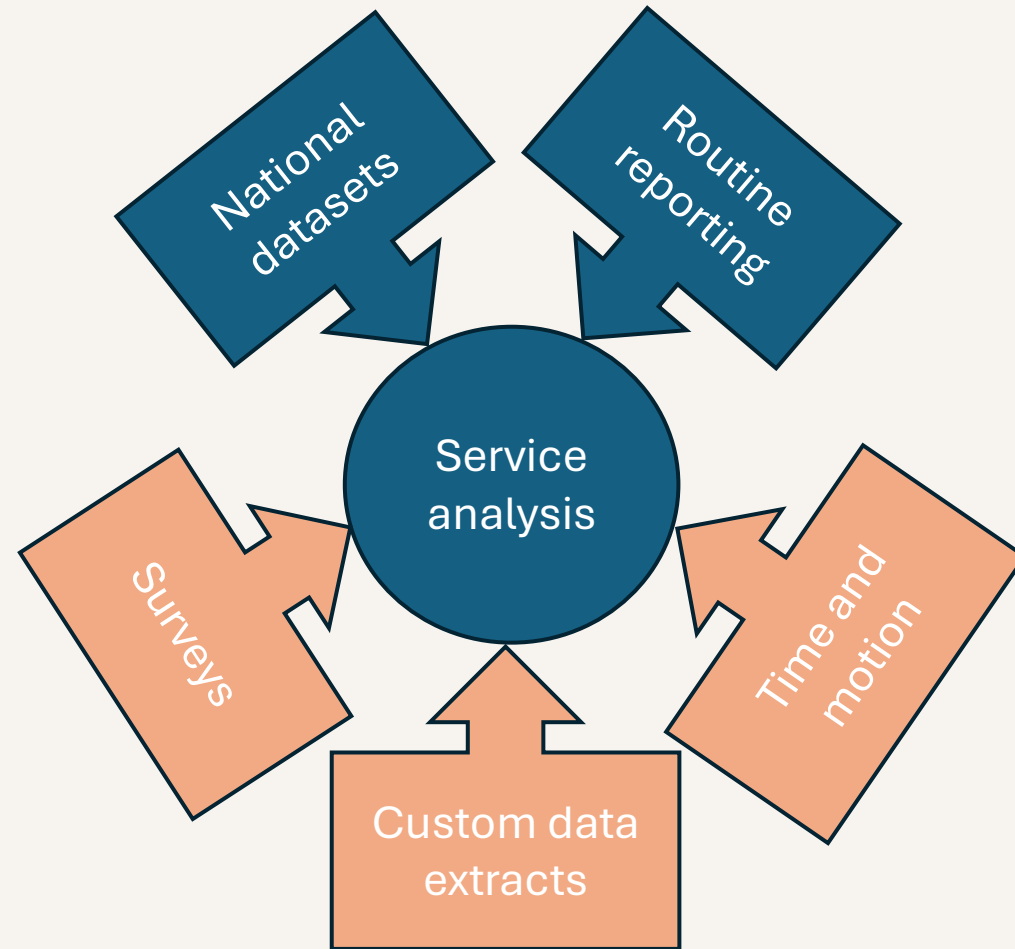
**Then we find
some data**



Whose data? (not just ours...)

Whānau voice

Government
policy



Research
literature

Te Tiriti
obligations

Data are never perfect, evidence doesn't always exist



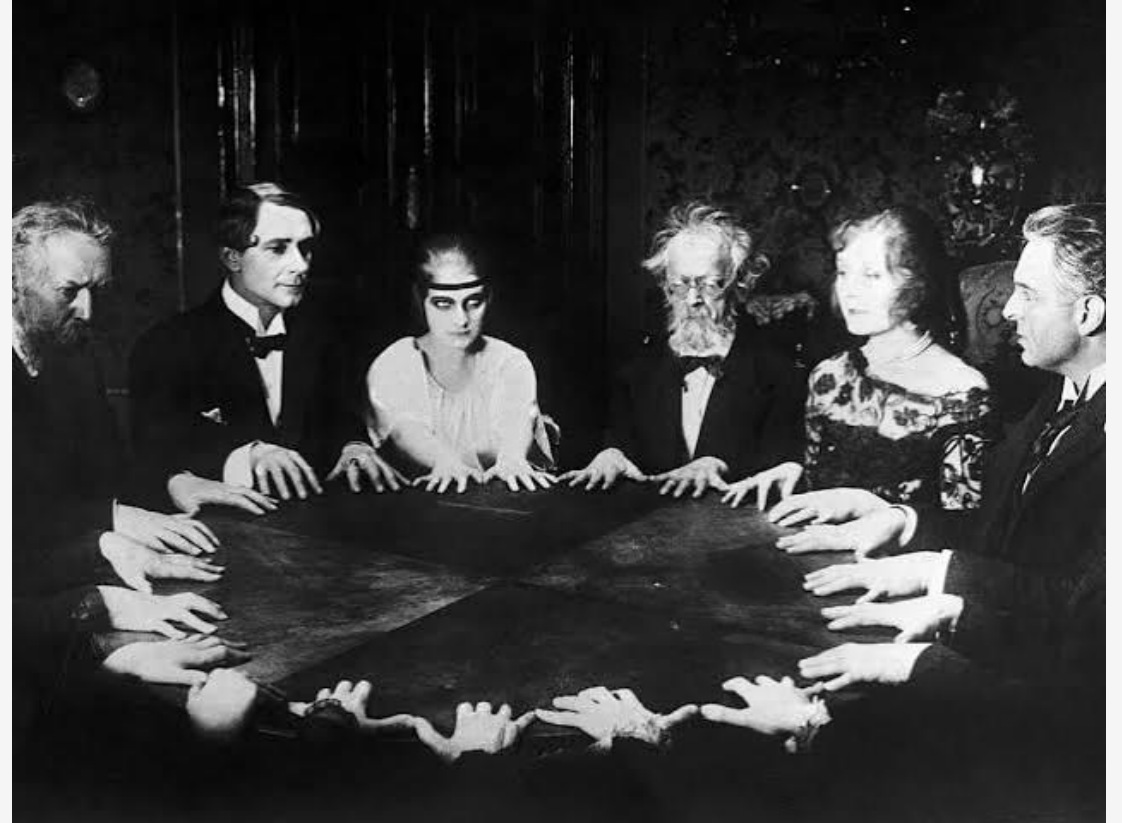
- **Best endeavours with available information**
- **Be clear about when making judgements with limited information**
- **Resources range from in-house to sector analysis, to independent consultants.**

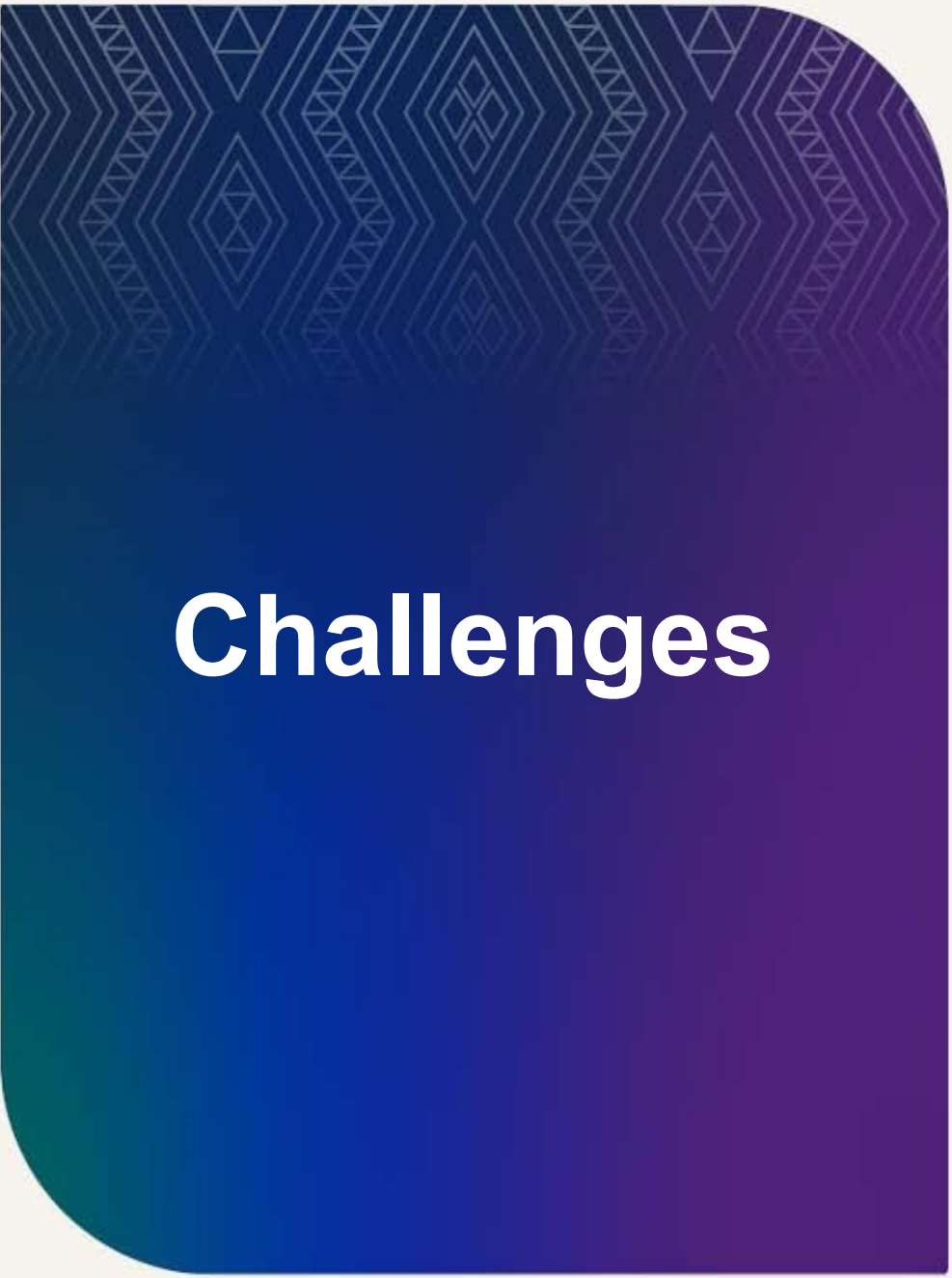
**Then we figure
out what it
means...**



Approaches to interpretation and conclusion: advisory groups

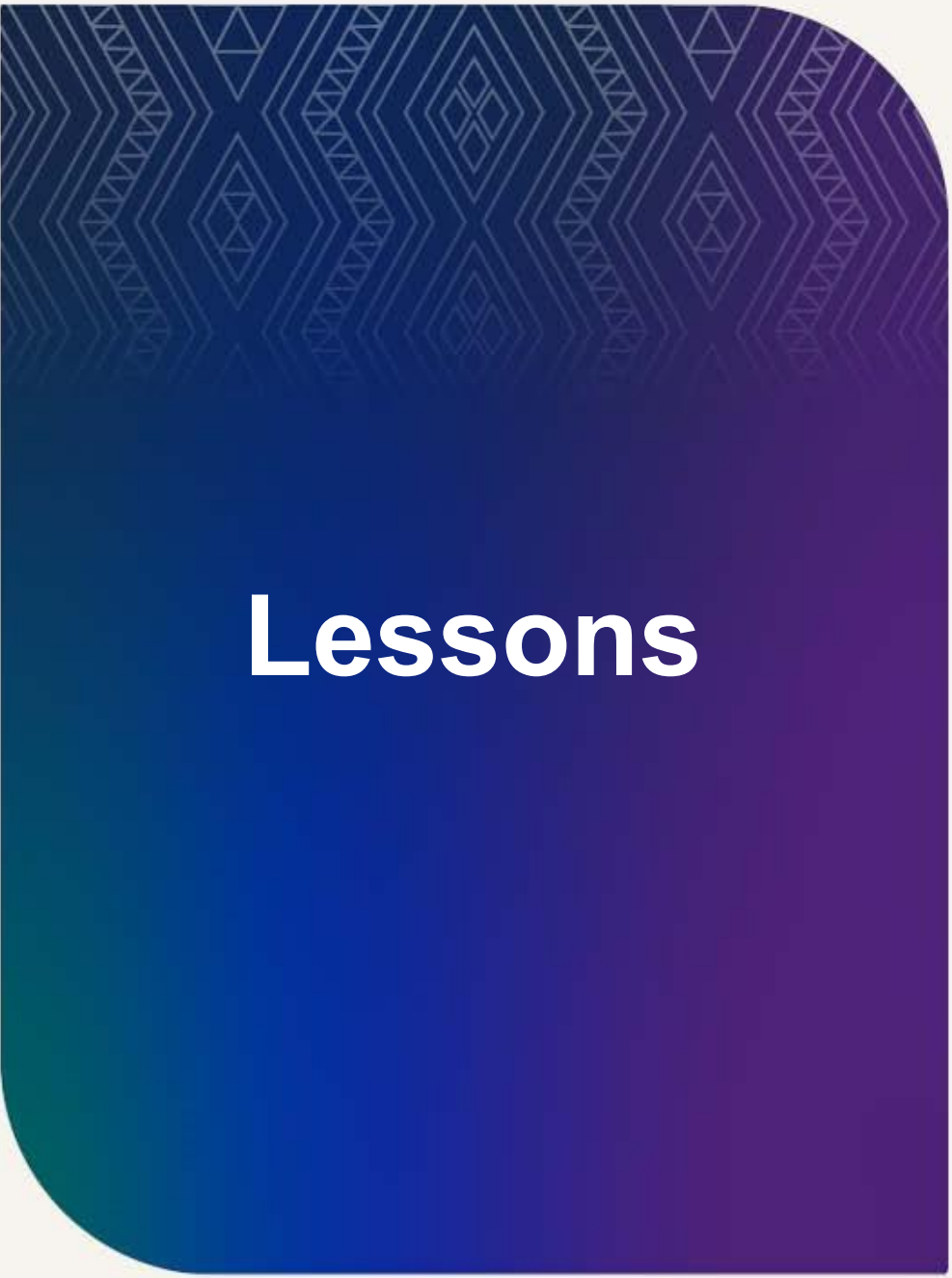
- Purely internal Health NZ
- Draw upon specific academic or sector experts
- Broader sector engagement
- Peer review





Challenges

- Complex, multidisciplinary services;
- Historical data are fragmentary and inconsistent;
- Incorporating relevant perspectives.



Lessons

- Be clear about questions, and why they matter;
- Draw upon as many different sources of information as you can;
- Use judgement about when to push for more information;
- Consensus about what the analysis means and the implications for the future of a service.