



# FUTURAGE

A ROAD MAP *for* AGEING RESEARCH



## The Essential Elements of the Road Map

### The User Perspective

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**Head of Research**

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Global Population – Aged 80+ years

1950 – 14 million

Today – 300 million

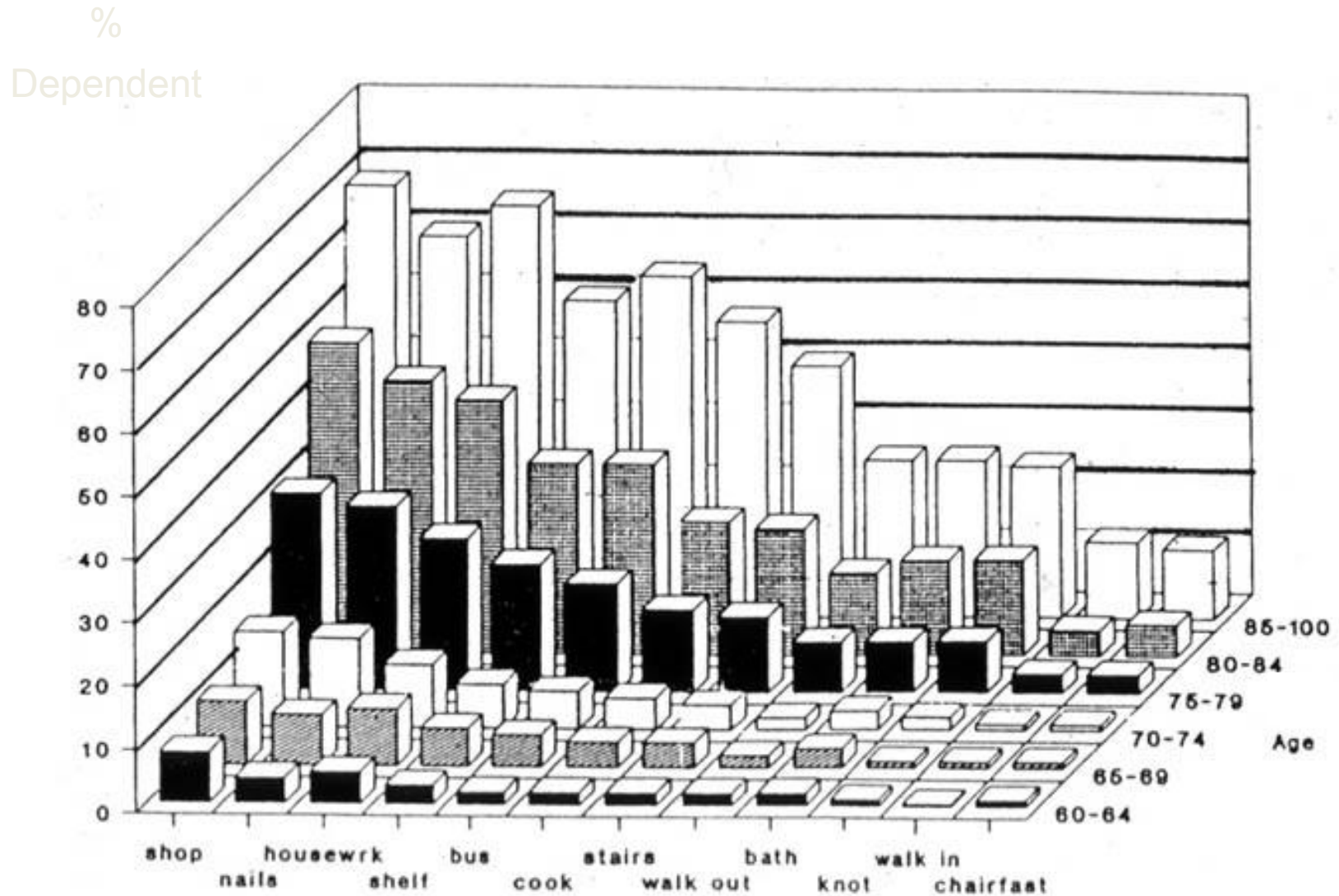
Europe is the oldest continent

Its older population has a democratic  
right to be involved

# Theoretical Gloom

- Exponential relationship between age and prevalence of chronic ill health
- Exponential relationship between age and chronic disabling diseases
- Dependency ratio soon to reach unity

# Things will get worse - Disability



# Things will get worse – Dependency Ratio

## Dependency Ratio – UK Data

- 2010 – DR 1:6
- 2050 – DR 1:1

# Political Panic

- Type 1 Panic 'We can't afford to make or keep old people healthy'
- Type 2 Panic 'We can't afford healthy old people'

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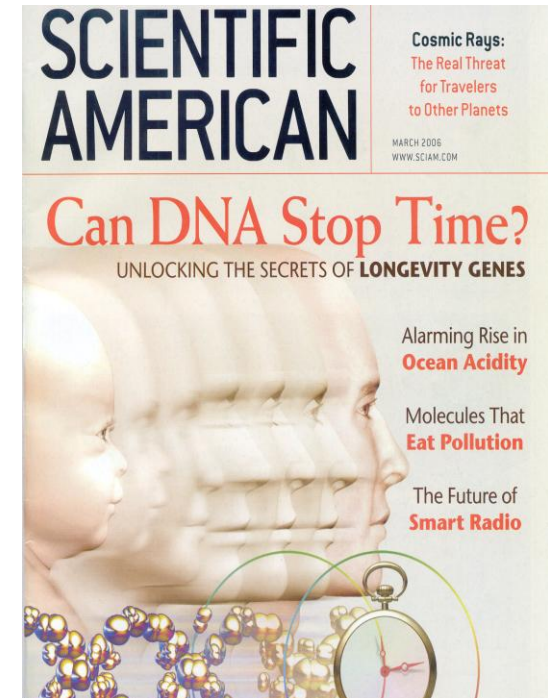
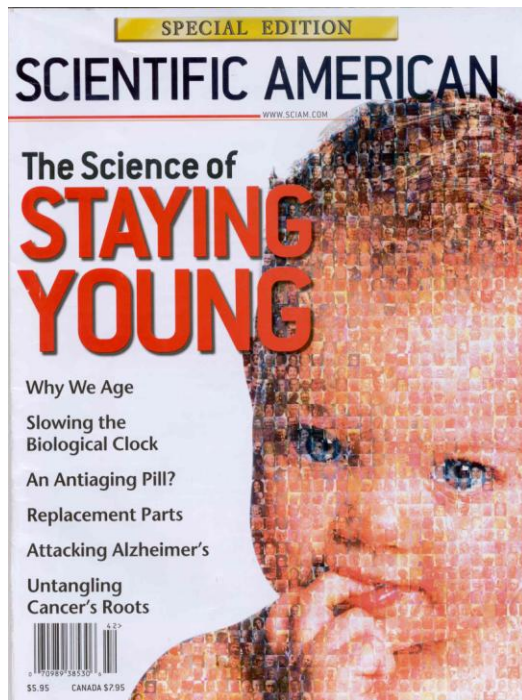
Can Research Deliver ?

# What's on offer

**EVIDENCE-BASED GOOD CHEER**  
**(Research Solutions)**



# The potential for scientific progress



Ageing is a young science but progress is exceptional and most of it has been made in the last 30 years

# Can Research Deliver?

## The Delivery Equation

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Investment} + \text{Strategy} + \text{User Involvement} \\ &= \\ &\text{Research Solutions} \\ &\text{(Knowledge Transfer)} \end{aligned}$$

# Research Failure

The history of science is littered with slow or absent translation of benefit

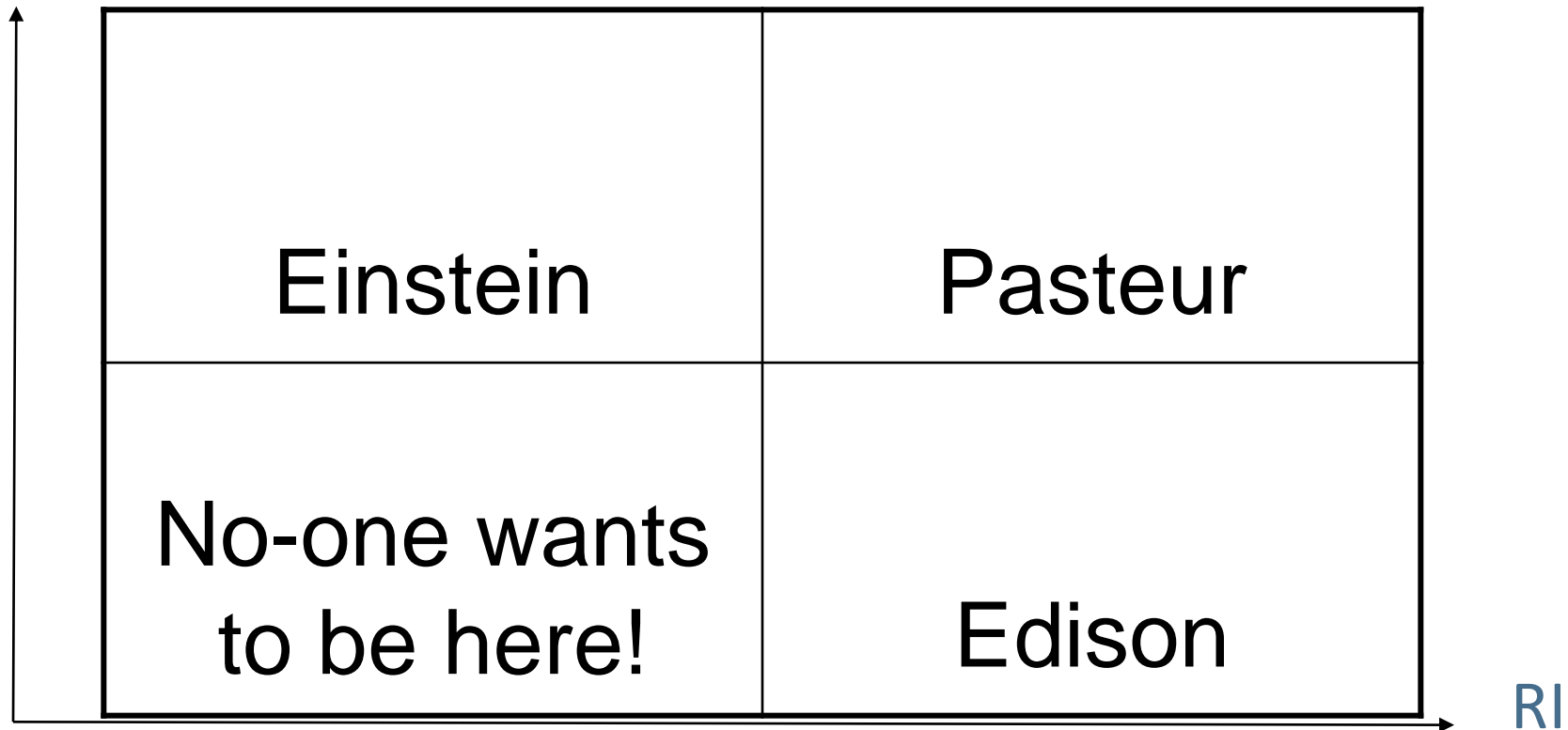
## Example: Statins

|       |              |
|-------|--------------|
| 1950s | Discovery    |
| 1980s | RCTs         |
| 2000s | Prescription |

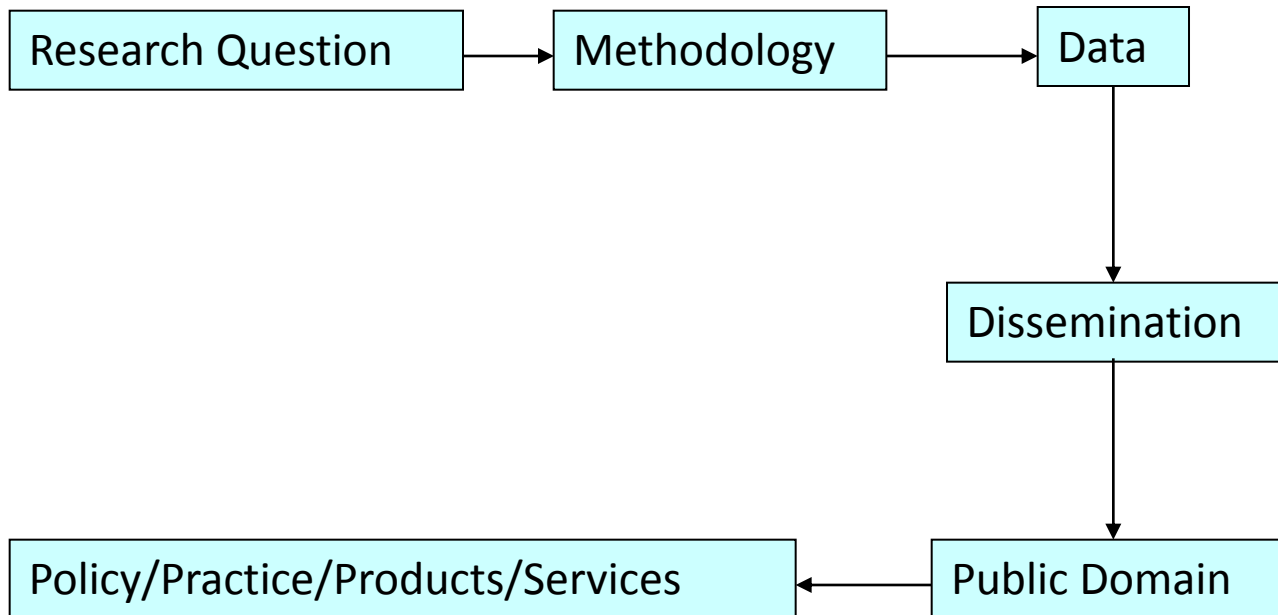
# Can Research Deliver?

RQ

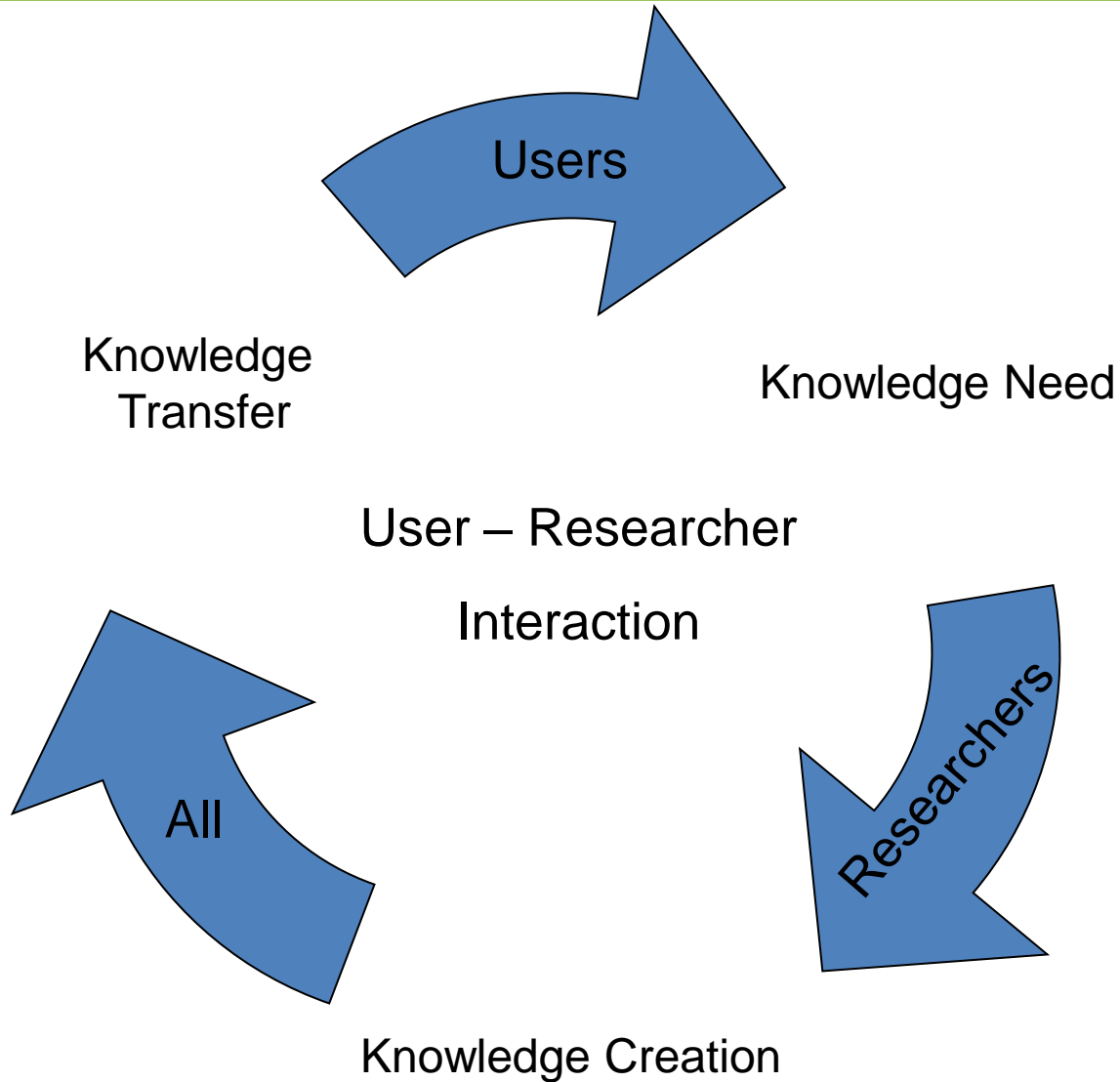
Research Quality vs Research Impact



# Research translation – linear model



# Interactive Model



# User involvement as an inviolable principle of the Road Map

- An expression of the democratic rights of the older population for social inclusivity
- An essential ingredient for research impact
- A major criterion for the funding of research

# Aims of user involvement

- Engage end users of ageing research in the project
- Ensure ageing research is more society driven across the whole of Europe
- Improve the relationship between research and policy and practice
- More effective product development



# Aims of the Workshop

- To identify what are the barriers and solutions to the participation of older people and other users
- To create a lasting model of user involvement for European research in ageing
- To integrate user perspectives into the the Road Map
- To ensure that the Road Map represents both the priorities of scientists and those of users

# Cross-sector integration and inclusiveness

- Older people (individuals and groups)
- Government (local and national)
- Public services (Health and social care, Pensions, )
- NGOs (Age Platform, Age UK, BAGSO, etc)
- Private sector
  - Finance and commerce
  - Manufacturing industry
  - IT
  - Pharmaceutical
  - Healthcare and medical technology
- Universities and research institutes

# Participants of the first user involvement workshop

- 37 participants from 25 countries
- Older people and their organisations (NGOs)
- Industry
- Research (WP 2-5)
- Policy

# Policies, methodological solutions and priorities - emerging issues

- Identifying the 'user' – critical role of NGOs
- Using full involvement, not merely consultation or collaboration as subjects of research
- Enabling older people to become involved in research
- Convincing industry and commerce to invest in the older population
- Mainstreaming ageing
- Influencing from the top-down (decision makers)
- Changing the view: older people's attitudes
- Empowering older people
- Raising the awareness of the importance of participation in the older population

# Summary: The Four Essential Elements

- User Involvement as an inviolable principle
- Cross-sector user integration and inclusiveness
- Knowledge transfer as an essential ingredient
- Policies, methodological solutions and priorities