# **E3 Final Seminar p3 Tackling Pandemics** Venti

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# Content

- Introduction P3Venti
- Main results up to now
- Conclusions / takeaways





# Knowledge gaps

- 1. The contribution of airborne transmission to the total transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus
- 2. The dose-response relationship in the air, i.e., how many virus particles are needed during airborne transmission to cause an infection?
- 3. What is the contribution of ventilation and the use of air purifiers, etc., to preventing Covid-19?
- 4. Prioritization. In which societal sectors is (investing in) ventilation as a preventive measure most necessary and effective?
- 5. Proportionality and cost/benefit analysis of applying ventilation
- 6. The influence of indoor environmental conditions, such as humidity and temperature





# **Goal of the program**

To build applicable and **actionable** knowledge about the role of airborne transmission (aerogenic route, including human exposure to infectious virus particles in a space) for viruses and other pathogens, **contributing** to the knowledge gaps





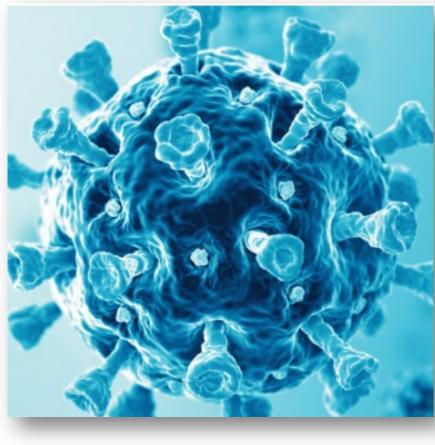
# **Factsheet P3Venti**

- Duration mid 2022 mid 2025
- Budget 8 million EURO
- 10 research partners











# **Relation with other Dutch programs**



www.claireproject.nl

MItigation STrategies for Airborne Infection Control www.mist-project.nl



www.convergence.nl/nl/pandemic-disaster-preparedness-center







## **Research tracks**

#### Technical

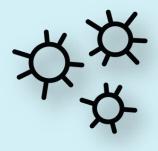
- Interactions between people
- Spreading of aerosols
- Typologies and performance of ventilation systems

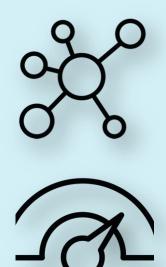
#### **Biomedical**

• Viability and infectivity of virus-bearing particles

#### **Implementation and policy-making**

- Decision-making frameworks
- Social cost-benefit analysis



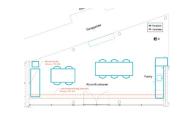


# **Interactions between people**

#### Methodology

- Interviews
- Technical inspection
- Position measurements and observations

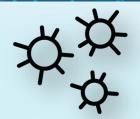








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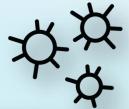


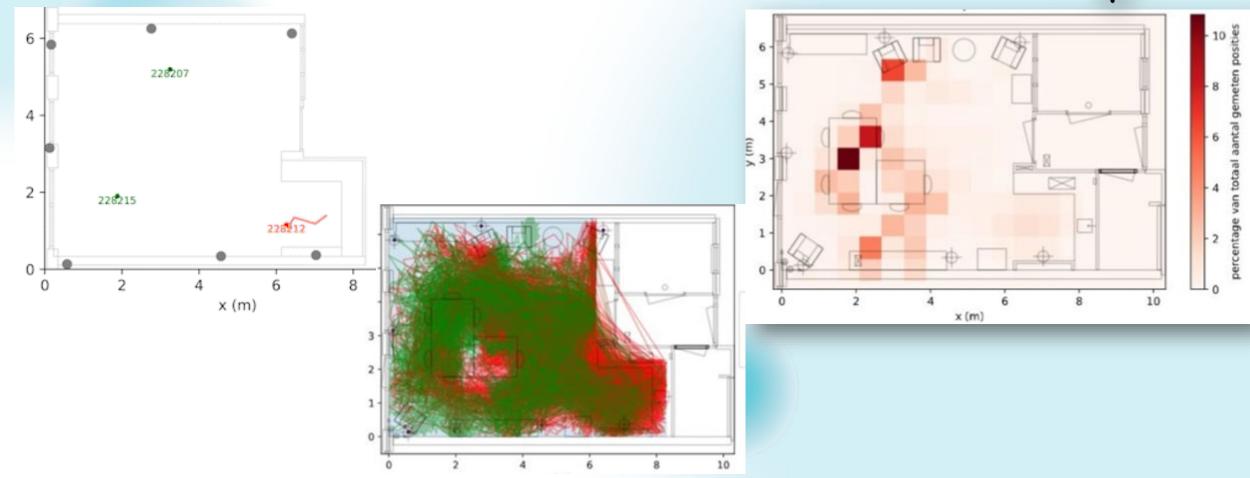






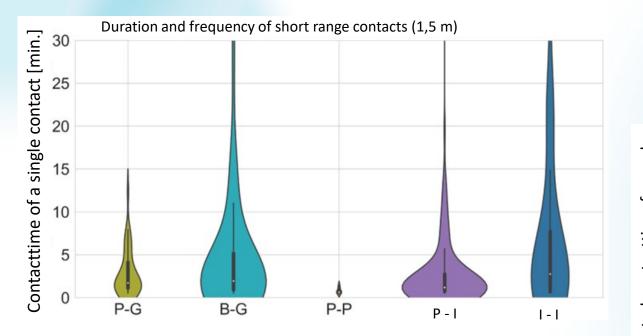
# **Position of people**

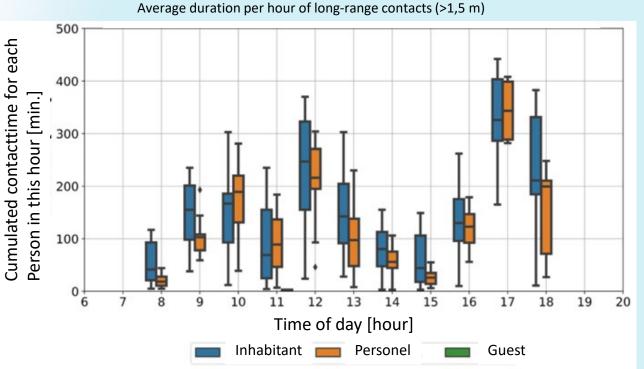








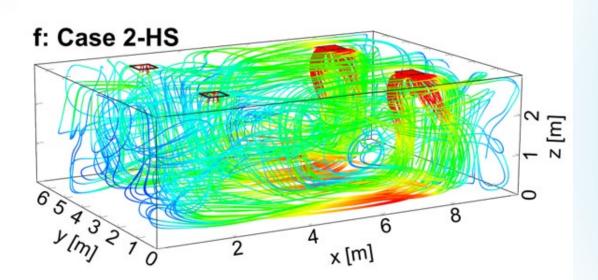




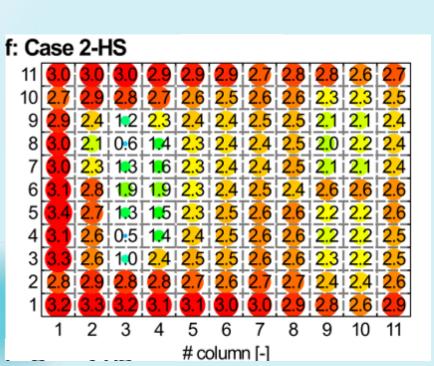
# **Particle distribution**

Developed approach:

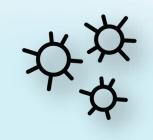
- Many source locations investigated (source no momentum)
- Average for a representative plane
- Outcome identifies potential problematic locations (higher infection risk)



Surface-averaged concentration fraction at z=1.2m (air change rate = 3 h<sup>-1</sup>)



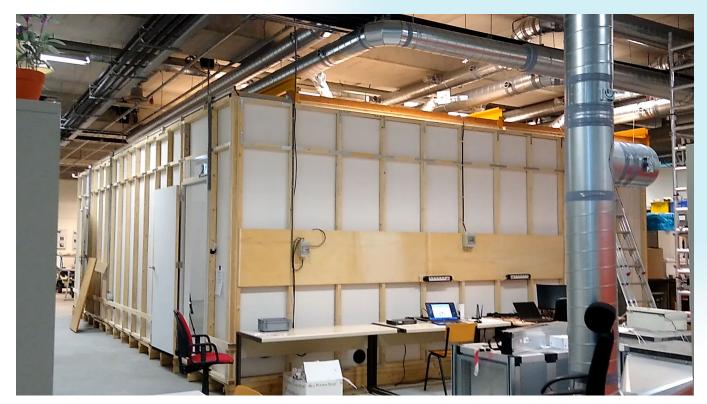




# **Mock-up experiments**







Large room test facility at TU/e

# **Spreading of airborne particles**

Measurements in longterm healthcare center and in mock-up





## Generating aerosols 0.3-10 $\mu$ m (mainly <3 $\mu$ m)

# 

#### 6 or more particle counters

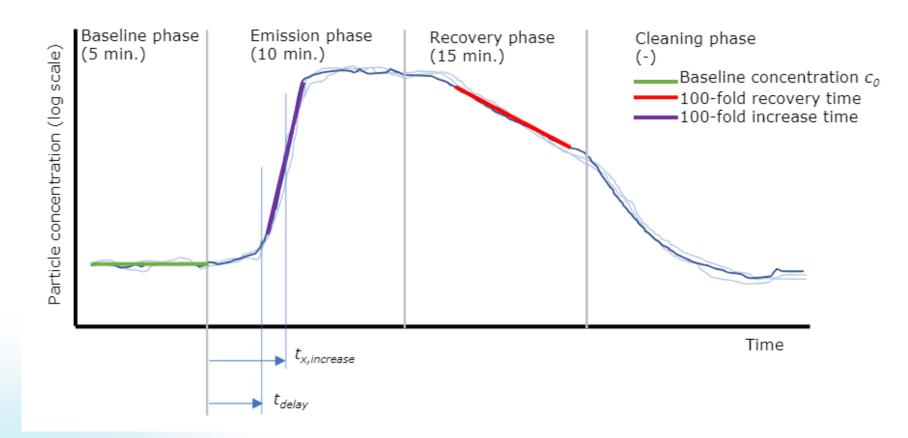


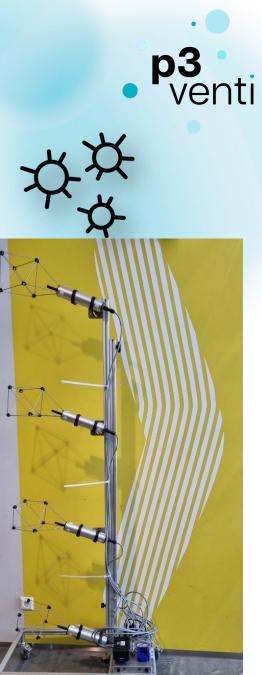
#### Heat sources



# Measurements

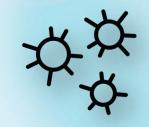
#### Particle count & air flow measurement: in-situ/mock-up

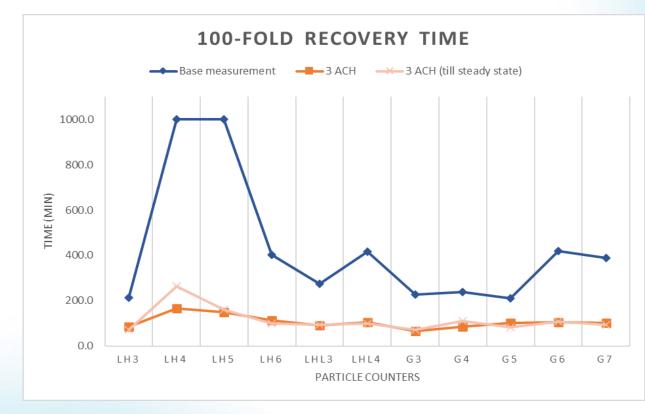


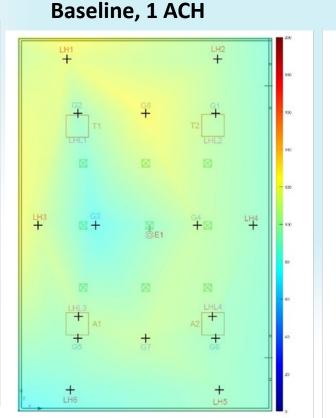


# Effect of ventilation on spreading airborne particles

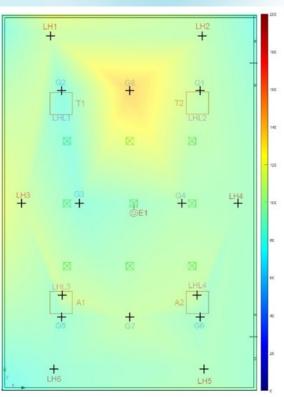






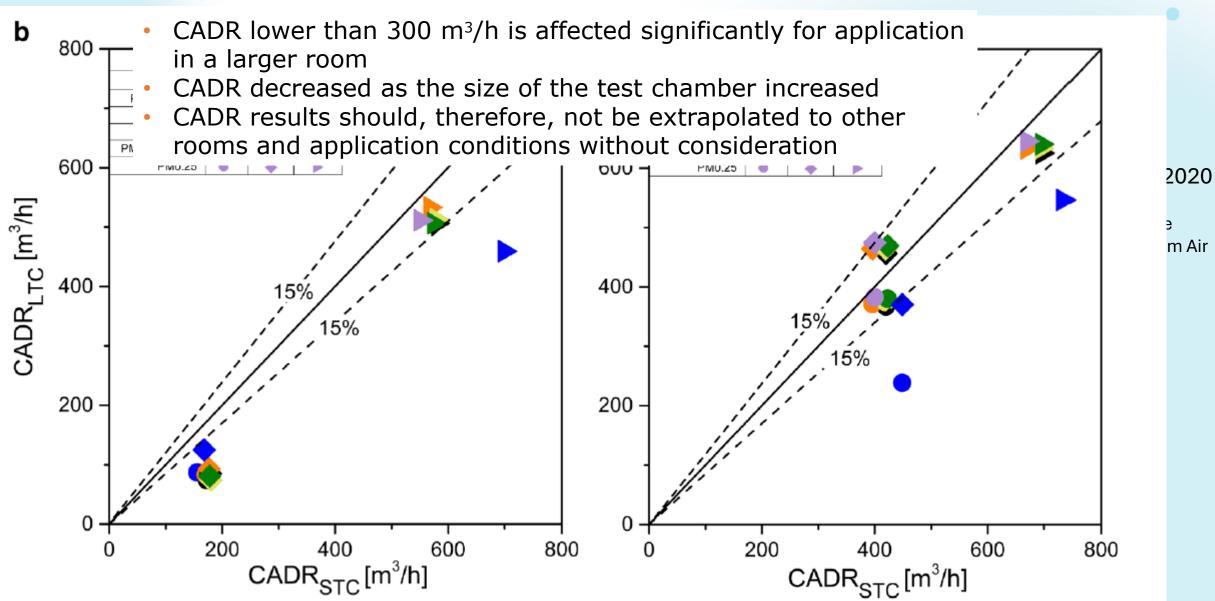






# **Aircleaners**

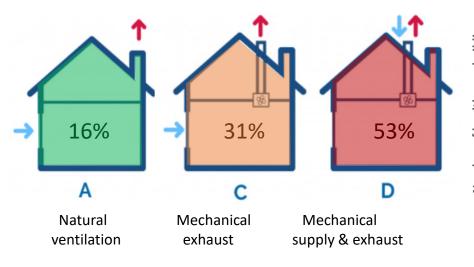




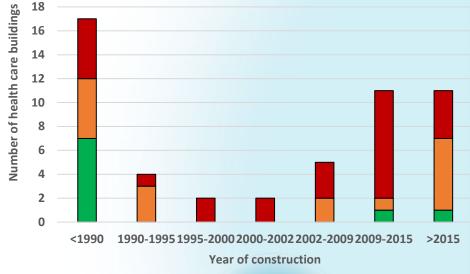


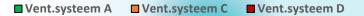
# **Used ventilation systems**

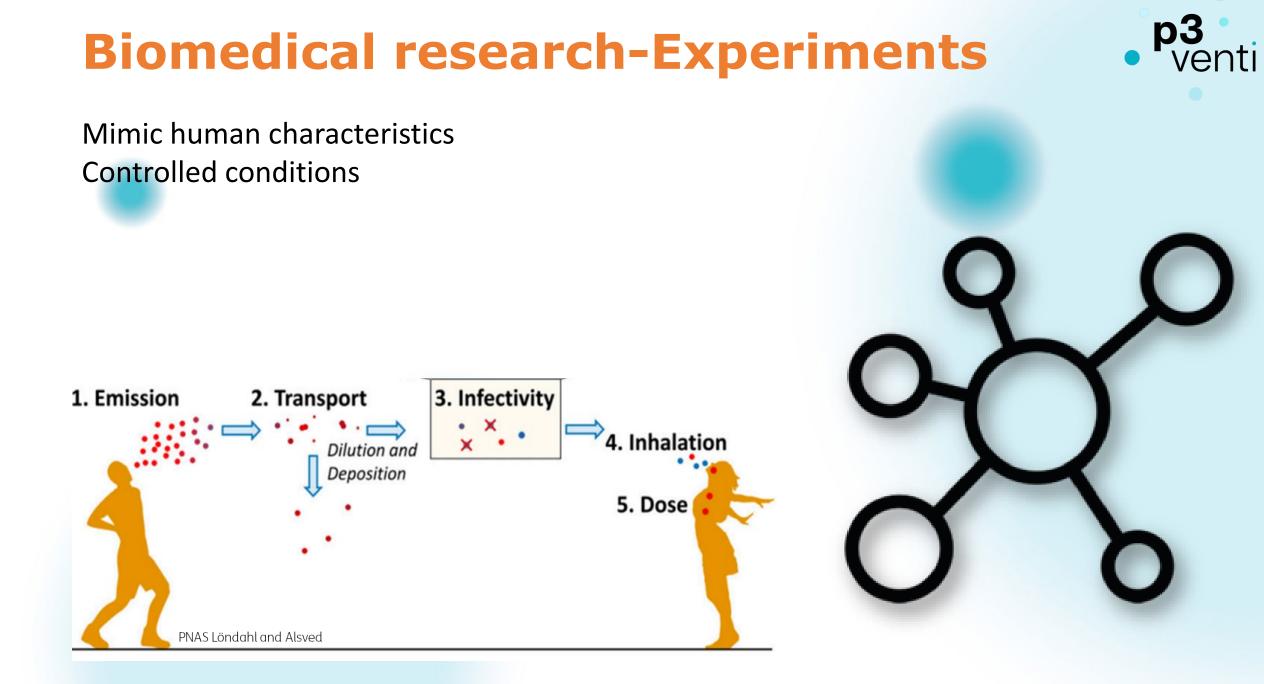




Ventilation systems in long term care buildings





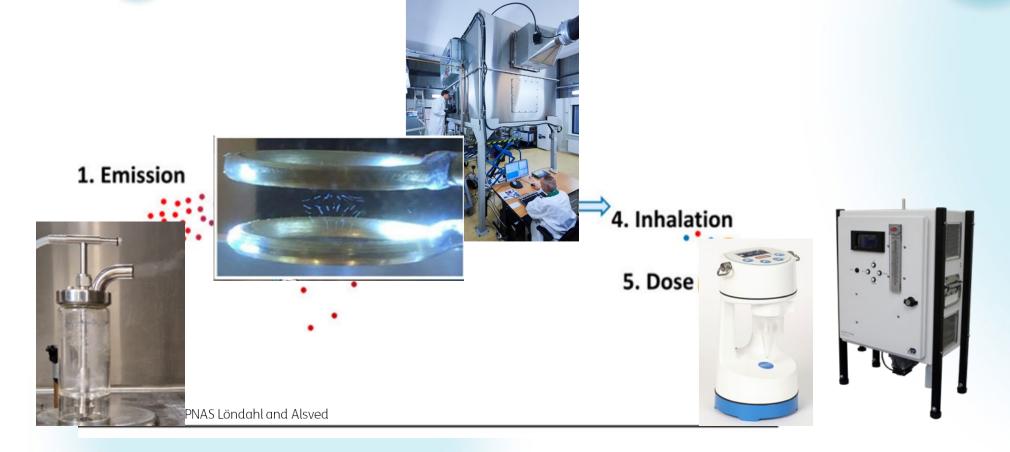


# **Experiments**

#### Mimic human characteristics Controlled conditions









# Sampling surrogate virus **ΦX174**



Infectious viruses per liter of collected air (N/N0)

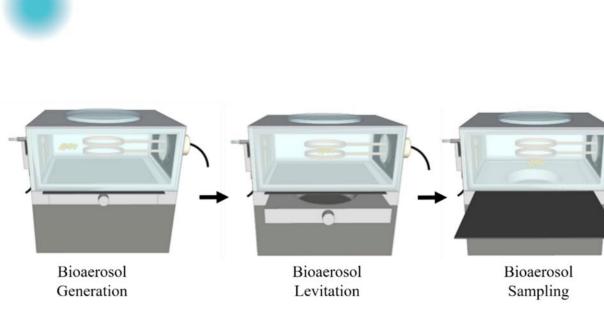
Aerosol Size µm	Coriolis	Biospot	Impinger	Niosh f	Niosh 1ml	Niosh 15ml
<1	1,00	0,81	0,75	0,05	0,05	0,01
1<4	0,62	1,00	NA			
>4	0,70	1,00	0,21			
survival %	95	89	46	21	13	16

SARS-CoV-2 is known as very fragile:

• Mild collection methods are of importance

# **Experiment: air transport**

Construction of a levitator Levitation of aerosols



#### Work in progress:

- Using bacteriophage in aerosols (with mucus) levitation for 15, 30 and 60 minutes
- Testing the stability of influenza and SARS-CoV-2 in aerosols using the levitator and tube system

1.25 X PBS (< 10 μm)



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# **Decision support**

**Policy makers government** 

Management long term healthcare facilities and sport facilities with social urgent activities

# **RISKS/WEAKNESSES IN VENTILATION**



#### Challenges:

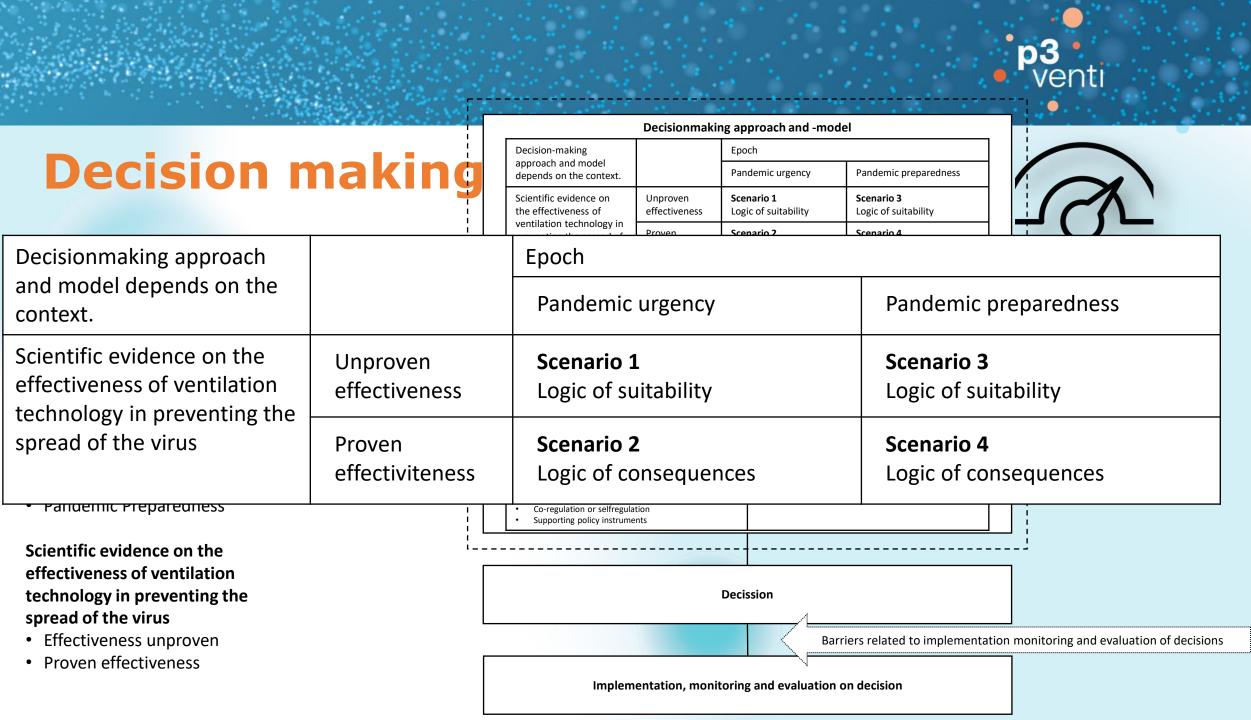
- Complexity of Human Behavior
- Lack of Quantifiability
- Ethical Considerations
- Uncertainty and incomplete information
- Time Constrains etc.

#### Importance:

- Understanding behavior
- Assessing socioeconomic impact

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- Mitigating public effects
- Promoting health equity
- Evaluating policy effectiveness etc





# **Key takeaways**

#### **Social distancing**

 The contact time between people in a space is much higher at a distance of more than 1.5 meters than within 1.5 meters

#### Ventilation as a means of mitigation

- The amount of ventilation in long term health care facilities is relatively low (<1 ACH), and especially with natural ventilation unpredictable
- At these low ventilation rates, there is no complete mixing and the air volume is dominant compared to the position of the supply and exhaust vents.

#### Sientific network

• Different scientific disciplines (technology and doctors) have come closer together

#### Knowledge gaps

 We are learning a little more about transmission routes, and are gaining more knowledge about aerosol behaviour but there is still a lot we don't know



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