

# **Applying outbreak analytics to public health response**

Practical Modeling Concepts for Public Health

# Choosing an analytic approach depends on the context

- Public health need or question
  - Deciding between multiple possible interventions?
  - Improving your real-time situational awareness?
  - Predicting future trends?
  - Evaluating a past public health action?

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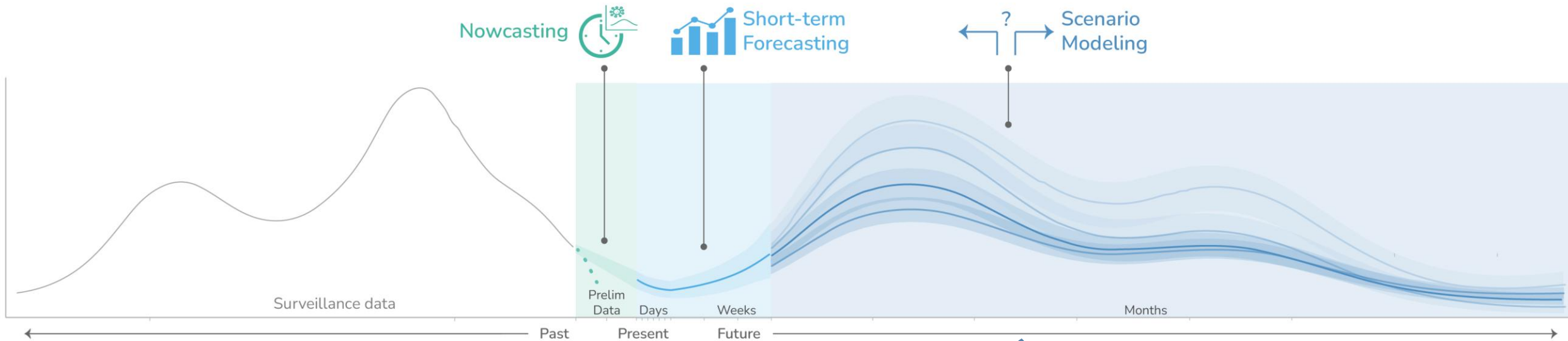
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- Amount and quality of information and data currently available

# Different types of qualitative assessments and modeling outputs are useful at different horizons

**Qualitative assessments:** Rapid, early evaluations of potential outbreak trajectory and risk posed to a population



**Nowcasts:** Estimate real-time disease burden based on partially reported data

**Short-term forecasts:** Predict disease burden in the coming days and weeks

**Scenario models:** Compare different potential futures (or pasts) under varied assumptions

For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

