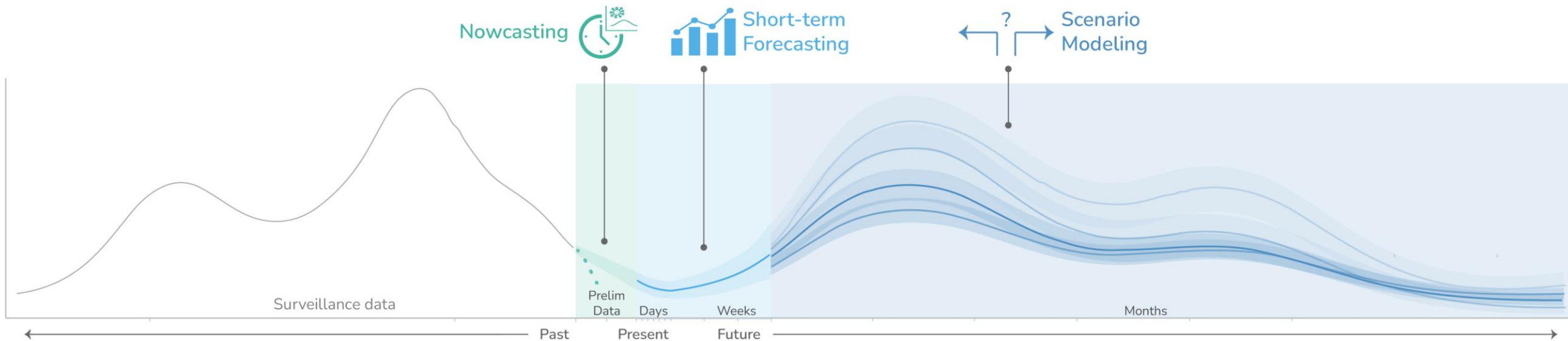


Scenario Assessments

Practical Modeling Concepts for Public Health

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



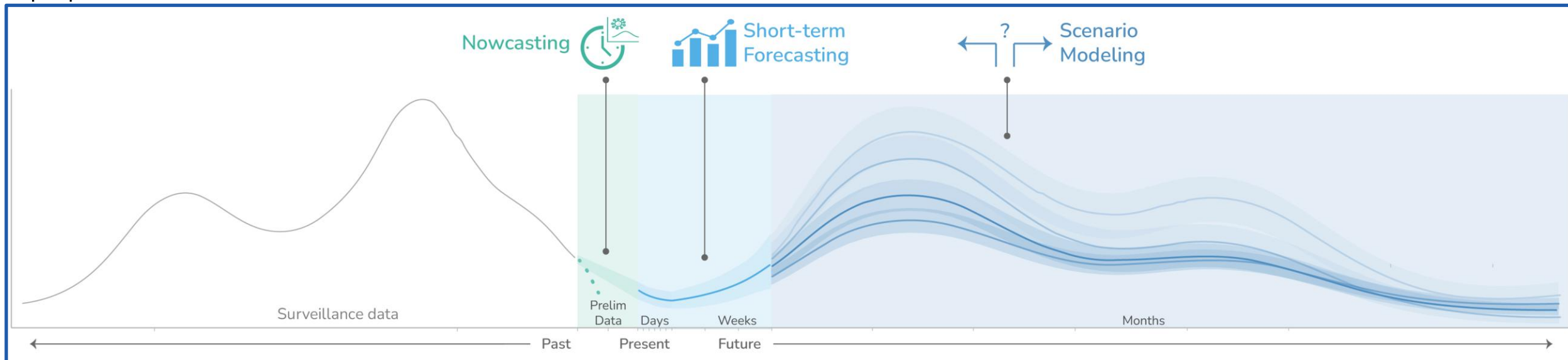
Nowcasts: Estimate real-time disease burden based on partially reported data

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

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

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



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Qualitative outbreak scenario assessment

What is it?

Rapid assessment of potential future outbreak outcomes

Why is it useful?

Can be used to assess what could occur in coming weeks or months to inform preparedness and response decisions

Example inputs

Existing literature, ongoing or potential outbreak response activities, subject-matter expert input, historical data, modeling

Outline scenarios and identify indicators

- Scenarios are described in terms of severity, spread, duration, and/or geographic distribution. They consider:
 - Insights from previous outbreaks
 - Current state of the outbreak
- Indicators broadly help us determine what scenario is ongoing or expected:
 - Measures of outbreak growth or containment
 - Extent and/or success of interventions
 - Detection of cases in new populations or geographic regions
- Indicator assessment can be updated later in the outbreak as information changes

Assess the current scenario

- Use available evidence
 - Not all indicators need to be met for the assessment of a given scenario
- Incorporate expert judgement and data as appropriate
- Note any areas of uncertainty

Indicator	Indicator level (scenario)		
	A	B	C
First Indicator	■		
Second Indicator	■		
Third Indicator			■
Fourth Indicator	■		
Fifth Indicator		■	

Example indicator table, displaying list of indicators and currently assessed level (and associated scenario) for each indicator. Based on the assessment of these indicators, we would likely assess that this outbreak is most consistent with **Scenario A**.

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 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.

