

Future Health Challenges For Cities

Dr Gerard Briscoe, Gail Ramster. *Helen Hamlyn Centre for Design, Royal College of Art*

Thesis Statement:

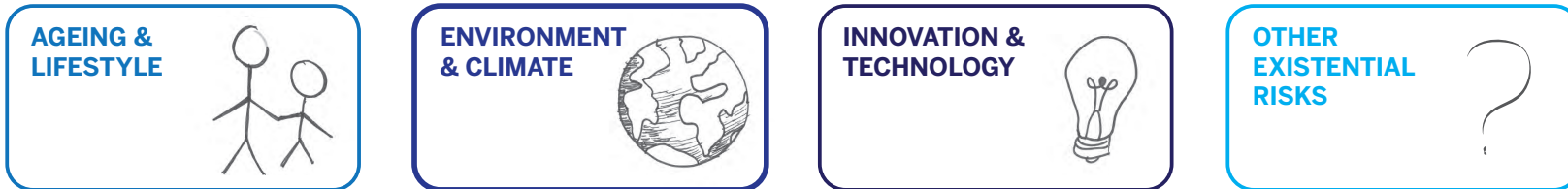
Factors such as population growth, urban migration and climate change, are placing ever greater demands on health around the world.

Cities are becoming the front line in providing the future of healthcare, with more than half of the world's population now living in urban environments, which is forecasted to be nearly 70% by 2050.

There is therefore a growing need to identify **emerging and future challenges** that cities will face, identifying trends for priority issues such as ageing populations, pandemic risks and climate change.

As well as **indicators** of current and expected **future readiness** for these challenges.

Results: We determined emerging and likely future challenges, grouping them into four paired **categories**:



Sub-Categories:



Indicators: present, future or both

Air Pollution	Circular Economy Activity	Biotech Innovation	Antibiotic Usage
Social Cohesion	Social Cohesion	Technology Adoption	Pandemic Economic Risk
Life Satisfaction	Food Sustainability	Mobile Broadband	Drug Resistance
Retirement Age	Urban Flexibility	Data Privacy	Immunisation Rates
Child Obesity	Openness to Innovation	Openness to Innovation	Vaccine Confidence
Ageing & Lifestyle	Environment & Climate	Innovation & Technology	Other Existential Risks

Methodology:



Conclusions:

Knowing these likely health challenges, we can prepare to manage them better.

Furthermore, policymakers and researchers, working in public health and healthcare provision, can make use of the identified indicators.

Next steps would be to collate and extract data for individual cities, for example by these cities for direct action or by a third party for comparative study.