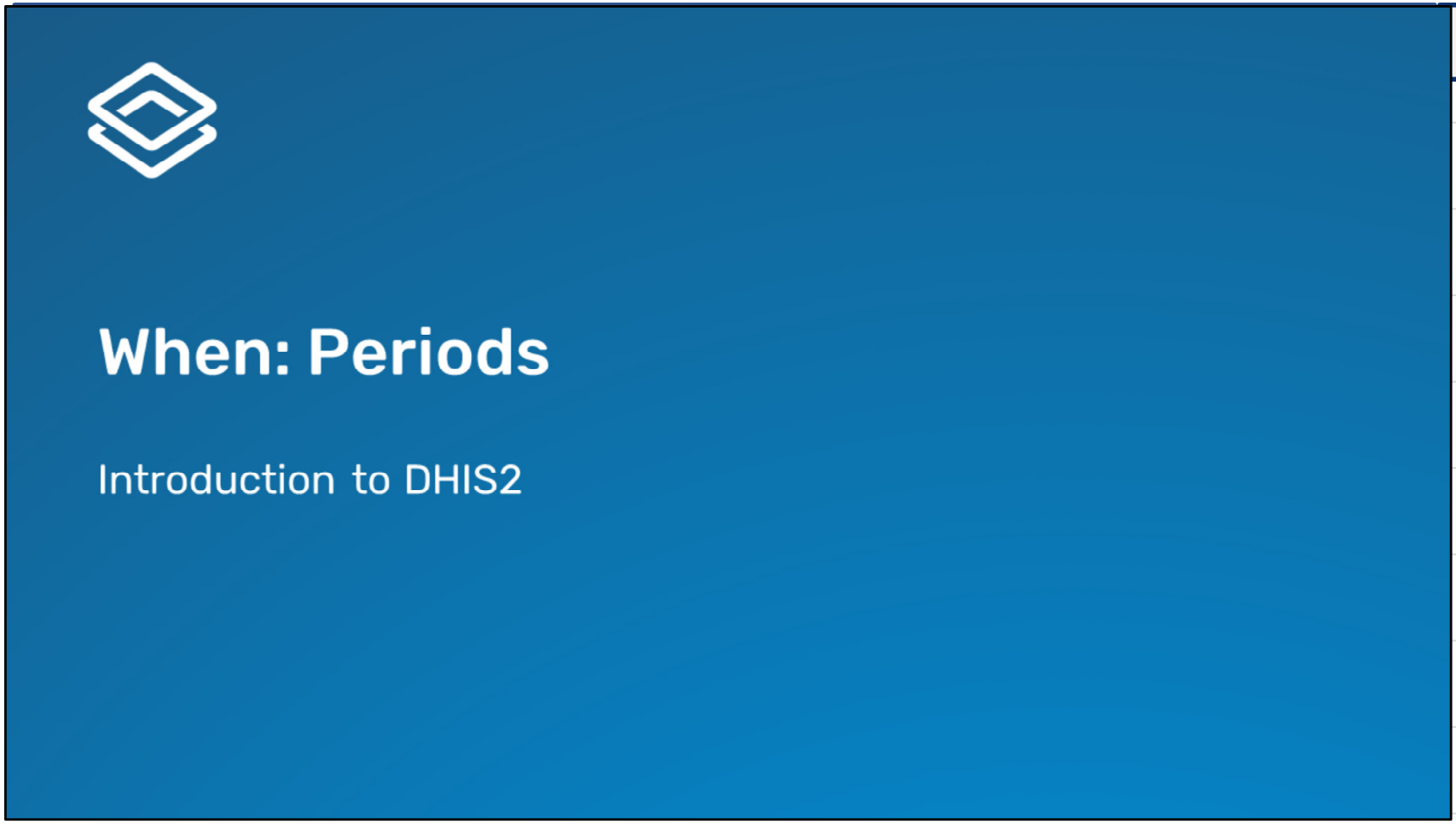
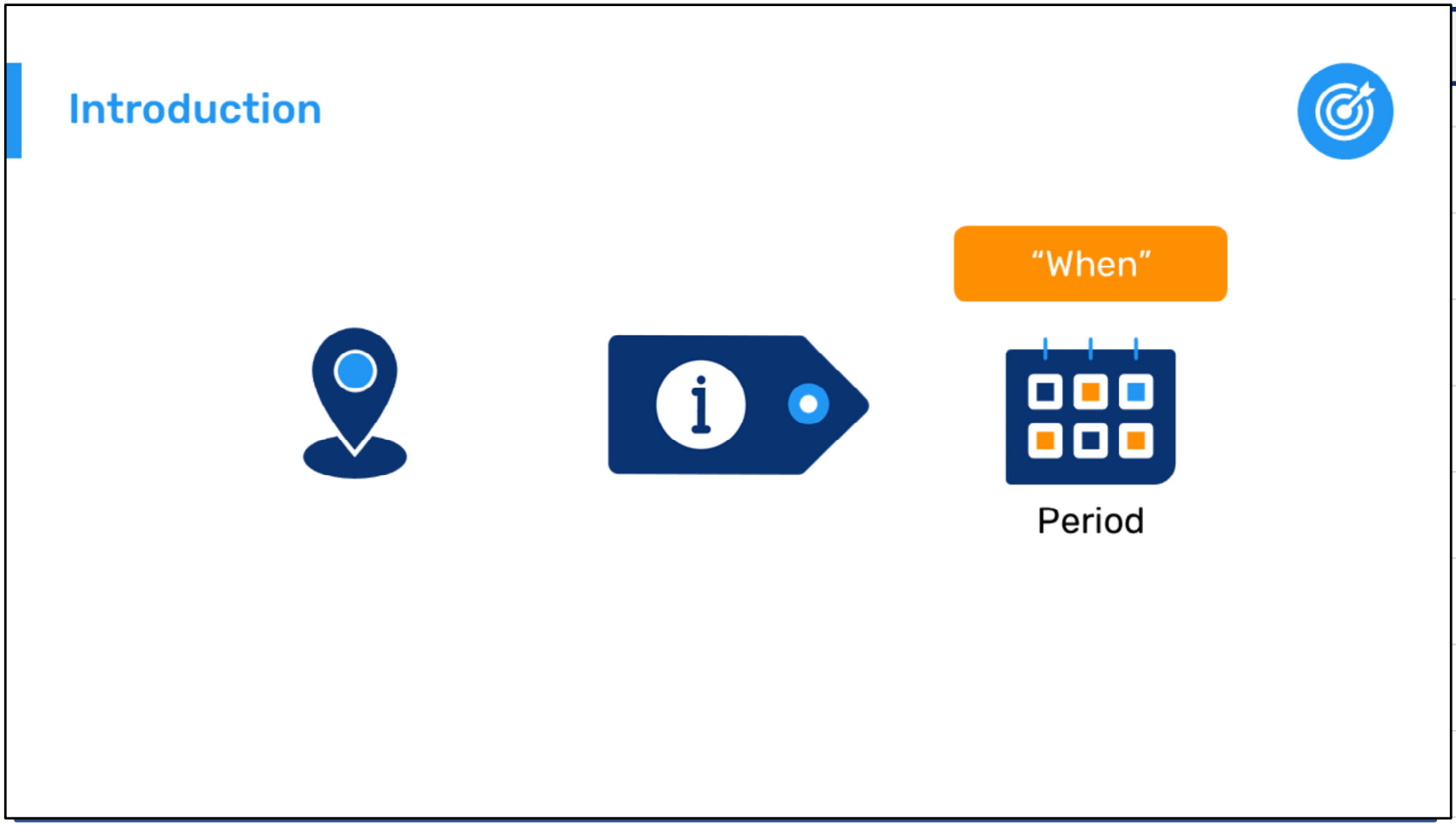


My notes

Narration



My notes

Narration

In the last video of the series about building blocks in DHIS2 we will discuss the "when" dimension, the "period".

The use of periods

My notes

Narration

The period is a significant factor when you are collecting data, analysing data over time or when creating periodic reports, such as monthly, quarterly or annual aggregated reports.

Example of periods for data collection

My notes

Narration

Let's revisit our example of New cases of Malaria reported in Namchala Health Center. We see that those cases were reported for the period of October 2020. That is a very simple example of a period for aggregate data collection.

Example of periods for data analysis

Month-to-month

Annual

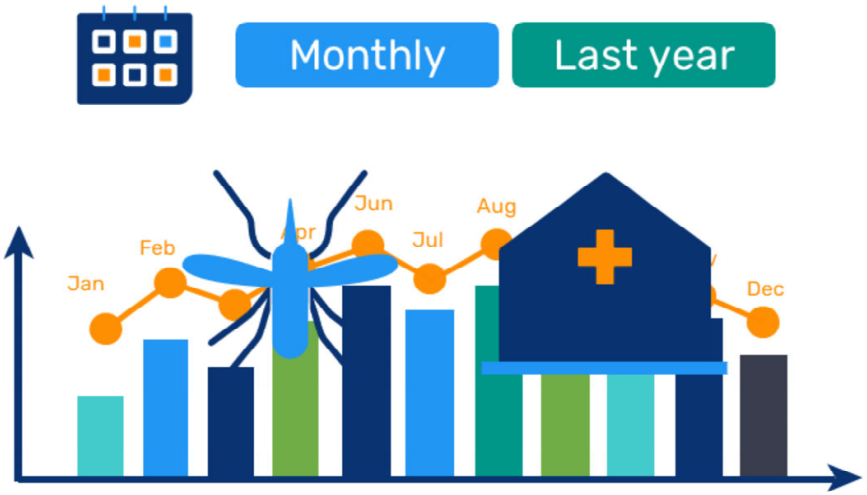
October 2020

My notes

Narration

In the context of data analysis in DHIS2,periods can be combined in many ways, and how you use them depends very much on the type of insight you are looking for. You can get aggregated numbers for a specific period, such as October 2020, month-to-month trend, or annual trend.

Example of periods for data analysis

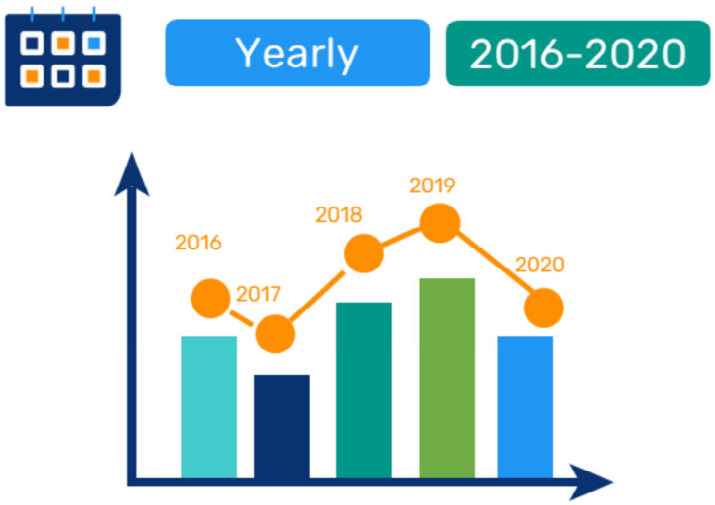


My notes

Narration

For example, we might be interested in Malaria data for this facility displayed monthly for the last year to analyse trends

Example of periods for data analysis



My notes

Narration

or perhaps we are concerned about yearly aggregate Malaria data for the period of 2016-2020.

Example of periods for data analysis

Yearly 2016-2020

Monthly Last year

My notes

Narration

“yearly, 2016-2020” and “Monthly, last year” are both examples of periods in DHIS2.

Example of periods for data analysis

My notes

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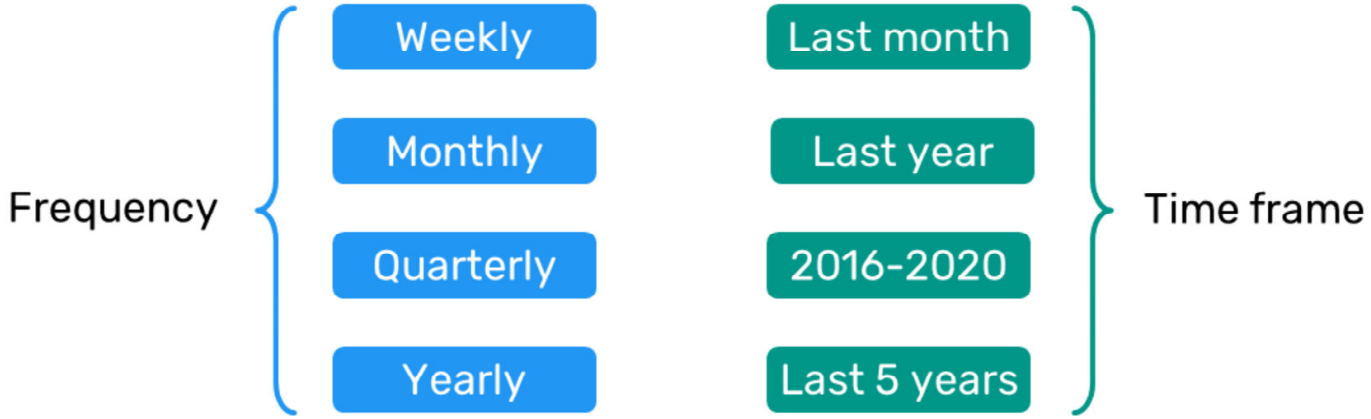
Notice that the first part (“yearly”, “monthly”) refers to the frequency you would like to display the data for. The second part (last year, 2016-2020) refers to the overall time frame for which you would like to aggregate the data.

Example of periods for data analysis



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For data analysis in DHIS2, any period in DHIS2 will be some combination of those two components, frequency and time frame.

Relationship between periods for data collection and analysis

Aggregate data

Reports

Periods available for analysis depend on:

- When data are collected
- The reporting schedule of a program
- Can be configured for each data element

Weekly

Monthly

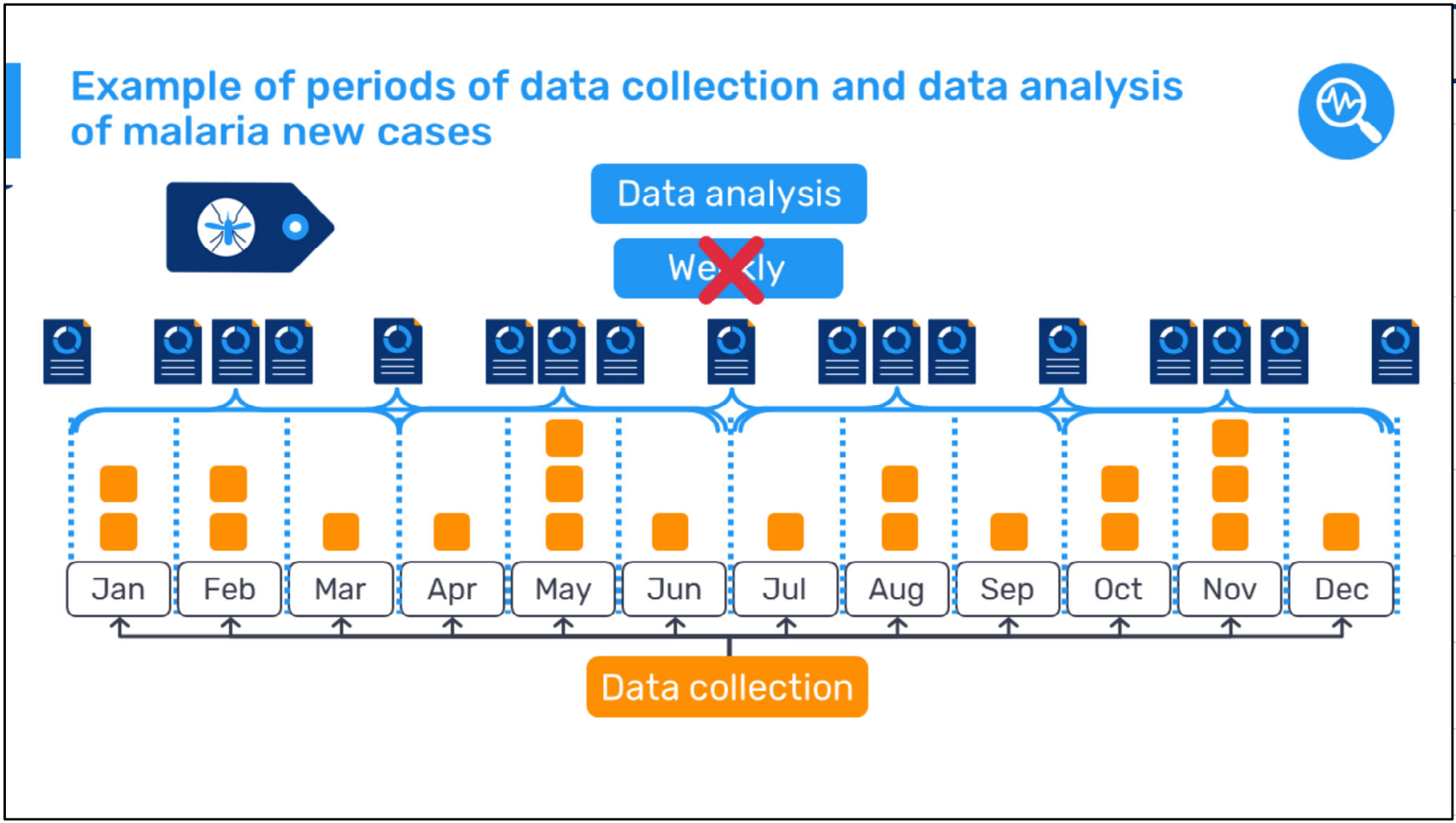
Quarterly

Annual

My notes

Narration

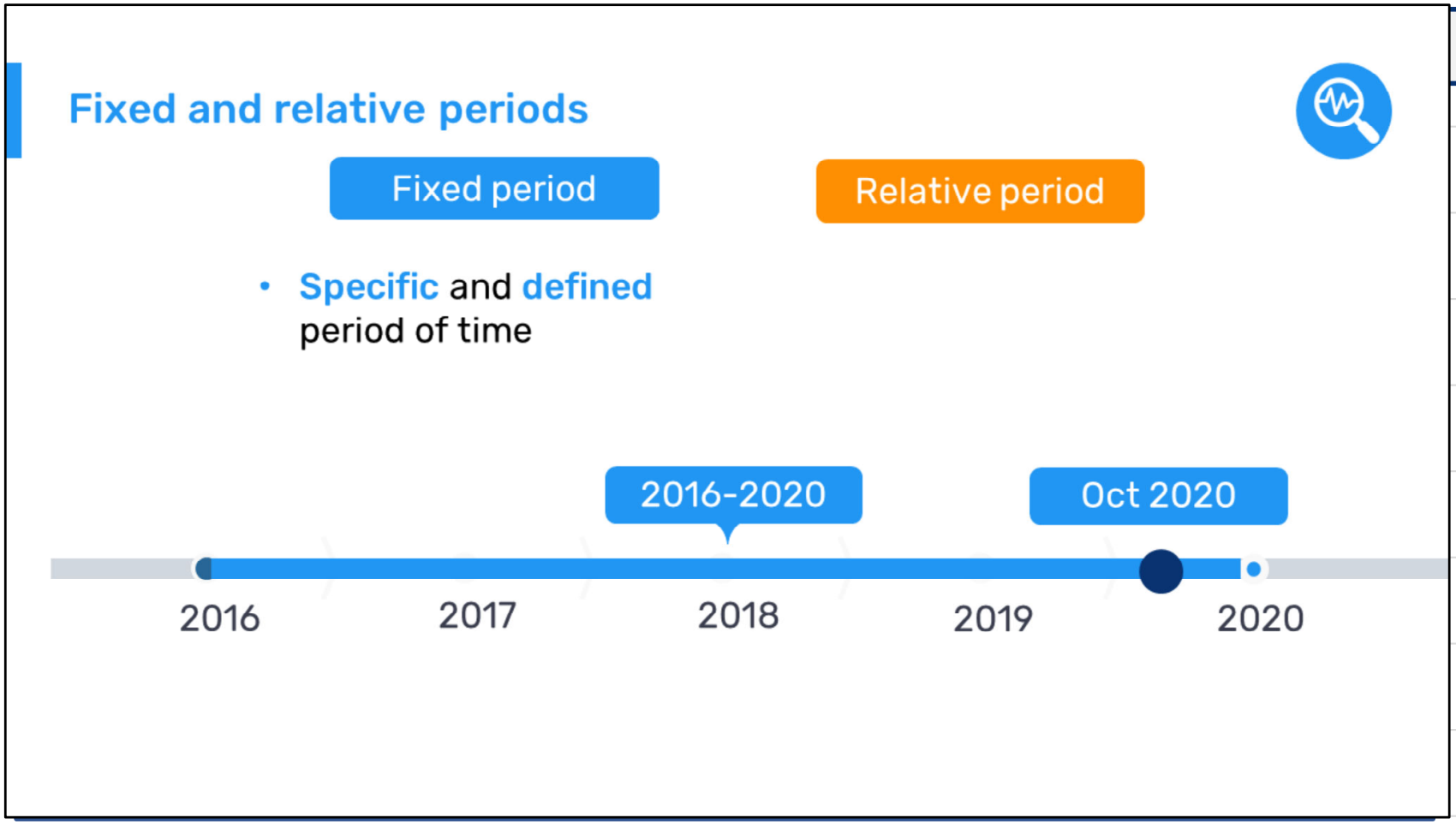
For aggregate data, the periods available for you to analyze your data are dependent upon the predefined period in which your data are collected. This depends on the reporting schedule of a given health program, which may call for weekly… monthly… quarterly… or annual reports, among others. These periods can be configured for each data element collected.



My notes

Narration

For example, if the data element new malaria cases is collected monthly, we can display this data for each month it is collected or we can sum this data to show it by quarter, 6-monthly or yearly. We would not be able to show this monthly data by week however, as the lowest level of collection is by month, so it cannot be disaggregated any further.



My notes

Narration

DHIS2 supports two period types when analyzing or reviewing your data, including fixed and relative periods. October 2020 or the years 2016-2020 are examples of fixed periods, meaning they refer to a specific and defined period of time.

Fixed and relative periods

Fixed period

- Specific and defined period of time

2016-2020

Oct 2020

Relative period

- Defined in relation to the date the analysis is carried out

Last year

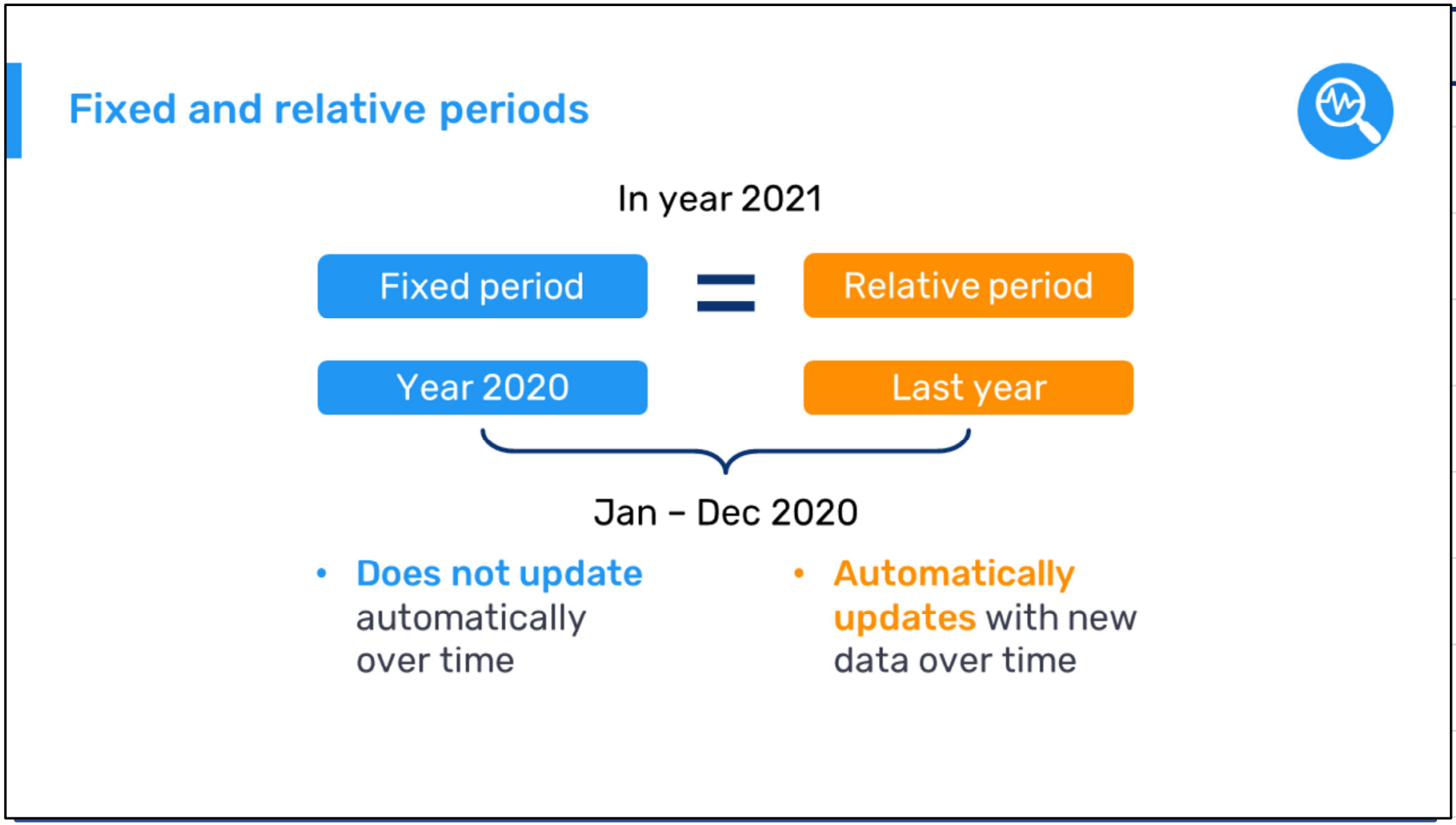
Last month

This quarter

My notes

Narration

DHIS2 also supports relative periods such as “last year”, “last month” and “this quarter,” which are defined in relation to the date the analysis is carried out.

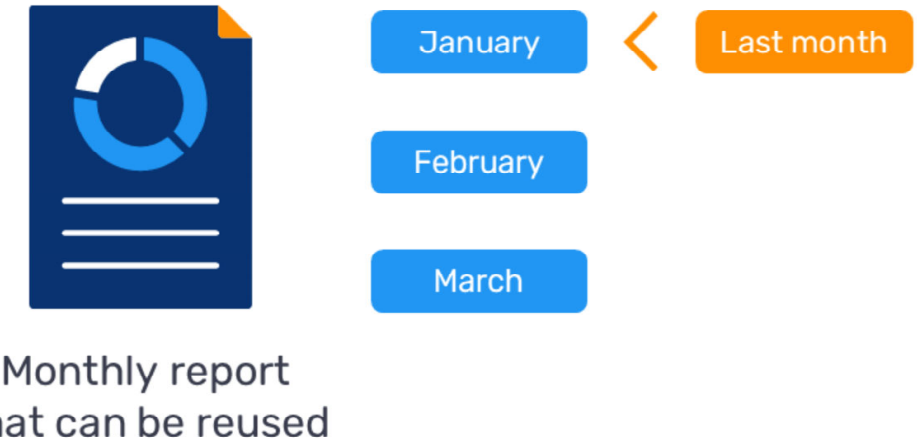


My notes

Narration

In some cases fixed and relative periods both refer to the same period of time, for example if the current year is in 2021, then the fixed period "year 2020" and the relative period "last year" both refer to the same period. The key difference is that a fixed period does not update automatically over time for an analysis item; whereas a relative period will automatically update with new data over time in relation to the real world date. When creating analytical resources within DHIS2 it is possible to make use of this functionality.

The use of relative periods



My notes

Narration

Relative periods can be useful if you, for instance, want to design a monthly report that can be reused every month without having to manually change the report to reset the period to the correct month.

Summary

Period

- Time dimension in DHIS2
- Frequency time frame

Data collection

Fixed period

- **Does not update** automatically over time

Data analysis

Fixed period

Relative period

- **Automatically updates** with new data over time

My notes

Narration

In summary, we learned that the "period" is the time dimension in DHIS2 for both data collection and data analysis. Periods within DHIS2 consist of a combination of frequency (such as monthly, yearly..) and time frame (for example 2020, 2016-2020, Last six months).
The set frequency of the data collected defines the lowest level of period detail of the Data analysis. While aggregate data capture uses only fixed periods, in data analysis, two types of periods are used, fixed and relative. Unlike fixed periods which do not update automatically over time, relative periods will update automatically over time based on the current date of analysis.

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