



Problems and Promises of Health Technologies: The Role of Early Health Economic Modeling

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Abstract

Background: To assess whether early health economic modeling helps to distinguish those healthcare innovations that are potentially cost-effective from those that are not potentially cost-effective. We will also study what information is retrieved from the health economic models to inform further development, research and implementation decisions.

Methods: We performed secondary analyses on an existing database of 32 health economic modeling assessments of 30 innovations, performed by our group. First, we explored whether the assessments could distinguish innovations with potential cost-effectiveness from innovations without potential cost-effectiveness. Second, we explored which recommendations were made regarding development, implementation and further research of the innovation.

Results: Of the 30 innovations, 1 (3%) was an idea that was not yet being developed and 14 (47%) were under development. Eight (27%) innovations had finished development, and another 7 (23%) innovations were on the market. Although all assessments showed that the innovation had the potential to become cost-effective, due to improved patient outcomes, cost savings or both, differences were found in the magnitude of the potential benefits, and the likelihood of reaching this potential. The assessments informed how the innovation could be further developed or positioned to maximize its cost-effectiveness, and informed further research.

Conclusion: The early health economic assessments provided insight in the potential cost-effectiveness of an innovation in its intended context, and the associated uncertainty. None of the assessments resulted in a firm 'no-go' recommendation, but recommendations could be provided on further research and development in order to maximize value for money.

Keywords: Innovation Policy; Innovation; Health Technology Assessment; Health Economic Modeling; Early Assessment
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Citation: Grutters JPC, Govers T, Nijboer J, Tummers M, van der Wilt GJ, Rovers MM. Problems and promises of health technologies: the role of early health economic modeling. *Int J Health Policy Manag.* 2019;8(10):575–582. doi:10.15171/ijhpm.2019.36



Article History:

Received: 23 November 2018

Accepted: 18 May 2019

ePublished: 22 June 2019



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Key Messages

Implications for policy makers

- Early health economic modeling provides insight in potential cost-effectiveness of a healthcare innovation in its intended context, and the associated uncertainty.
- This can be applied before and during the development of an innovation.
- Of the 32 modeling assessments that were retrospectively analyzed, none resulted in a firm 'no-go' recommendation because they all could potentially become cost-effective by improving health and/or saving costs.
- The assessments did provide insights in how to proceed, both in terms of development and positioning of the innovation and further research, in order to maximize value for money.
- This implies a shift away from traditional use of health economic modeling with the aim of estimating the exact cost-effectiveness of a technology, towards exploring what is needed for a technology to provide most value for money.

Implications for the public

The value an innovative health technology may ultimately bring to healthcare systems is defined at an early stage. Health economic modeling can be used in this early stage to synthesize evidence on the current standard of care and compare this with a hypothetical care pathway that includes the technology. This provides insight in the potential value for money the innovation can bring in its intended context, as well as the associated uncertainty, and informs further research and development. None of the 32 assessments we retrospectively explored resulted in a firm 'no-go' recommendation, but recommendations could be provided on further research and development in order to maximize value for money.

Appropriate Technology Problems And Promises Development Centre Studies

Donald D. Evans



Appropriate Technology Problems And Promises Development Centre Studies:

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Appropriate Technology National Science Foundation (U.S.). Division of Exploratory Research and Systems Analysis, 1977

Appropriate Technology Integrative Design Associates, 1977

Appropriate Technology Unesco. Regional Office for Education in Asia and Oceania. Library, 1978 UNESCO pub Catalogue of publications relating to choice of technology held in the UNESCO regional library in Bangkok Thailand includes works of general interest materials regarding specific countries and technical information concerning such topics as agricultural production energy cottage industries water resources fishery resources etc Incl Some ILO publications and lists publishers for ordering of materials

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Technology Options and Economic Policy for Dryland Agriculture, 1989

Acquisition of Technological Capability in Small Firms in Developing Countries H. Romijn, 1998-11-18 An authoritative examination of how small firms in developing countries acquire technological capability the knowledge and skills required to operate technology effectively and to adapt it to local conditions It fills a gap in the established literature on technological capability which has neglected the small scale sector in spite of the important role it plays in employment generation The author develops a methodology for a quantitative assessment of the learning process using case material from the small scale capital goods

sector in Pakistan s Punjab Province **Hearings, Reports and Prints of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources** United States. Congress. Senate. Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,1979

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