Featured in this issue

EDITORIAL
Makela M: Exchanging views on HTA

ASSESSMENTS
Galvao F et al.: Economic evaluation of poison centers: A systematic review
Lim M et al.: The case of emergency department waiting times
Bastani P and Kiadaliri AA: Cost-utility of adjuvant therapies for breast cancer in Iran
Youn JH et al.: Bayesian meta-analysis on medical devices

METHODS
John M and Norheim O: Methods to consider equity in CEA
Golder S and Loke YK: Information sources for adverse effects data
Morrison A et al.: English-language restriction in systematic reviews
Maklin S et al.: QALYs in the evaluation of screening programs
Tan SS et al.: Dutch Manual for costing
Drummond M et al.: Can we reliably benchmark HTA organizations?

COMMENTS
Sampietro-Colom L: Consider context and stakeholders
Henshall C: Describe decision making systems, assess HTA reports
Goodman C: Toward international good practices in HTA

POLICIES
Mad P et al.: Pre-coverage assessment of new hospital interventions
Pichon-Riviere A et al.: HTA transferability in Latin America
Bending M et al.: Drug reimbursement agencies in France and Scotland

LETTERS
Dengler K and Bittner U: What do we mean by talking about "value(s)?"
Hofmann B et al.: To evaluate versus to know the value of everything
Aims and Scope: The International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care has as its specific scope of interest the generation, evaluation, diffusion, and use of health care technology. It addresses the diverse audience of health care providers within medicine, public health, nursing, and the allied health professions; decision makers in government, industry, and health care organizations; and the scholarly disciplines such as ethics, economics, law, history, sociology, psychology, and engineering. The journal aims to fill the needs of those interested in the complexities of interaction between people and technology, technology as a force in social and organizational change; and technology as it is created, produced, applied, and paid for. It examines descriptively and analytically the effects of technology as perceived from the vantage point of different academic disciplines and policy-making organizations and examines methods necessary to conduct studies and evaluations of technology.

The focus of the journal is the international health care community. The experiences of different countries in their encounter with health care technology, viewed comparatively, is invaluable in understanding its effects. Further, it is important to establish ties with the scholars, governments, and private institutions concerned with health care technology so that the experiences and learning of the international community in its parts can benefit the whole.

It addresses the diverse audience of health care providers within medicine, public health, nursing, and the allied health professions; decision makers in government, industry, and health care organizations; and the scholarly disciplines such as ethics, economics, law, history, sociology, psychology, and engineering. The journal aims to fill the needs of those interested in the complexities of interaction between people and technology, technology as a force in social and organizational change; and technology as it is created, produced, applied, and paid for. It examines descriptively and analytically the effects of technology as perceived from the vantage point of different academic disciplines and policy-making organizations and examines methods necessary to conduct studies and evaluations of technology.
CONTENTS

EDITORIAL

85 Exchanging views on HTA
    Marjukka Mäkelä

ASSESSMENTS

86 Economic evaluation of poison centers: A systematic review
    Tais F. Galvao, Everton N. Silva, Marcus T. Silva, Alvin C. Bronstein, and Mauricio G. Pereira

93 Mathematical modeling: The case of emergency department waiting times
    Morgan E. Lim, Tim Nye, James M. Bowen, Jerry Hurley, Ron Goeree, and Jean-Eric Tarride

110 Cost-utility analysis of adjuvant therapies for breast cancer in Iran
    Peivand Bastani and Aliasghar Ahmad Kiadaliri

115 Bayesian meta-analysis on medical devices: Application to implantable cardioverter defibrillators
    Ji-Hee Youn, Joanne Lord, Karla Hemming, Alan Girling, and Martin Buxton

METHODS

125 Can cost-effectiveness analysis integrate concerns for equity? Systematic review
    Mira Johri and Ole Frithjof Norheim

133 The contribution of different information sources for adverse effects data
    Su Golder and Yoon K. Loke

138 The effect of English-language restriction on systematic review-based meta-analyses: A systematic review of empirical studies
    Andra Morrison, Julie Polisena, Don Husereau, Kristen Moulton, Michelle Clark, Michelle Fiander, Monika Mierzwinski-Urban, Tammy Clifford, Brian Hutton, and Danielle Rabb

145 Quality-adjusted life-years for the estimation of effectiveness of screening programs: A systematic literature review
    Suvi Mäklin, Pirjo Räsänen, Riikka Laitinen, Niina Kovanen, Ilona Autti-Rämö, Harri Sintonen, and Risto P. Roine

152 Update of the Dutch Manual for costing in economic evaluations
    Siok Swan Tan, Clazien A. M. Bouwmans, Frans F. H. Rutten, and Leona Hakkaart-van Roijen

159 Can we reliably benchmark health technology assessment organizations?
    Michael Drummond, Peter Neumann, Bengt Jönsson, Bryan Luce, J. Sanford Schwartz, Uwe Siebert, and Sean D. Sullivan, for the International Group for HTA Advancement

COMMENTS

166 Consider context and stakeholders
    Laura Sampietro-Colom

168 Describe decision-making systems, assess health technology assessment reports
    Chris Henshall

169 Toward international good practices in health technology assessment
    Clifford Goodman
POLICIES

171 Pre-coverage assessments of new hospital interventions on Austria: Methodology and 3 years of experience
Philipp Mad, Sabine Geiger-Gritsch, Gerda Hinterreiter, Stefan Mathis-Edenhofer, and Claudia Wild

180 Transferability of health technology assessment reports in Latin America: An exploratory survey of researchers and decision makers
Andres Pichon-Riviere, Federico Augustovski, Sebastián García Martí, Sean D. Sullivan, and Michael Drummond

187 A comparison of pharmaceutical reimbursement agencies’ processes and methods in France and Scotland
Matthew Bending, John Hutton, and Clare McGrath

LETTERS

195 What do we mean by talking about “value(s)”? A Reply to Saarni et al.
Kathrin Dengler and Uta Bittner

196 To evaluate versus to know the value of everything
Björn Hofmann, Samuli I. Saarni, Annette Braunack-Mayer, and Gert Jan van der Wilt