
Preparing and planning for an economic evaluation

How to choose which health
economic analysis to do?

Carol Levin, PhD
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Choosing the appropriate economic evaluation method

- What is the research question?
- Who is your audience?
- How will you use the information?
- When do you need it?
- How much money do you have?

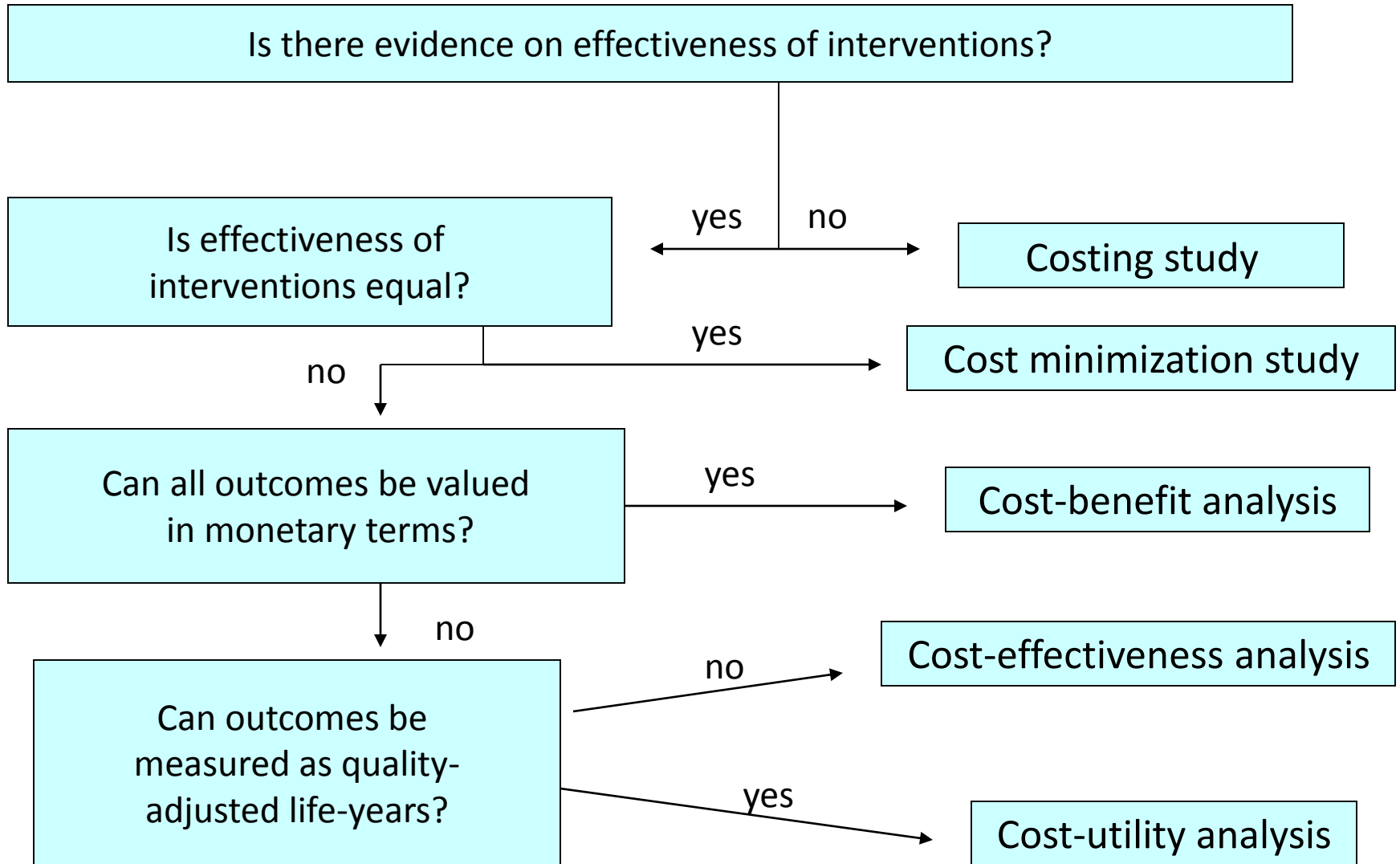


Generating or refining your topic or idea

- What is the problem or need?
 - Is there burden of disease evidence? Is it a health systems challenge?
- What is the hypothesis or problem statement?
- What are the specific research questions?
- Why is the problem important and interesting?
- What is the ultimate purpose of your research/applied research?

What is the objective of the economic evaluation?

- Comparing costs and effects of alternative interventions using CEA or CEU?
- Costs of a new health intervention or technology?
- Costs of a demonstration project?
- Costs associated with project impact?
- Costs associated with scaling up?
 - What it would cost a national program to achieve a planned impact? (i.e. coverage of salt reduction legislation or cancer screening program).
- One or more of the above?



Source: Gray, A. Economic Evaluation in Dawes, et al. Ed. Evidence Based Practice: A primer for health care professionals. 2001.

Basic types of health care evaluations

Are both Costs and Outputs measured?

Compare two alternatives?	NO		YES
	NO	Examines Consequences Only	Examines Costs Only
		Describe Outcomes	Describe Costs
YES	Efficacy or Effectiveness Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost Analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost-Effectiveness Analysis • Cost-Benefit Analysis

Source: Drummond et al.

Defining the economic evaluation

<i>Describe</i>	<i>Questions to consider</i>
Study objective(s)	What is the specific research objective for the economic evaluation?
Study design	How will costs and effects be evaluated as part of the overall monitoring and evaluation strategy?
What is being evaluated?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Health outcomes · Health outputs (coverage, utilization) · Other performance or operational indicators · Costs
Health outcomes	Which health outcomes will be evaluated? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cases averted 2. Deaths averted 3. Disability averted
Health outputs	What additional intermediate output indicators will be evaluated? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Number of target group reached by intervention · Number of target group tested · Number of target group diagnosed (number positive, number negative) · Number of individuals treated

Defining the economic evaluation

<i>Describe</i>	<i>Questions to consider</i>
<i>Performance or operation indicators</i>	What operational indicators will be evaluated? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quality or other performance indicators 2. Number of tests correctly identifying individuals for treatment. 3. Number of target group correctly treated. 4. Loss to follow up
<i>Costs</i>	Which costs will be included in the analysis? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Intervention costs 2. Medical treatment costs averted 3. Client costs incurred or averted
What will this data reveal?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cost per case or death averted · Cost per individual (in target group) reached · Cost per person screened · Cost per person treated · Cost breakdown (cost profiles) for intervention components (inputs/activities) · <i>Information for program planners on the costs and benefits of proposed intervention.</i>
How will the data be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Used in cost-effectiveness analysis to compare new intervention to status quo · To consider introduction or scaling up existing prevention or treatment activities in the country · To evaluate financial sustainability or affordability to the government

Start thinking about sources of information

- Desk study? Published literature?
- Empirical study
 - Expenditure data
 - MOH financial data
 - Facility level resource use data?

Example of types of data, sources and collection methods

Data Type	Source	Collection Methods
<i>Contact Costs</i>		
Salary grade/time of health personnel	Facility level data	Interviews with facility staff
Salary grade/time of lay personnel	Ministry of Health	Government documents
Salary grade/time of supervisors	Ministry of Finance	
Salary cost information		
<i>Drugs and Supplies</i>		
Screening	Facility level data	Interviews with facility staff
Diagnosis		Budget expense reports
Treatment		Price lists
<i>Equipment</i>		
Clinical equipment	Facility level data	Interviews with facility staff
Laboratory equipment		Budget expense reports
Hospital equipment (surgical)		
<i>Capital Costs</i>		
Building costs	Ministry of Health	Budget expense reports
Maintenance and operation	Facility level data	Interviews with facility staff
<i>Hospital cost per bed per day</i>		
Or	Facility level data	Interview with administrative staff
<i>Indirect/overhead costs attributable to cervical cancer treatment</i>	WHO-Choice	WHO website
<i>Client</i>		
Transport costs	Facility level data	Interviews with women
Lost wages	and individuals	using reproductive health
Child care costs		services;
Out-of-pocket expenses for drugs		facility staff

Concept Note

- Background
- Research Question
- Objectives
- Methodology
- Expected outcomes
- Work plan and timeline



www.dcp-3.org
info@dcp-3.org

Questions?
Thank you

Contact: Carol Levin
clevin@uw.edu