MOVING BEYOND THE HEALTH RELATED QUALITY ADJUSTED LIFE YEAR: ASSESSING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DIFFERENT OUTCOMES

Presenter: Brendan Mulhern, UTS
Date: Wednesday 30 August 2017
Time: 12.00pm - 1.00pm
Venue: RB Scotton Room
Centre for Health Economics

Abstract:
Assessing the cost effectiveness of new health interventions and treatments is important in the allocation of scarce health resources. The economic evaluation of new and existing interventions can use the Quality Adjusted Life Year (QALY) which is often derived from a preference based measure (PBM) of health. However the health focus of many of these instruments may limit the applicability of the QALY, and mean that the effectiveness of treatments improving other outcomes and areas of quality of life such as social care may be underestimated. More recently, PBMs have been developed to measure a wide range of perspectives. This has led to competition between measures, and systematic investigation is required to understand the relationship between them in different health conditions. Regarding the development of value sets, the preference elicitation method used is influential in shaping the characteristics of the values produced. Furthermore it is unclear whether outcomes from different perspectives can be valued on the same scale.

In this seminar I will discuss the methods and results of two studies that focused on the measurement and valuation of a diverse range of outcomes to inform how the health focused QALY could be extended. The first study used psychometric methods to understand the relationship between a diverse range of outcome measures assessing a wide range of concepts. The second study used two preference elicitation methods (Best Worst Scaling and Discrete Choice) to understand the relative relationship between health and social quality of life, and assess if can these diverse outcomes can be valued on the same scale to produce QALY estimates for use in economic evaluation.

Presenter:
Brendan Mulhern is a Senior Research Fellow and PhD candidate in health economics and outcomes research at the Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation at the University of Technology Sydney. He started his research career working at the University of Leeds, UK, on projects developing and testing of online interventions. He then moved to the University of Sheffield in 2009, where he worked on a range of projects involving the development of both generic and condition specific preference based measures for use in economic evaluation. He moved to the University of Technology Sydney in 2015 and is currently involved in high impact studies including the development of EQ-5D-5L value sets in England, the UK and Australia, and also the development of version 2 of the SF-6D. Other research interests include developing and testing different valuation methods such as DCE and TTO, and the psychometric assessment of a range of outcome measures.

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