

Step-by-step plan for carrying out an economic evaluation

This step-by-step plan is based on the National Health Care Institute's 'Guideline for carrying out economic evaluations' and describes the steps and associated decisions of an economic evaluation as part of an HTA study.

For a concise overview of the costs and funding sources of HTA research into AI applications, please refer to the appendix 'Road map for HTA research'

Determine the perspective

Society

All relevant costs and benefits of the interventions are considered, regardless of who carries the costs or receives the benefits.

Healthcare

Only costs and benefits **that are part of healthcare** are considered.

Partial perspectives

E.g. from the perspective of a hospital or health insurer.

Formulate the research question (using PICOT) and scoping

Patient population (P): The patient or target population

Intervention (I): The intervention to be assessed

Control (C): The intervention(s) used for comparison

Outcomes (O): The relevant outcomes/outcome measures

Time horizon (T): The relevant time period for which costs and effects are considered

Compare the difference in costs (incremental costs) with the difference in effects (incremental effects) of the treatments to be compared.

Choose the analysis technique

The effects are expressed in:

- a **generic measure of effect**, namely Quality-Adjusted Life Years (QALY) or
- a **clinical measure of effect**, such as blood pressure or life years gained.

Select the analytical approach

Empirical approach

All relevant costs and effects for patients are collected in a study.

Model-based approach

Information about relevant costs and effects from various sources is combined in a model. The type of model depends on the research question and clinical picture.

Decision tree

Markov model

Individual patient simulation model

Etc.

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