

IMPACT HTA | WP3

Developing a costing methodology and a core dataset of costs for facilitating cross border comparisons in economic evaluation

Research Question

- Costs are one of the critical factors for the transferability of the results of economic evaluations.
- Reusing study results would save a lot of time and thus avoid wasting resources.
- The EE study of a certain technology carried out in one country is reusable and transferable to other countries, only if we know what resources are included in the cost calculation.

Methodology

- Searches were carried out on the Health Ministries' and health organizations' websites of each country to identify cost databases of hospital DRGs and any accompanying publicly available documents describing the cost-accounting methodology used to construct them.
- Consortium partners verified these searches, identified any additional official databases with relevant data and completed a semi-structured questionnaire aimed at obtaining information on costing exercise conduction in the country.

Results

- The European Healthcare and Social Costs Database (EU HCSCD) contains 27 costing items organised in three main categories and 13 subcategories.
- There is a lack of transparency and/or inexistence of publicly available costing documents describing elements included in the item and methodology used in cost estimation.
- Complex services and interventions are organised in DRGs. Most direct costs and variable overheads are included in costing items of all countries. The problematic costs are fixed overheads, as they are included in DRGs in some countries, but not in others.

27 costing items organised in 3 main categories and 13 subcategories

Category	Subcategory	Item
Primary resources	Medicines	Paracetamol Atorvastatin Trastuzumab
	Medical devices	Drug-eluting stent Wearable cardioverter-defibrillator
	Health products	Glucose strips
	Personnel	General practitioner Nurse Specialist
Composite goods and services	Outpatient visits	General practitioner visit Specialist visit Accident and Emergency visit
	Hospitalisation	Day of hospitalisation at "normal" ward Day of hospitalisation at Intensive Care Unit
	Image diagnosis	Ultrasound Scan Computerised Tomography Scan
	Laboratory tests	Creatinin Ferritin
	Ambulance services	Non-emergency patient transport Intensive care ambulance
	Diagnostic procedures	Colonoscopy
	Therapeutic procedures	Haemodialysis Oxygen therapy
Complex processes and interventions	In patient medical and surgical processes	Heart failure (ICD10:I50) Hernia inguinal, umbilical (ICD10: K40, K41, K42)
	Day case procedures/ Outpatient surgery	Laparoscopic cholecystectomy Cataract extirpation



easp.es/Impact-Hta/Default

Item in local language
Item subtype
Code
Model*
Brand*
Country
Region*
Year
Type of unit*
Unit of measurement
Strength*
Number of units delivered
Local price
Local currency
Price in euros
Local price (GDP deflator applied)
Price in euros (GDP deflator applied)
Local price (CPI applied)
Price in euro (CPI applied)
Type of unit value
Type of institution
Source
Bibliographical reference
Notes

*Applies to medicines, medical devices and health products

+Applies to only those countries where healthcare costs differ among regions

Policy Implications

- Policy implications highlighted by this whole issue is the urgent necessity of transparent and publicly available costing methodological documents.

EU HCSCD EUROPEAN HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL COST DATABASE