Special Instructions For Authors Of Health Economics Manuscripts*

In addition to the general instructions for authors and other guidelines applicable to their study (for example, CONSORT guidelines for a randomized, controlled trial), authors of health economics manuscripts should consider the following issues specific to such studies and address them in the manuscript and/or submission letter. This checklist should be included with the general manuscript checklist.

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<th>Not applicable or issue addressed in:</th>
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**Title**

- Includes the type of economic evaluation and any comparisons if applicable

**Introduction**

- Includes the type of economic evaluation and the comparative interventions in the aim of the study

**Materials and Methods**

- Includes the perspective (point of view) and time frame of the economic evaluation
- Adequately describe alternative strategies or interventions
- Include a “do nothing” strategy or a rational for its exclusion
- Primary outcome analysis is well defined and established *a priori* or the rational for a *post hoc* analysis is defined
- Include and justify the details and parameters of the model or decision analysis tree
- Include consideration of long-term costs and benefits
- Document the reliability of information sources
- Sensitivity analyses have reasonable ranges and are based on evidence
- Describe methods for estimating quantities and unit costs
- Include currency conversion and discount rates or rational for excluding these
- Adjust for timing both of costs and of benefits or include a rational for excluding this

**Results**

- Present data both in aggregated and disaggregated forms
- Cost-benefit analyses specify the type of evaluation (that is benefits-to-cost ratio, net present value, or net benefits as percentage of costs)
- Express results of any break-even equation in monetary terms
- Specify if human capital or willingness to pay approach is used in cost-benefit analyses
- Express cost-effectiveness analyses data as cost per unit of effectiveness (cost-effectiveness ratio)
- Express treatment cost-effectiveness comparisons as incremental cost-effectiveness ratios
- Express cost-utility analysis results as cost per quality-adjusted life-year

**Definitions for types of economic evaluations**

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<tr>
<th>Cost-benefit analysis</th>
<th>Compares monetary cost and benefits of alternative strategies</th>
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<td>Compares the cost of alternative strategies that have different clinical outcomes</td>
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<td>Cost-minimization analysis</td>
<td>Compares the costs of alternative strategies that have clinically equivalent outcomes</td>
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<td>Cost-utility analysis</td>
<td>Compares the costs of alternative strategies using quality of life outcome measures</td>
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