

Current Status of Health Economics and Emerging Areas of Research

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Introduction

Over the past few decades, health economics has evolved a great deal, so much, so that health economics is now, considered a distinct discipline of scientific education and research. Consequently, the method of health and medical care has also evolved in proportion to the generated knowledge base. The availability of large data sets from systematic and epidemiological research activities and relatively faster advancement of econometric techniques have enabled health care professionals to derive better interpretations and arrive at proper decision-making. There is also a greater demand for advanced scholarly information on health economics. An in-depth understanding of health economics in terms of its concepts and principles by Healthcare policymakers, administrators, managers, and researchers enables better, effective, and efficient health care delivery.

Health Economics and Outcomes Research is an internationally recognized and a leading open-access journal publishing peer-reviewed articles on diverse aspects of health economics including micro & macroeconomics, policy-making as well as evaluation of efficacy & effectiveness of production and consumption patterns of health care. The journal publishes different forms of science communications including original research articles, review articles, case studies perspectives, expert opinions on health policies, health infrastructure, health budget, ethical & clinical aspects of health practice, licensing of drugs, drug regulation and approvals, health care of women & children, public health system. The editorial board of the journal comprises of eminent researchers and academicians from leading health institutions from as many as 14 different countries. The journal was established in the year 2015 and ever since its inception, the journal has been consistently publishing peer-reviewed articles at the rate of four issues per annum.

Health Economics and Outcome Research journal aims to disseminate the latest information on the economics of healthcare delivery such that the care of the individuals and improvement in the individual quality of life is central to the economic policy development. The journal emphasizes customized healthcare service and strives to provide novel and deeper insights into the nature of health care. The specific topics covered by the journal include nursing, medicine, political economy, key economic principles, supply & demand, healthcare finance, healthcare markets, economic evaluation, micro & macroeconomics, markets & economic revolution, evaluation methods of health economics, health economics principles, description, monitoring & modeling of healthcare costs, risk assessment & adjustment, health technology, healthcare finance, organization of the health systems, insurance-based approaches, emerging issues, Pharmacoeconomics, risk sharing, alternative models pricing, personalized medicine, regulations by the government and policy development. The journal also covers the industrial aspects of healthcare and includes the topic on market structure in the healthcare sector

Health economics and outcomes research journals will be of great interest

to the researchers, healthcare professionals, medical interns, physicians, clinicians, policymakers, managers at healthcare organizations, administrators, and economists. The journal promotes a greater understanding of the organizational structure and functioning in the healthcare sector while focusing on global issues that are specific to low, middle, and high-income countries. The journal also publishes latest case studies to enhance the current understanding of various health economic structures and econometric models. The journal solicits advanced economic theories and concepts that help formulation of revised public health policies.

The journal also publishes special issues and conference proceedings in addition to regular issues, at frequent intervals. The journal has successfully compiled the third issue of the current volume number seven and is now actively engaged in the compilation of the fourth issue. In this year's volume, the journal has already published nearly twenty peer-reviewed articles, which includes more than fifty percent of research and review articles. These articles were contributed by about thirty distinguished authors of leading institutions from all across the world. The articles published in this year covered a wide range of topics on health economics including contemporary public health issues affecting health economics at the national level; retail and wholesale drug licensing; traditional medicine and acupuncture; alternative medicine; evolution of economics related to immunotherapy as compared to symptomatic treatment of allergic rhinitis; health sector evolution in Italy; maternal education and child vaccination in India; Novel corona virus disease outbreak and its effects on livelihood; healthcare informatics and effects of COVID-19 on children and the associated challenges. In the current issue, the journal includes five articles comprising of two original full-length research articles on health aid and outcomes in Nigeria as well as on cost and outcomes of video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery for operable non-small cell lung cancer in Morocco, a low-income country. Mohammed and Ahmed [1] examined whether foreign aid for health care has any implications on the health outcomes in Nigeria. The hypothesis of the study was to analyze whether foreign health assistance is effective in improving the health condition of the population and also to examine the role of associated factors such as the transparency of the institutions on health outcomes. The study was based on an econometric model of assessment, which revealed that foreign aid certainly improves the health outcomes in Nigeria in both the long and short run. The authors have identified several factors that play a vital role in improving health outcomes including the effectiveness of government control, the effect of corruption, accountability, and rule of law. The study further suggested that health aid need to be directed at specific targets rather than collectively on multiple health issues at a single go and it is a government's responsibility to ensure and uphold the virtues of good governance.

Waguaf et al. [2] have evaluated the cost and outcomes of video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery lobectomy and thoracotomy for operable non-small cell lung cancer. The study was based on a retrospective review of the patient's database over two years and analysis of the data of hospital cost, operative time, complications rates, and length of stay. The study revealed that video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery cost was not significantly lower when compared to thoracoscopic surgery due to shorter hospital stay with low cost of hospitalization as compared to developed countries. These articles enhance our current understanding of health economics and help in developing revised policies and health care delivery mechanisms for efficient and effective patient care.

References

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