OP144 Health Economics In Clinical Practice Guidelines: The Know-Do Gap

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INTRODUCTION:

Clinical practice guidelines (CPGs) are an ideal implementation mechanism for promoting effective clinical practice, but without due consideration of costs they may do more harm than good and become a source of inefficiency. The Alberta Guideline Adaptation Program sought current best practice for incorporating economic information into CPGs to better leverage health technology assessment (HTA) and health economic expertise in its guideline development program.

METHODS:

A comprehensive, systematic review of published and grey literature was undertaken to: (i) catalogue theoretical frameworks and practical methods for incorporating economic information into CPGs and forecasting the post-implementation economic impact of CPGs; (ii) summarize current methods for evaluating the economic impact of CPGs; and, (iii) identify barriers and facilitators to incorporating economic information into CPGs.

RESULTS:

Rigorous economic analyses were infrequently incorporated in CPG development. While a selection of guidance documents and CPG manuals published between 2001 and 2017 by leading CPG developers emphasized the health economist's role and the importance of incorporating economic evidence into CPGs, few provided adequate guidance on the best way to do this. There is no agreement on how best to monitor the economic impact of CPGs. Analysis of a sample of over 100 studies published between 2005 and 2013 identified the three main methods currently used to assess the post-implementation economic impact of CPGs: pre-test/post-test cost analyses, mapping studies, and modelled cost-effectiveness studies. The key elements of each study type were summarized and compared.

CONCLUSIONS:

The review highlighted the under-recognized know-do gap among developers with respect to using health economics information and expertise in CPG development. It identified the advantages and potential limitations of applying health economics to CPG development, as well as areas where developers can better utilize HTA researchers and health economists to improve the quality of guidelines and better document the resource implications and feasibility of the interventions they recommend.

OP145 The Release Of The Fourth Edition Canadian Agency For Drugs And Technologies In Health (CADTH) Economic Guidelines – A Year In Review

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INTRODUCTION:

In March 2017, CADTH released the fourth edition of the Guidelines for the Economic Evaluations of Health Technologies. As part of the update a few notable changes were made to topics such as discount rate, target population, modeling, effectiveness, analysis, and the theoretical foundations for the Guidelines. In this presentation we will describe: the implementation of the Guidelines; approaches taken to facilitate the adoption of the Guideline statements; and the tools provided to assist users and doers in using cost-effectiveness information in healthcare decision making.

METHODS:

Given some of the changes made to the Guidelines, CADTH identified the need to engage stakeholders early in preparation for the release of the fourth edition. Feedback on topics was sought from various stakeholders (researchers in the field, industry, patient groups, and decision makers) throughout the process. Also, suggestions for tools to support the understanding and implementation of the Guidelines were noted by CADTH. To further support use of the Guidelines, CADTH committed to undertake a number of activities including: workshops for decision makers and researchers; worked examples to illustrate the approaches; and development of tools to assist in the use of recommended methods. Updates to align drug submission guidance with the Guidelines are ongoing.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0266462318001575 Published online by Cambridge University Press