Economic Evaluations in Health Care

This course provides an in-depth exposure to techniques used by health economists and other health services researchers to conduct economic evaluations of health care technologies and programs. Participants learn how to critique economic evaluations using cost-effectiveness approaches and are introduced to tools they can use to apply these techniques in their own research projects.

Faculty and Staff
Course Director: Bruce R. Schackman, PhD, brs2006@med.cornell.edu
Additional Course Faculty: Elena Elkin, PhD, elkine@mskcc.org
Ankur Pandya, PhD, anp2042@med.cornell.edu
Teaching Assistant: Ashley Eggman, MS, ase2005@med.cornell.edu, (646-962-8046)

Requirements and Grading:
Class attendance, participation, and lab participation: 35%
Mid-term quiz: 15%
Final paper (article critique): 50%

Meeting Times/Locations
Lectures: Wednesdays 5:00-6:30PM
   Room A-250, 1300 York Ave
Labs: Thursdays 5:00-6:30PM
   Library Computer Lab; Room D-002 (lower level)

Student Responsibilities

Other required course materials: You must log-in to Blackboard (http://blackboard.cornell.edu/) using your CWID and password and changing ID type to WCMC-CVID to download all course materials (lecture handouts, articles that are required readings, lab assignments and solutions). There will be no hard copy handouts available at lectures or labs. Lecture handouts will be posted on Blackboard the day before lecture; it is your responsibility to print out these handouts if you want to have them available during the lecture.

Attendance: You are required to sign in on the attendance sheet at each lecture and lab. If you do not sign in, you will be recorded as absent. If you will be absent from a lab, please contact Ashley Eggman for instructions.

MS Excel Program: Some lab assignments will require you to use Excel. If you are not familiar with Excel or have not used it recently, we strongly recommend that you complete the following Excel Tutorial on your own during the first week of class:

- If you are new to Excel, complete the following tutorial – Excel 2010 Tutorial HD – Simple Formulas http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJPjs-lITAw
- If you have used Excel in the past but are new to Excel 2010, complete the following tutorial – Excel 2010 – New features http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9uB3Y3JC2Nw&feature=related
Mid-term quiz: An open book mid-term quiz will be held at the beginning of the lab on April 12th. Attendance is mandatory and there will be no make-up quiz.

Final paper: The final paper will be a critique of one or more assigned published articles. The assigned articles will be distributed via Blackboard after the mid-term quiz. The paper will have a maximum length of 5 double-spaced pages, with a minimum 11-point font and one-inch margins. The final paper will be due at 5:00PM on Friday April 27th and must be submitted on Blackboard by 5:00PM. There will be no extensions.

Week 1  
3/12/14 Lecture 1: Introduction **BRS**  

3/13/14 Lab 1: Decision Analysis Review **AP**  
Reading: Muennig Chapter 5

Week 2  
3/19/14 Lecture 2: Costs **BRS, AE**  

3/20/14 Lab 2: Discounting **AP**

Week 3  
3/26/14 Lecture 3: Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness **EE**  

3/27/14 Lab 3: Resource Allocation **AP**

Week 4  
4/02/14 Lecture 4: Cost-Utility Analysis **EE**  
Reading: Muennig Chapters 7 and 8

4/03/14 Lab 4: Quality of Life **AE**
**Week 5**

4/09/14  Lecture 5: Economic Evaluation in Clinical Trials **BRS**

4/10/14  Lab 5: Quiz and Discussion of Article Critique Assignment **BRS**

**Week 6**

4/16/14  Lecture 6: Economic Evaluation Using Decision-Analytic Models **EE**
Reading: Review Muennig Chapter 5; Additional reading: TBD

4/17/14  Lab 6: TreeAge modeling software **AE**

4/25/14  Final paper due by **5PM** (Eastern Daylight Time) on 4/25/14