This volume of *Value in Health Regional Issues* contains specific dynamic health economic and outcomes research (HEOR) and healthcare topics from emerging markets of the Asia-Pacific (AP) region. A total of 24 papers are grouped into different categories, including brief report, economic evaluation, health policy analysis, methodological, patient-reported outcomes, preference-based assessments, and systematic literature review.

With great interest of healthcare and pharmaceutical industry in AP region, this volume covers various topics, such as: warfarin medication therapy adherence in Malaysia, hospital expenditures for patients with type 2 diabetes in Singapore, cost-effectiveness of renin-angiotensin aldosterone system blockade on progression of chronic kidney disease in Thailand, health-related quality of life for patients with HPV-related cancers in Indonesia, cost-effectiveness of the HPV vaccination in Iran and pneumococcal conjugate vaccine in India, pricing negotiation on innovative medicines in China, post-marketing pharmacovigilance of sertraline in Japan, health expenditure trend in Korea, and a systematic review of quality of life for Chinese-speaking patients with ischemic heart disease in Asian countries.

**Emerging themes of AP region**

Appropriate use of HEOR can provide detailed insight and profound information for healthcare decision makers. Healthcare systems in AP countries are facing many challenging tasks and implementing reform policies. The research published in *Value in Health Regional Issues* can help educate readers and healthcare stakeholders about how to use HEOR for emerging themes in the AP region. *Japan’s Vision: Health Care 2035* proposed the future for the country’s health system as “sustaining good health with equity at low cost.” China recently established a new National Bureau of Medical Insurance, which will consolidate management of all different medical insurance schemes, reimbursements, and pharmaceutical pricing policies. The Hong Kong government is aiming to expand public-private partnerships and enhance the implementation of the voluntary health insurance scheme, hoping to alleviate the overburdened public healthcare sector. Regulatory and pharmacoeconomic evaluations will have a significant impact on the existing drug formularies in Hong Kong. In the case of Australia where pharmacoeconomic evaluation was mandated by law 25 years ago, there is a trend of focusing more attention on budget impact in recent years due to the high costs of many new pharmaceutical products, especially biologics and biosimilars. This trend is likely to
be seen in other countries or jurisdictions in the AP region in the foreseeable future. In Singapore, economic evaluation evidence has been formally generated and used to guide subsidy decisions for both drugs and medical technologies in the health system. In Taiwan, high-cost drugs such as checkpoint inhibitors (immune-oncology drugs) have been drawing the attention of the National Health Insurance Administration for several years. Recently drafted guidelines for reimbursement for high-cost drugs, once approved, will be used to aid the decision making of reimbursement.

Next 6 years for VIHRI

Since 2012, we witnessed the development and growth of *Value in Health Regional Issues* at every single step. We are indebted to Dr. Bong-Min Yang, former Editor-in-Chief and his editorial team. The journal covers various healthcare and pharmaceutical research topics in the most rapidly developed emerging market. There is no doubt a huge potential for growth exists for the pharmaceutical industry and for active healthcare reform in this region. The potential demand and supply for the type of evidence that *Value in Health Regional Issues* publishes (eg, budget impact analyses, economic evaluations, cost-effectiveness analyses, health technology assessments, etc) is enormous. While we observed a rapid growth of the ISPOR members in this region, we also expect more and more HEOR research and reports from this region. The journal provides a perfect platform for scientists and healthcare stakeholders to share their research and experiences.

Our new editorial team will cherish this opportunity and will work diligently with our potential authors and readers. We understand that it takes time for the journal to build up its reputation, but together we can further develop *Value in Health Regional Issues* into a mainstream academic indexed journal with a significant impact factor.

We embrace the diversified and multidisciplinary research topics in HEOR. Pharmacoeconomic guideline development is very unbalanced and at different stages among different AP countries and regions. Many new ISPOR chapters have been established and many institutions in the AP region have started to recognize and develop an HEOR research program. We would like to maintain productive relationships with local chapters and welcome more diversified and high-quality manuscript submissions that will continue to serve our community in this emerging market of the AP region.
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