IP8: IQWiG AND THE EFFICIENCY FRONTIER – HOW CAN WE MEASURE PATIENT RELEVANT OUTCOMES?
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ISPOR issue panel, Paris 2009
OCTOBER 27

IQWiG and the efficiency frontier – How can we measure patient relevant outcomes?

Aim of the IQWiG process
The process steps
The “benefit” in the process
The cost benefit analysis
And now? How to measure patient relevant outcomes?

The IQWiG process starts with the Federal Joint Committee (G-BA) and ...

... aims at limitation or exclusion of prescription or reimbursement price cut to "save" money for SHI

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The steps of the process and …

- Order by Federal Joint Committee/Ministry of Health
  - Report schedule
  - Preliminary Report
  - Final Report
  - Federal Joint Committee

… what the IQWiG has to do

- Assess the benefit of drugs and medical services defined as (Social Code Book V § 35b)
  - Improvement of state of health
  - Reduction of duration of illness
  - Prolongation of length of life
  - Reduction of adverse events
  - Improvement of quality of life

- Benefit must be in causal relationship to the intervention
- Recommendation to the G-BA on whether there is an additional benefit

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Patient related benefits according to IQWiG is primarily a kind of efficacy

- According to its methods the IQWiG will primarily assess benefits with a high reliability
  - The effect (benefit or harm) must be specific
  - The causality of the effect should be detectable (meaning the intervention must be responsible for the effect
  - The effect should be reproducible (more than one study)
  - Quality of life data should be derived from instruments evaluated for clinical trials

There have not been any assessments by the IQWiG using Quality of Life to date!

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The IQWiG economic evaluation must translate benefit into value (as long as it is ordinal scaled)

- "value" may include QoL scores (recommendation of the IQWiG)
The efficiency curve of the IQWiG is spanned by "value" and "costs". 

- $X$ represents the cost-benefit relation of the new pharmaceutical.
- $A$, $C$, and $E$ are cost-benefit relations of other treatment options and are spanning the efficiency curve.
- The maximum reimbursement level can be achieved by horizontally moving of $X$ into the yellow zone.

It is unclear what will happen, if there is more than one benefit.

- IQWiG accepts
  - QoL instruments as being able to present value cardinal scaled
  - QoL instruments as being able to serve as sum measurement if there is a multidimensional benefit (more than one benefit)
- IQWiG does not clearly recommend the usage of QoL instruments
- IQWiG "warns" the users: Please be aware of the difference between benefit and the cardinal scaled score of the benefit.

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What about patient reported outcomes (PRO)?

- PRO may be used as long as they were collected during RCTs
- Only PRO validated to be used in clinical trials are recommended
- IQWiG does not favor QoL or PRO

Patient preferences in IQWiG analyses

How do we get the "value" in here?

Now it is up the experts!
Thank you for your attention!

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