

The Chronicle of the V Workshop of the Research in Economic Evaluation: Economic Evaluation as a Tool for Optimal Decision making.

On the 29th of November of 2018 the V Research Workshop on economic evaluation was held in Madrid, at the Escuela Nacional de Sanidad (Instituto de Salud Carlos III). It was organized by the interest group in the Economic Evaluation of AES (EEconAES) in collaboration with ISPOR Spain Chapter and group GENESIS of the Spanish Society of Hospital Pharmacy (SEFH). The cooperation between the three entities has driven a large participation, which was expressed in submission of 12 presentations from which six were selected for the workshop. It is relevant also to mention that the number of enrolled participants was 47.

The group EEconAES aspires to become a collaborative forum for sharing knowledge of the researchers dedicated to the economic evaluation in Spain, regardless of whether the institution is a university, healthcare management technology assessment, or consulting firm. It is not intended to compete with the training programmes already existing, but to complete them to help the researchers to know the existing tools, their specific applications and how to solve the problems of its integration in a specific study. We try to avoid the experience that we have lived as experienced researchers where we have shaped basically self-taught. The Workshop aims to serve as a venue for discussion of methodological aspects related with the economic evaluation based on the presentation of work in progress. The coordinators of the group want to remember that the group is open to new proposals for activity among which we can cite to explore the use of the group's website as a mechanism for knowledge sharing.

The first presentation was delivered by Lidia García Pérez of the Evaluation Service of the Canary Islands Health Service (SESCS) and was entitled "Cost-effectiveness of interventions multi-component in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus: Study INDICATES". The Study is a clinical trial whose objective was to perform an economic assessment completed which compared the costs and outcomes in the short-term (2 years) of the alternatives included in the Study INDICATES: intervention on patients, intervention, primary care professionals, intervention on both and control group. The results show that there is no significant difference between alternatives in terms of years of life adjusted for quality (AVAC). By contrast, the intervention carried out exclusively on patients is less expensive considering the direct health costs. Miguel Angel Negrín, University of Las Palmas de GC commented on the methodology with special attention to the statistical aspects.

The second presentation was entitled "Economic Evaluation of a Multimodal Intervention in Pre-frail and Frail Older People with Diabetes Mellitus: the MID-FRAIL Project" and was presented by Luz Peña-Longobardo University of Castilla La Mancha. As in the previous communication, the aim of this study was to conduct an economic evaluation with data at the level of a clinical trial of an intervention multimodal (nutritional, educational, and physical exercise) in subjects' frail and pre-frail ≥ 70 years with type 2 diabetes versus usual clinical practice. Javier Mar, Hospital Alto Deba commented on the need to use in these designs regression models such as the HIS (Seemingly unrelated regression) to analyse jointly the distribution of the two variables (cost and effectiveness).

David Epstein from the University of Granada introduced the topic of the processes of assessment of technologies in different countries and their comparison with the situation in Spain. His presentation was entitled "HTA in Europe: What can Spain learn from countries with mature HT settings?". Juan Oliva of the University of Castilla-La Mancha completed the description by pointing out the contradictions between what is collected on the economic

evaluation in the legislation that regulates the market access of new medicines and health technologies and its absence in practice.

The fourth presentation was delivered by Carla Blázquez of the University of Cantabria and introduced the topic of the costs of psychosis "direct and indirect Costs of the program PAFIP (Assistance Programme for the Initial Phases of Psychosis) of Cantabria: first year of intervention vs. third year of participation in the program." Ana Ortega of the University of Navarra Clinic commented on the importance of measuring indirect costs in mental health programs.

The multicriteria decision analysis (MCDA) is a new methodology that is postulated as a complementary tool to the economic evaluation and that has been addressed in all international forums. Fernando de Andrés-Nogales from Pharmacoeconomics & Outcomes Research Iberia presented an example in the fifth presentation entitled "Multi-decision multicriteria decision analysis in diabetic macular edema. MULTIDEX-EMD study. "The comment was made by Néboa Zozaya of the Weber Foundation who pointed out the relevance of the MCDA as an integrating method but at the same time some limitations such as the difficulty of comparing results from different studies.

The workshop not only discussed how to carry out the economic evaluation but also the process of analysing their results that is carried out by the decision makers. In this line Mª Dolores Fraga Fuentes of the General Hospital La Mancha Centro presented the sixth presentation entitled "Evaluation, selection and therapeutic positioning of medicines in the regional and hospital commissions". Cristina Espinosa from Ferrer highlighted the importance of using all the evidence in a systematic way in the selection process of medicines that is carried out in pharmacy commissions of hospitals and Autonomous Communities following the methods of the GENESIS group.

