Economics tools for public health

A summary of

How to cite this NCCMT summary:

Categories:
Tool, Synthesize, Evaluate, Economic evaluation

Relevance For Public Health

The CDC Public Health Economics Tools is a collection of useful resources for public health professionals to assess economic costs and benefits for a number of health issues, including influenza, vaccination, etc. In addition to the tools, webcasts and course modules provide introductory information on economic evaluation for professional development learning.

Description

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provide a number of tools for public health economics to support professionals in evaluating health costs and burden relative to program effectiveness. These resources include the tools themselves, user guides and FAQs to help public health professionals apply the economics tools in their work.

The website includes a collection of resources from the CDC and its partners:

- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Veterans Affairs Health Economics Research Center
- National Institutes of Health, US National Library of Medicine

The general approaches to public health economics include:

- Cost analysis
- Economic evaluations
- Decision and transmission modeling
- Regulatory analysis

With 11 economic tools and several online course modules, webcasts and other learning resources, the CDC Public Health Economics Tools is a valuable resource to learn about and use economics tools for public health practice.

Implementing the Tool

Who is Involved?

A wide range of individuals could use these tools, including professionals new to public health economics and those who are well versed in economics.

Steps for Using Tool

The CDC's Public Health Economics and Tools website offers a number of useful learning resources, including:

- The Guide to Analyzing the Cost-Effectiveness of Community Public Health Prevention Approaches
- Five-Part Webcast on Economic Evaluation
- Health Economics online self-study course from the National Insitutes of Health

These summaries are written by the NCCMT to condense and to provide an overview of the resources listed in the Registry of Methods and Tools and to give suggestions for their use in a public health context. For more information on individual methods and tools included in the review, please consult the authors/developers of the original resources.

National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools | www.nccmt.ca
Eleven economics tools are provided on various topics, such as:

- a Chronic Disease Calculator
- tools to assess the economic impact of Influenza and other diseases

**Evaluation and Measurement Characteristics**

**Evaluation**

Has been evaluated.

CDC resources featured on the *Public Health Economics Tools* page have been rigorously assessed similar to a peer-review process conducted for publication in an academic journal. Contact individual organizations for evaluation data on resources featured from other organizations.

**Validity**

Not applicable

**Reliability**

Not applicable

**Methodological Rating**

Strong

**Tool Development**

**Developers**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Website: http://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/pheconomics/index.html

**Method of Development**

The CDC and its partners created the *Public Health Economics Tools*. New tools will be added to this collection as they are developed.

**Release Date**

2011

**Contact Person**

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