

# CEVR NEWS

THE CENTER FOR THE EVALUATION OF VALUE AND RISK IN HEALTH

Institute for Clinical Research and Health Policy Studies Tufts Medical Center

Why are "risk-sharing" models for pharmaceuticals so challenging to implement? In a new paper in *Health Affairs*, my colleagues and I address this topic. We argue that risk-sharing agreements are conceptually appealing, but thus far have proven hard to implement. In this newsletter, we also highlight other recent work, including an analysis of FDAMA Section 114. All of us at CEVR wish you a very happy holiday season!

-Peter Neumann

Director, CEVR

[www.cearegistry.org](http://www.cearegistry.org)



## Cost Effectiveness Analysis (CEA) Registry Update

The Tufts Cost-Effectiveness Analysis Registry ([www.cearegistry.org](http://www.cearegistry.org)) is now updated with cost-utility (cost-per-QALY) studies published through early 2011. The CEA Registry now includes information on the following:

- 2,815 cost-utility articles
- 7,300 standardized cost-utility ratios
- 10,300 utility weights

Use the search box on the [cearegistry.org](http://cearegistry.org) website to search for information.

Data from the rest of 2011 will be posted over the next few months.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

**Buxton, MJ, Chambers, JD.** What values do the public want their health care systems to use in evaluating technologies? *European Journal of Health Economics* 2011. Published online May 15, 2011. [Read more](#)

**Cangelosi, MJ, Auerbach, HR, Cohen, JT.** A clinical and economic evaluation of enteral nutrition. *Current Medical Research Opinion*. 2011 Feb;27(2):413-22. [Read more](#)

**Chambers J, Neumann PJ.** Listening to Provence — what a costly cancer treatment says about Medicare policy on new technology. *New England Journal of Medicine* 2011. Published online Apr. 6, 2011. [Read more](#)

**Fang, CH, Otero, HJ, Greenberg, D, Neumann, PJ.** Cost-utility analyses of diagnostic laboratory tests: A systematic review. *Value In Health* 2011. Dec;14(8):1010-1018. [Read more](#)

**Gazelle GS, Kessler L, Lee DW, McGinn T, Menzin J, Neumann PJ, van Amerongen D, White LA.** The Working Group on Comparative Effectiveness Research for Imaging. A framework for assessing the value of diagnostic imaging in the era of comparative effectiveness research. *Radiology* 2011 Dec;261(3):692-698. [Read more](#)

**Greenberg, D., Neumann, PJ.** Does adjusting for health-related quality of life matter in economic evaluations of cancer-related interventions? *Expert Reviews* 2011. Feb;11(1):113-9. [Read More](#)

**Kamae MS, Kamae I, Cohen JT, Neumann PJ.** Regression analysis on the variation in efficiency frontiers for prevention stage of HIV/AIDS. *Journal of Medical Economics*. 2011;14(2):187-93. [Read more](#)

**Maciejewski ML, Wang VW, Grabowski DC, Lin PJ.** Early evidence on the quality of care provided by special needs plans. *Medical Care* 2011;49(10):891-896. [Read more](#)

**Neumann PJ, Chambers J, Simon F, Meckley L.** Why is "risk sharing" for pharmaceuticals so hard? *Health Affairs* 2011 December; 30(4): 2329-2337. [Read more](#)

**Neumann, PJ, Cohen, JT, Hammitt, JK, Concannon, TW, Auerbach, HR, Fang, CH, Kent, DM.** Willingness-to-pay for predictive tests with no immediate treatment implications: a survey of US residents. *Health Economics* 2011. Published online Dec. 28, 2010. [Read more](#)

**Neumann PJ.** What's next for QALYs. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 2011 May; 305(17):1806-1807. [Read More](#)

**Neumann PJ, Lin PJ, Hughes TE.** FDAMA Section 114: Current uses and opportunities for comparative effectiveness research. *Pharmacoeconomics* 2011 Aug; 29(8):687-692. [Read more](#)

## CEA REGISTRY BLOG

[Visit the CEA Registry Blog](#)

The CEA Registry Blog is a frequently updated resource targeted at the health policy community. Blogs range from brief updates on evolving policies to more in-depth comment pieces.

Recent Blog Posts:

- [Cost-effectiveness of HIV screening: Cost-effective, but not cost-saving](#)
- [Cost-Effectiveness in Diabetes Care: Findings from Published Evidence](#)
- [FDA-CMS Parallel Agency Review – The First Pilot Study](#)
- [Cost Considerations and the IOM's Essential Health Benefits Report](#)
- [PCORI Chief Vows Institute Will Not Do Cost-Effectiveness Analysis](#)
- [Cancer care in high income countries and cost-effectiveness](#)
- [FDAMA Section 114 and Comparative Effectiveness Research](#)

## HIGHLIGHTS

### WHY ARE PHARMACEUTICAL RISK-SHARING AGREEMENTS SO HARD?

Risk-sharing agreements, under which payers and drug manufacturers agree to link payment to health outcomes achieved, offer an appealing payment model for pharmaceuticals. Despite being widely touted, experience to date mainly highlights the challenges associated with their implementation. In our newly published paper in *Health Affairs*, we examine the challenges and successes of risk sharing models, with a particular focus on implementation costs, measurement issues, and the need for data collection infrastructure.

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### FDAMA SECTION 114 AND COMPARATIVE EFFECTIVENESS RESEARCH

Section 114 of the 1997 U.S. Food and Drug Administration Modernization Act (FDAMA) is an important vehicle for pharmaceutical companies to promote the economic value of their drugs to payers. How companies have interpreted and used Section 114 is unclear. This recently published paper in *Pharmacoeconomics* reports on a new survey of outcomes directors at pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies about their use of, and opinions about, Section 114, and discusses how use of Section 114 may change as CER becomes more prominent.

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### WHAT ROLE FOR THE PUBLIC IN EVALUATING MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY?

In a recent editorial in the *European Journal of Health Economics*, Professor Martin Buxton and James Chambers pose the question, "What values do the public want their health care systems to use in evaluating technologies?"

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### IMPUTING WORKPLACE PRODUCTIVITY IMPACTS FROM CLINICAL

#### ENDPOINTS

CEVR recently received funding from the National Pharmaceutical Council to develop methods for estimating productivity benefits for therapies when that information is not available from clinical trials.

### ONCOLOGISTS IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ECONOMIC PREDICAMENT

Frequently oncologists are caught in an economic dilemma: to what extent should they consider a patient's out-of-pocket costs when prescribing cancer therapies? Kaiser Health News interviewed Peter Neumann and reported on the issue.

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## WELCOME NEW CEVR STAFF

**Teja Thorat, M.Sc., MPH.** is a Research Associate at the Center for the Evaluation of Value and Risk in Health at Tufts Medical Center. She serves as the research coordinator and as a reviewer for the CEA Registry.

## BECOME A SPONSOR

CEVR is the home of the Cost-Effectiveness Analysis Registry and the Tufts Medicare NCD Database. These resources can help your organization:

- Compare evidence of value for interventions in a disease or treatment area;
- Understand the latest methods used to measure value;
- Quickly identify literature that estimates the costs and health benefits of interventions under consideration for coverage and reimbursement;
- Gain insight into the rationale underlying Medicare coverage decisions;
- Better anticipate the direction and conditions of future coverage decisions.

As a sponsor, you will receive full access to our value databases, an invitation to our invitation-only Data Value and Strategy Meeting, priority access to our leading researchers, and other benefits.

For more information, please contact Amy Stern, PhD, at [astern@tuftsmedicalcenter.org](mailto:astern@tuftsmedicalcenter.org)

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## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### CEVR SEEKING RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

We seek applicants with a strong desire to further develop their research skills in health economics and health policy. The Research Associate will work independently to operationalize and implement conceptual project research plans and will also be responsible for contributing text to reports and manuscripts. Completion of a Master's Degree, with a degree in health policy, health economics, decision science, or a related field a plus. We are looking for candidates with three to five years experience conducting analyses in an academic, think tank, consulting, or similar environment.

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### CEVR SEEKING PART-TIME MEDICAL WRITER/EDITOR

This writer/editor will develop and edit blogs and short news items for the Cost Effectiveness Analysis (CEA) Registry website. The writer/editor will provide high-level technical editing services and help researchers at CEVR create a lively and up-to-date online forum. This position is primarily responsible for content development and editorial management and support for the CEA Registry website.

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If you are interested in either of these positions or have any questions, please contact Amy Stern, PhD, Research Manager, at 617-636-7431 or by email [astern@tuftsmedicalcenter.org](mailto:astern@tuftsmedicalcenter.org).

## RECENT PRESENTATIONS

Peter Neumann, ScD., chaired and presented to US congressional staff results from a cost of illness study that examined ADHD's impact to the US economy. The event was held at the ADHD Capitol Hill Forum: "Is ADHD Ailing Our Economy?," Washington, District of Columbia on November 30, 2011.

Peter Neumann, ScD., chaired an Issues Panel at the European ISPOR meeting in November 2011 on "Valuing diagnostics: do we need new metrics?"

CEVR held a webinar on September 28, 2011 "Webinar on FDAMA Section 114 and CER".

[▶ MORE INFORMATION](#)

James Chambers, MPharm, MSc., participated in a webinar on September 14, 2011 "Navigating National and Local Medicare Coverage".

[▶ MORE INFORMATION](#)

Joshua Cohen, PhD., presented on "Imputation of productivity benefits of therapeutic treatments" at the Society of Actuaries Annual Conference in June 2011.

**Tufts Medical Center**

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Questions about CEA Registry? Email the Registry team at [cea@tuftsmedicalcenter.org](mailto:cea@tuftsmedicalcenter.org)

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