Abstract

This article devotes considerable attention to new econometric methodologies that have been used to assess health care econometrics. The goal of evaluative research is to identify the causal impact of an intervention on outcomes of interest and to understand the mechanisms underlying this impact. This article addresses a two-fold interest, in the evaluation of a particular treatment as well as in the evaluation of a broader policy intervention or program, such as a ban on smoking in public places or a reform of provider reimbursement. It refers to individuals as the target of the policy interventions. It mentions that selection on treatment is based only on observables. Ex post evaluation is crucial in understanding the true impact of a treatment or policy. This article outlines approaches to the ex post evaluation of treatment effects by comparing outcomes across suitably constructed treatment and control groups.
Health economics is a branch of economics concerned with issues related to efficiency, effectiveness, value and behavior in the production and consumption of health and healthcare. Health economics is important in determining how to improve health outcomes and lifestyle patterns through interactions between individuals, healthcare providers and clinical settings. In broad terms, health economists study the functioning of healthcare systems and health-affecting behaviors such as smoking, diabetes, and However, economic evaluations of public health economics are not without challenges; therefore, there is a need of guidance in this field. To examine what guidance currently exists in the field of economic evaluations of public health economics we conducted a systematic review of UK guidance, international guidance and searched for papers offering observations from key commentators of the economic evaluation of public health interventions.

Methods. The search terms used were: public health, public health economics, guidance for economic/econometric evaluation of public health interventions, challenges of public health economics, methods of public health economics, world health organisation, and health economics [see Additional file 1]. Study selection. Health promotion initiatives should be evaluated in terms of their processes as well as their outcomes. The use of randomised controlled trials to evaluate health promotion initiatives is, in most cases, inappropriate, misleading and unnecessarily expensive. Expertise in the evaluation of health promotion initiatives needs to be developed and sustained. World Health Organization (1998) Health Promotion Evaluation -recommendations to policy-makers. Report of the WHO European working group on Health Promotion Evaluation. Copenhagen: WHO. References. World health Organization. (1998) Health Promotion Evaluation: Recommendations to policy-makers. Report of the WHO European Working Group on Health Promotion Evaluation. Copenhagen: WHO. Systematic review: Economic evaluation of primary prevention of CVD. Phase I: n=195 What kind of studies do exist? Phase II: n=35 (Diet, weight mgt., physical activity) What methodological, systematic problems of relevance to a broader set of prevention? • Quasi-experimental and econometric methods to estimate an intervention’s effectiveness rely on finding, in observational data, a ‘natural’ quasi-experiment that mimics the randomization of a controlled experiment. • Widely applied in economics (eg labour economics, education). • See also recent MRC Guidance on Natural Experiments. HEDG Working Paper 09/09. Econometric Evaluation of Health Policies. Andrew M Jones. Nigel Rice. In health policy research, randomized experiments are less prevalent and researchers are more often faced with identifying causal relationships from observational, or non-experimental, sources of data where the assignment of individuals to treatment or control group is beyond the control of the researcher. In such circumstances, the identification of causal effects is often less than straightforward and econometric tools are often called into play. The evaluation of a treatment, in its broadest sense, refers to the measurement of the impact of an intervention on specified outcomes of inte