Health Economics by Distance Learning

Module 2

Health Economics: Concepts and Analysis

Module Workbook

2015 - 2016 academic year
Module 1
Basic Economic Concepts

Module 2
Health Economics: Concepts and Analysis

Module 3
Introduction to Health Care Evaluation

Module 4
The Economics of Health Care Systems

Module 5
Statistics for Health Economics

Module 6
Further Topics in Economic Evaluation

Module 7
Assessing the Impact of Medical Technologies on Health

Module 8
Outcome Measurement and Valuation

Module 9
Decision Analysis for Health Technology Assessment

PG Certificate

PG Diploma

MSc
Unit 2.1
Is Health Care Different?

Unit 2.2
The Determinants of Health

Unit 2.3
Risk and Insurance

Unit 2.4
Demand: Consumer Incentives

Unit 2.5
Supply: Provider Incentives

Unit 2.6
Equity in Health and Health Care

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Guide to Module 2

Learning aims and objectives

This is a Level 7(M) module and is compensatable in certain circumstances. Please refer to the Programme Handbook, section 4, for full details.

*Learning aims*

To introduce you to the basic concepts and methods of analysis used in health economics and to show why they are relevant for health and health care.

*Learning objectives*

Upon successful completion of the module you should be able to:

- Explain, from an economic perspective, what is special about health care.
- Explain, and be able to give examples of, the factors that influence the demand for health care and how those demanding health care respond to incentives in different types of health care system.
Module 2: Health Economics: Concepts and Analysis

- Explain, and be able to give examples of, the interactions between supply and demand in different health care systems and the implications for efficiency and for equity.

- Critically appraise case studies that illustrate the concepts that are covered in the module. Explain the policy relevance of these applications.

In addition to these, you should ensure you can meet the learning objectives outlined at the start of each unit.

Credits and timing

The module is worth 20 credits and should take approximately 200 hours to complete over 12 weeks of study, including revision for and sitting the module assessment (see below). The following is a guide to the amount of time you might spend on each unit, although you are of course free to fit your study time to your own circumstances.

- weeks commencing 04/01/2016–14/01/2016. Weeks 1 and 2. Familiarisation with Module 2, aims and objectives and introduction. Unit 2.1

- week commencing 18/01/2016. Week 3. Unit 2.2

- weeks commencing 25/01/2016 and 01/02/2016. Weeks 4 and 5. Unit 2.3 Assessed work piece 1 (deadline Monday 01/02/2016).

- weeks commencing 08/02/2016 and 15/02/2016. Weeks 6 and 7. Unit 2.4 Module 2 Workshop (08/02/2016 and 09/02/2016).

- weeks commencing 22/02/2016 and 01/03/2016. Weeks 8 and 9. Unit 2.5

- weeks commencing 08/03/2016 and 15/03/2016. Weeks 10 and 11. Unit 2.6 Assessed work piece 2 (deadline Monday 08/03/2016).
Module assessment

The two pieces of formative (procedural) assessed work to be submitted on or before the dates detailed above are as follows:


Please note that programme staff are under no obligation to mark assessed work that is submitted late – this applies to all modules.

The summative assessment for this module is by unseen written examination completed in the final week. Please read the Programme Handbook carefully for the regulations regarding assessment and award at Postgraduate Certificate level.

On-line learning: Yorkshare

The module is supported by the Yorkshare virtual learning environment located at:

[link to Yorkshare]

You can access this using your username and password which will be separately supplied. Exercises which should be discussed on Yorkshare are flagged in the text with the computer icon.
Reading

The main teaching materials are contained within this workbook. References to books and papers are noted in this workbook by the book icon. These may be ordered from the University of York’s library, or you might find them in your local UK Libraries Plus library. If you work in the NHS, your local professional librarian may prove helpful.

The following textbook is supplied to you to accompany your study:


Some students will still be using the seventh (‘non-e’) or the sixth edition of Folland. In the ‘reading’ sections of this workbook, the first set of page numbers refer to the 7e edition; the second set (in ‘[]’) to the seventh edition and the third set (in ‘()’) to the sixth edition.

Readings marked with an asterisk (*) are strongly recommended. Others are recommended.

The 2014–2015 version of the workbook has undergone significant updating, primarily with respect to the advised readings and some of the exercises.