



Health Economist

The Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER) is an innovative, independent non-profit health care research organization dedicated to improving the application of evidence throughout the health care system. ICER produces influential public reports evaluating the clinical effectiveness and value of new treatments, tests, and delivery system interventions. These reports have strongly influenced insurance coverage policies and clinical guidelines while gaining prominence within the national debate over the cost of health care. ICER thrives on the entrepreneurial spirit of its employees to empower patients, clinicians, and policymakers in their quest for better care at lower costs. In everything we do, our organization seeks to foster an honest public dialogue about the evidence on effectiveness and value, and to translate this evidence into action to improve patient care.

ICER is looking to expand its team, which includes a diverse set of clinicians, researchers, and policy experts. We are seeking a **Health Economist** to provide scientific and programming expertise for the development of applied economic evaluations to accompany our rigorous reviews of scientific evidence. Details on the specific responsibilities and minimum qualifications are provided in the sections that follow. Before going there, however, ask yourself the following questions:

1. Are you interested in using comparative effectiveness research and economic evaluation to effect change in clinical practice, insurance coverage, pricing of new interventions, and other policy, even in the face of sharp criticism by those uninterested in changing?
2. Do you take particular pride in your writing? Are you able to convey complex topics and concepts to a broad audience in an economical and compelling fashion?
3. Are you a perfectionist? Are you unsatisfied with a work product unless every last detail has been accounted for?

If you've answered "yes" to each question, read on!

Job Summary

Under direction of the Director of Health Economics, the health economist is responsible for two distinct work streams. The first involves acting as the key liaison with ICER's growing network of academically-based modeling groups on a project-by-project basis. Responsibilities include reviewing and editing key deliverables throughout the project timeline, including scoping materials, presentations, and reports; ensuring collaborator adherence to milestones and timelines; liaising with manufacturers and other stakeholders to triage input and organize responses to issues raised; assisting in identification and use of data and literature sources for model estimation and other activities; and conducting rigorous internal review of assumptions, parameters, functions, and operations to ensure model robustness. The health economist will also lead, on a project basis, the development and specification of a budgetary impact model that will be based in part on inputs received from the modeling collaborators.

The second work stream will involve explicitly conceptualizing, specifying, and testing economic models developed internally at ICER to assess the potential costs, cost-effectiveness and/or budgetary impact of a wide range of diagnostic, prognostic, therapeutic and other clinical interventions. The health economist will also, with guidance from the director of health economics, be responsible for developing all oral and written presentations of the model, and participating in all stakeholder interactions and public deliberations involved in each project.

Job Roles

- *Work Stream 1*
- Coordination with academic and other health-economic experts on model conceptualization, scope, and definition
- Review and edit key documents developed by modeling collaborators, including scoping documents, preliminary and final presentations, draft and final reports, and responses to stakeholder comments
- Ensure collaborator adherence to timelines and milestones within overall project plan
- Liaise with manufacturers and other stakeholders to triage concerns and organize responses to the issues raised
- Assist in identification of data of potential use for model estimation
- Review, critically appraise, and summarize prior health-economic literature relevant to the project
- Conduct internal review of externally-developed models to identify errors, validate results, and determine overall robustness
- Develop and estimate budgetary impact models based on input from external collaborators

- *Work Stream 2*
- Structural development of decision-analytic models and/or modification of existing models
- Estimation of all model parameters, using both published and unpublished sources

- Conduct of all relevant programming activities, including model development, calibration and validation, testing, and debugging
- Conduct of all model simulations and analyses, including specification and conduct of one-way, multi-way, and probabilistic sensitivity analyses
- Preparation and delivery of presentations and relevant reports for economic component of ICER evidence reviews
- Interaction and coordination with evidence review team to integrate economic methods and findings into the broader evidence review process
- Develop and estimate budgetary impact models

Minimum Educational Requirements

Minimum Master's degree required in a relevant discipline such as decision sciences, health economics, operations research, biostatistics, epidemiology, or a related quantitative social science field.

Additional Qualifications

- 3+ years' experience developing health-focused econometric models using decision-analysis software (e.g., TreeAge, advanced Excel)
- Experience with interactive application programming languages (e.g., VisualBasic, Java, ColdFusion) helpful
- Experience with other general programming languages useful in decision analysis (e.g., R, C++) helpful
- The *highest* levels of personal initiative, attention to detail, and independent work
- Excellent organizational as well as written and oral communication skills
- Efficiency, collaboration, candor, openness, results orientation and a commitment to a consultative approach to decision making

ICER offers a competitive salary and benefits package.

It is not intended that the above listed duties reflect every job duty, responsibility or task that the employee may be called upon to perform. The employee is expected to perform all job-related duties and tasks assigned by his/her supervising manager or other authorized manager.

Interested candidates should [e-mail](#) a resume and cover letter; please also include contact information should we wish to schedule an interview.