

Economics for health policy, planning and service delivery

27-31 May 2019

Presented by

**Centre for the Business and Economics of Health (CBEH)
The University of Queensland**

Healthcare managers, planners, providers and policymakers are continually challenged by increasing demands on health systems and constraints on the availability of resources to meet those demands. Economics provides an important toolkit for meeting these challenges across a wide range of problems and settings, ranging from how taxes and subsidies might be used to promote healthy communities through to changing the way healthcare is delivered and the ways providers are paid.

Health economics for policy, planning and service delivery is a five-day course that will introduce you to key economic concepts and evaluation methods for more informed and confident decision-making. You will learn how to apply these insights to protect, promote and restore health in populations and how to effectively plan, manage and deliver health services and policy.

Course details

Duration: Five days

Dates: 27-31 May 2019

Location: UQ Brisbane City
Level 6, 293 Queen Street, Brisbane CBD

Earlybird price: \$3700 (exc. GST) when you book by Wednesday 24 April

Standard price: \$4000 (exc. GST) Booking deadline is Monday 13 May.

Morning and afternoon refreshments are included.

Complimentary textbook: Your ticket includes a complimentary copy of the following course textbook, valued at RRP \$100: Morris S, Devlin N, Parkin D, Spencer A. (2012) Economic Analysis in Health Care. 2nd edition. John Wiley, Chichester UK.

Key program content

- Why we need economics – fundamental concepts
- The special characteristics of health care
- Health care markets and market failure
- Economics of health care provision
- Behavioural health economics: provider practice and patient adherence
- Role and limitations of economic evaluation
- Planning services, workforce and expenditures

Who should attend?

The course is designed to provide the skills necessary for planners, managers and providers to identify economic aspects of the challenges faced in their activities and apply economic tools alongside their existing skill sets in address those challenges.

Key outcomes:

After attending the course, you will be able to

- understand the basic concepts of economics
- apply these concepts to problems of health and health care at the level of both provider-patient and system-population.
- engage with economists and health services researchers, health policy makers and planners in discussions about the economics of health and health care.

Course Bookings and contacts

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Course overview

Day 1: **Why do we need economics?**

- Fundamental concepts of economics
- Positive and Normative economics
- Economics of production and the production possibilities frontier
- Efficiency in production and consumption

Day 2: **What's so special about health care?**

- The market for health care, conditions for efficiency and market failure
- What makes health care different?
- Responses to market failure
- Government intervention and Government failure

Day 3: **Managing behaviour to increase efficiency in health care systems**

- The hospital as a producer: Managing resources and delivering care
- The patient as a consumer: Paying for health care
- User charges and co-payments: revenue raiser or efficiency tool
- Substitution effects, income effects, elasticity of demand
- Paying providers: paying for inputs, paying for throughputs or paying for responsibility

Day 4: **Efficiency and equity of health care interventions and health care systems**

- Economic evaluation of health care programmes and efficiency
- Economic evaluation as a decision support tool: The Incremental Cost Effectiveness Ratio (ICER)
- Cost effectiveness analysis and efficiency: Back to the Production possibilities frontier
- Portfolio analysis, integer programming and second best solutions
- Equity and equality in health care systems:
 - Equity, equality and health system goals
 - Access to care: more than just affordability
 - Free health care and social inequalities in health

Day 5: **Planning health care systems and behavioural health economics**

- Planning for health care: Projections, forecasts and plans
- Integrating service, workforce and expenditure planning
- Separating health workforce needs from health workforce supply.
- Behavioural health economics: Changing the behaviour of populations, patients, providers and managers

Course presenters

Professor Stephen Birch

Professor Birch is Director and Taylor Family Chair of UQ's Centre for the Business and Economics of Health; a senior scientist at the World Health Organization's Collaborating Centre on Health Workforce Planning at Dalhousie University, Canada; and also holds a visiting professorial appointment at the University of Manchester, UK.

Professor Birch has developed and applied new methods for the economic evaluation of healthcare systems, with particular emphasis on equity in healthcare resource allocation, and needs-based approaches to healthcare funding and health workforce planning.

Prior to joining UQ, Professor Birch was a professor of health economics at McMaster University, Canada, for almost three decades. He has also worked at the Medical Care Research Unit, Sheffield University, UK and at the Centre for Health Economics, York University, UK. He has held honorary appointments at dental schools in Toronto and Malmo (Sweden) and the School of Public Health at Cape Town (South Africa).

Professor Birch holds a Doctor of Philosophy in economics

from York University (UK), a Master of Science in fiscal studies from Bath University (UK), and a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Sheffield University.

During his career, Professor Birch has been a consultant with WHO and the World Bank, as well as serving on many national and provincial health department expert panels and advisory councils for health workforce planning in Canada and the UK. From 2015 to 2017, he served on the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences expert panel on improving access to oral health care for vulnerable people living in Canada.

Professor Birch has published more than 250 research papers with particular interests in health service and health workforce planning, access to care in underserved populations and needs-based allocation of resources and provider remuneration.

From 1997-2012, he served as Senior Editor for the leading academic journal, *Social Science & Medicine*. He currently serves on the editorial advisory boards of *Social Science & Medicine & Health* and *Social Care in the Community*.

Professor Luke Connolly

Luke Connolly is Professor of Health Economics at UQ's Centre for the Business and Economics of Health. He also holds a Professorial appointment (part-time) at The University of Bologna, to which he was appointed in 2017 via the Italian "Direct Call" process. His main interests are in health economics and insurance economics and the effects of institutions (including legal constructs) on incentives and behaviour. He has also worked in other fields of applied microeconomics, including education economics and transport economics. His publications include papers in *Review of Income and Wealth*, *Health Economics*, *Journal of Health Economics*, *Journal of Risk and Insurance*, *Geneva Papers on Risk and Insurance, Accident Analysis and Prevention*, *Journal of Law and Medicine*, *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, *European Journal of Health Economics*, *International Journal of Health Economics and Finance*, *Social Science and Medicine*, *Economic Papers*, *Economic Analysis and Policy*, *Journal of Transport Economics and Policy*, *Labour Economics*, *Economics and Human Biology* as well as in a range of clinical journals, including *Lancet*.

Luke serves as a member of the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC), which advises the Australian

Minister for Health on the safety, effectiveness, and cost-effectiveness of new and extant listings on Australia's Medicare Benefits Schedule. He has extensive service on other public committees and taskforces as well as extensive teaching and consulting engagements with industry. Over the past 10 years he has been a chief investigator on research grants and contracts totalling more than \$32m.

His current research interests include health service innovations to improve the health of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, particularly that of people who discharge from hospital against medical advice. Ongoing interests include the economics of disability and insurance, compensable injury compensation schemes, and the determinants of health. Luke enjoys and has considerable experience teaching economics and health economics at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. In 2014 he was awarded the School of Economics Distinguished Teaching Award for his teaching on UQ's Master of Health Economics Program. In July 2016 he taught a summer school entitled *Recent Advances in Health Economics* at The University of Lucerne, Switzerland.

Dr Jonas Fooker

Jonas Fooker is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with UQ's Centre for the Business and Economics of Health, a joint initiative of UQ's faculties of Business, Economics & Law and Health & Behavioural Sciences, and the Mater Hospital.

Before joining UQ in 2016, Jonas worked for the Behavioural Economics Team of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre, where he worked on behavioural issues of health and tax policies for the EC and for EU Member States. He had started this job after graduating with his PhD in economics from QUT in 2013.

Prior to this Jonas also worked as an economist for KPMG Germany.

Having much of his training in behavioural and experimental economics, his expertise is in designing and conducting experiments both in the theoretical domain as well as with applied focus. His research interests are focussed on the application of behavioural and experimental economic tools to questions arising for public policy makers, particularly those in areas of healthcare provision and public health.



About CBEH

The University of Queensland's Centre for the Business and Economics of Health (CBEH) delivers leading economic evidence, analyses and insights to help policy- and decision-makers create sustainable healthcare systems that promote better patient outcomes and value for all Australians.

Through collaborative and customised research, CBEH aims to inform and improve how governments and care providers respond to and plan for the changing and complex healthcare needs of a diverse population.

The Centre is also building human capital and capability in the healthcare sector through postgraduate research opportunities and executive education programs for current and future leaders, focusing on change management, evaluation, resource allocation and innovation.

CBEH was established in 2016 and is a joint initiative of UQ's Faculty of Business, Economics and Law, Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences, and Mater Research Institute-UQ.