

MRC-NIHR TMRP Health Economics Working Group Remit

1. Research topics

The HE working group will focus on developing research and guidance on methods relating to the design, conduct, analysis, and reporting of trial-based economics evaluations. Areas initially identified for prioritisation include:

- Methodological challenges unique to trial designs
 - e.g. data collection challenges in time-to-first-event studies, analysis of economic evaluations alongside biomarker-guided trial designs, use of expected value of sample information to inform adaptive trial designs, treatment interaction & factorial trial designs and observational studies
- Methodological challenges unique to intervention, population or setting of care
 - e.g. surgical trials (including trauma), diagnostic tests, medical devices, dentistry, paediatrics, palliative care, primary care, public health
- Methods of data collection or measurement
 - e.g. use of routine data
- Applying economic methods for designing efficient trials
- Validating Health Economic Analyses Plans (HEAPs)

2. Objectives

Executive members will coordinate the research activities of the working group. These will be directed principally at:

- Developing collaborations and applying for funding to support research activities
- Formulating guidance relating to the design, conduct, analysis, and reporting of trial-based economics evaluations
- Designing SWATs as a means to improve the methods of trial-based economic evaluations
- Encouraging and supporting junior researchers involved in trial-based economic evaluations

3. Membership

The executive group will be co-chaired by Professors Dyfrig Hughes (CHEME, Bangor University) and Sarah Wordsworth (HERC, University of Oxford), and include sub-group leads, other members of the steering group, and a Public Involvement and Engagement lead. Membership to the HE working group will be drawn from across the health economics community in the UK and further afield, via an invitation through the Health Economists' Study Group (HESG) mailing list, and will include early career researchers and PhD students.

4. Meetings

The executive group will aim to meet three times a year. Two face-to-face meetings (TMRP-hosted event, and summer HESG meetings), and once via teleconference. Sub-groups will meet more regularly, as determined by topic leads.

5. Collaborations

Besides research collaborations via TMRP member organisations and the wider HE community, the HE working group will link with other groups, including the NIHR Economics Group and the PSI (Promoting Statistical Insight) HTA Special Interest Group, and others as deemed appropriate.

6. Mentorship

The HE working group will liaise with the Early Career Researchers Special Interest Group established by the International Health Economics Association¹; and the HESG mentorship programme².

¹ <https://www.healtheconomics.org/page/ECRSIG>

² <https://hesg.org.uk/membership/mentoring/>