



Economic Evaluation of Medical Programmes in General Hospitals

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The economic evaluation of medical programmes includes the costs and benefits as the results of medical treatment with the intention being the more effective in distribution of public financial resources regarding health security. There is an evident necessity for an economic evaluation of the system of health security, with the ultimate goal leading to reduction of costs through a selection of alternative, less expensive methods of medical treatment. The economic evaluation of medical programmes employs forms of procedures that search for and ensure the cheapest methods of medical treatment with the best feasible health results. The article originates from the basic concepts of the evaluation of medical programmes and types of economic analyses, which are being brought into use while studying an example of treating a case of knee arthroscopy. A cost-utility analysis of two different methods for treating knee arthroscopy has been prepared; the first one is executed by a standard department of surgery and the second one of medical treatment is used within the framework of ambulatory treatment. We have determined that the second alternative is substantially more effective than the first one if estimated on the grounds of cost-utility. Our findings indicate that the implementation of the second alternative would save a significant amount of public funds due to reduction in costs and expenses. The proposed approach can be important for hospitals and the whole health system.

Keywords: evaluation of medical programmes, economic analysis, knee arthroscopy, costs, quality-adjusted life-year