

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

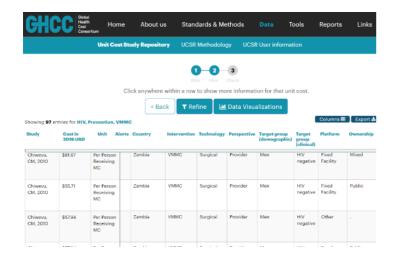
### Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the summer edition of our quarterly newsletter. These past few months the Global Health Cost Consortium has been busy working on a variety of activities. We are continuing to request primary data on HIV costing studies from authors, clean our extracted published cost data for HIV and TB, and finalize our methodology to populate an interactive costing tool for HIV and TB interventions. We have also collaborated with the World Bank to create learning modules on utilizing costing data. Throughout the quarter, GHCC team members have participated in several conferences and events including the Social Behavioral Change Communication Summit and the Model Guidance Group for the Global Fund.

Currently the GHCC is preparing for the International AIDS Economics Network preconference in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. We will be presenting our work in a panel discussion. In addition, the GHCC will be hosting a happy hour on 20 July. The happy hour will be a chance to not only meet GHCC team members, but an opportunity for you to test out our new Unit Cost Study Repository Tool. You can RSVP to the happy hour here. We hope to see you there!

All the best, Carol Levin

#### **SPOTLIGHT**





# **Unit Cost Study Repository**

A critical gap in the arsenal needed for planning TB and HIV programs is a centralized source of standardized and context-specific intervention cost data that is easily accessible to policy analysts, country officials, researchers, and implementing organizations.

The Unit Cost Study Repository (UCSR) is set to be launched at the IAEN Pre-Conference on July 20. The UCSR gathers together in one easily accessible online platform all published and grey literature cost estimates for HIV and TB interventions. Costs are categorized by intervention, and users may choose to display available intervention cost data after filtering for the disease (HIV, TB) and intervention class (prevention, treatment, etc.). The cost estimates have been standardized by the GHCC (and adjusted to 2017 USD), in consultation with expert advisors, stakeholders, and partners, in terms of output units (e.g., per person served, per visit), intervention implementation (e.g., service delivery platforms, ownership, target populations, technologies), disaggregated cost categories (e.g., personnel, capital costs), and costing perspectives. Please note, the UCSR is an evolving product, and your recommendations in the UCSR Feedback Survey will be essential in refining

## **HIV Costing for Key Populations**

Key populations (KP), including men who have sex with men, sex workers, and people who inject drugs, are known to bear the highest burden of HIV. A barrier to addressing this issue is the lack of information on the cost of HIV service provision for these groups. Available results of cost assessments often do not go beyond the costs of provision of clinical or preventive services. Often omitted are the costs of activities such as mapping and size estimation of the populations, and KP-sensitive staff training and supervision, which are necessary to successful HIV programs for KP.

A research project, currently being conducted by GHCC core team members from the Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública (INSP), seeks to fill this gap. The project is developing a new system for prospective cost estimation, in concert with USAID's large-scale LINKAGES KP-HIV service delivery programs in Kenya and Malawi, which will address common issues in HIV service costing for KP by comprehensively assessing costs of all programmatic activities. The results of this research will not only provide robust cost estimates for HIV programs for KP in these countries, but will also offer a methodological framework for cost and cost-effectiveness evaluation of similar programs in the future.

JOURNAL ROUNDUP

it.

# Choice of time horizon critical in estimating costs and effects of changes to HIV programmes.

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Economic evaluation of TB screening programmes in migrants: need for a comprehensive framework.

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Delivery of antiretroviral treatment services in India: estimated costs incurred under the National AIDS Control Programme.

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INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

July 11-14, 2018 Maastricht, Netherlands

**European Health Economics Association (EuHEA), 2018 Conference** 

July 20-21, 2018 Amsterdam, Netherlands

International Aids Economic Network (IAEN): Pre-Conference for the 22nd International AIDS Conference

July 23-27, 2018 Amsterdam, Netherlands

International AIDS Society (IAS): 22nd International AIDS Conference

October 8-12, 2018 Liverpool, United Kingdom

## The Fifth Global Symposium on Health Systems Research (HSR2018)

October 24-27, 2018 The Hague, Netherlands

International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease: 49th Union World Conference on Lung Health



Contribute your insights to the discussion forum



**Data Producers, share your data!** 







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