



Economic assessment in healthcare

Drag the words to correct boxes.

Economic assessment of eHealth is important because we need information on its costs and benefits to document **value for money** and to support **decision making** when introducing new services.

Effectiveness of technology means the extent of targeted health influences achieved in everyday life.

Efficiency of technology means the relationship between effectiveness and costs.

The economic assessment studies can focus on, for example, clinical and epidemiological influences, economic analyses, societal and ethic influences, equality of services or **allocation of resources**. In economic assessment, usually the biggest challenge is how to measure **the health benefits**. There are multiple methods for carry out economic assessment:

In **cost-effectiveness analysis**, the costs in monetary terms are compared to measures of health outcomes. **Cost-utility analysis** is a special form of latter. In this method, the health outcome is measured as "healthy years" and valued as **quality-adjusted life years**, for example.

Cost minimization analysis is used to find out the costs of only one health problem, and it can be used when the influences of alternative ways of treatments that have (almost) equal effects.

Cost-benefit analysis method can be difficult to carry out in practice as it measures the health outcome purely in monetary terms.