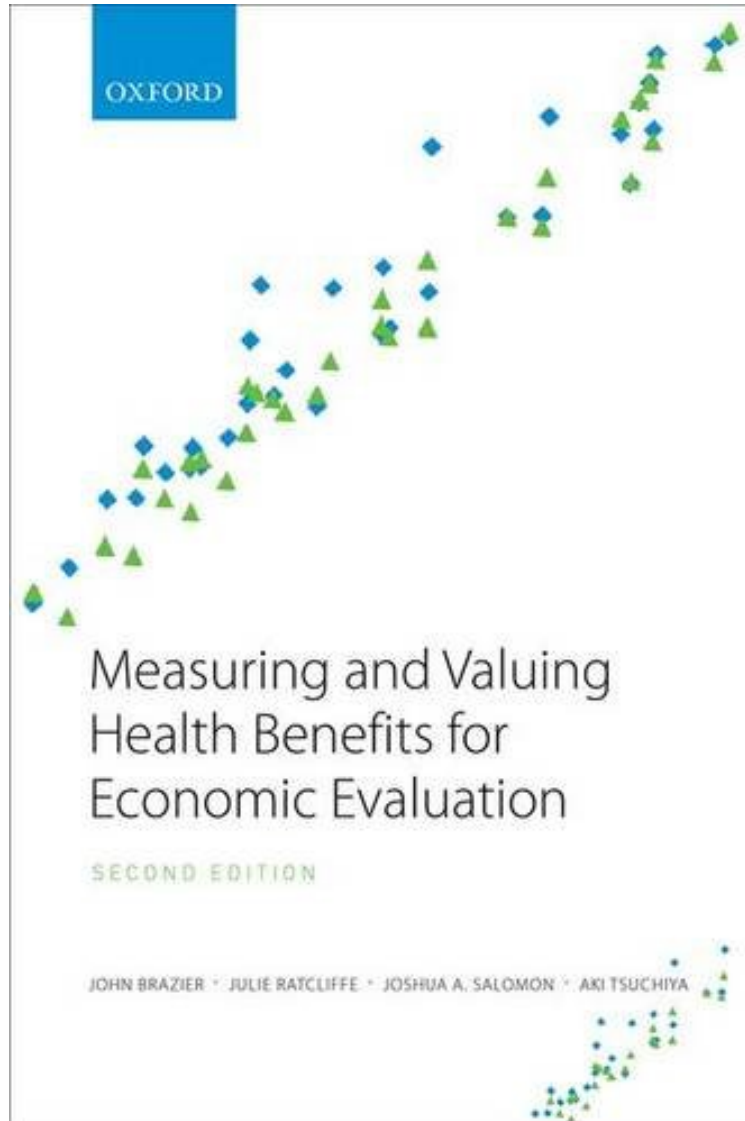


Measuring and Valuing Health Benefits for Economic Evaluation

John Brazier, Julie Ratcliffe, Aki Tsuchiya, Joshua Salomon
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John Brazier, Julie Ratcliffe, Aki Tsuchiya, Joshua Salomon : Measuring and Valuing Health Benefits for Economic Evaluation before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Measuring and Valuing Health Benefits for Economic Evaluation:

There are not enough resources in health care systems around the world to fund all technically feasible and potentially

beneficial health care interventions. Difficult choices have to be made, and economic evaluation offers a systematic and transparent process for informing such choices. A key component of economic evaluation is how to value the benefits of health care in a way that permits comparison between health care interventions. In addition, the establishment of the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (N.I.C.E.) and similar bodies around the world which require cost-effectiveness evidence to be in the form of incremental cost per Q.A.L.Y. has resulted in an explosion of theoretical and empirical work in the field. This is the first comprehensive textbook concerning the measurement and valuation of health benefits for economic evaluation, an area which continues to be a major source of debate. The book addresses the key questions in the measurement and valuation of health, including: the definition of health, the techniques of valuation, who should provide the values, techniques for modelling health state values, the appropriateness of tools in children and vulnerable groups, cross cultural issues, and the problem of choosing the right instrument. The book concludes with a discussion of the way forward in light of the substantial methodological differences, the role of normative judgements, and where further research is most likely to take this fascinating component of health economics.

This new text is indeed timely...[it's] a useful addition to the literature on economic evaluation. *Pharmacoeconomics*, Vol 25, No 4

About the Author John Brazier is Professor of Health Economics at the University of Sheffield's School of Health and Related Research [ScHARR]. His main interests have been in the measurement and valuation of health for economic evaluation where he has published widely. He is perhaps best known for his work in developing a preference-based measure of health for the SF-36, but more recently has extended these methods to a number of condition specific measures. At the same time, he has been pursuing a more critical perspective on preference-based measurement. He has published widely in the area and advised policy makers on the use of preference-based measures. He has been a member of the Technology Appraisal Committee of the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence in England and Wales. Dr Julie Ratcliffe has 15 years experience in research and teaching health economics and economic evaluation. She has also worked within the pharmaceutical industry and has acted as a consultant to industry and government. Julie joined ScHARR at the University of Sheffield in January 2003. Her main research interests concern the elicitation of patient and public preferences for health care. Dr Aki Tsuchiya joined ScHARR at the University of Sheffield in Sep 2000 as a Research Associate and is now Senior Lecturer in Economics and Health Economics. He has a PhD from the Graduate School of Economics, University of Kyoto, Japan. Professor Joshua A Salomon is Assistant Professor of International Health at Harvard School of Public Health. His research focuses on priority setting in global health, within three main substantive areas: measurement of population health status and health valuations in community surveys; modeling and forecasting of health outcomes and disease burden; and evaluation of the potential impact and cost-effectiveness of health interventions. A major emphasis has been on development of new approaches to data collection and analysis of health measurements, with a particular focus on developing country settings and aging populations. Professor Salomon earned a BA from Harvard College and a PhD in Health Policy and Decision Sciences from Harvard University.