

THE HEALTH INDUSTRY
Forum



Comparative Effectiveness Forum

November 30, 2006
Washington D.C.

8:30 Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 Comparative Effectiveness: Moving Towards a Consensus for Action

Sean Tunis, Center for Medical Technology Policy
Stuart Altman, Brandeis University

How has support for promoting expanded development and use of comparative effectiveness research shifted over the past five years? Will the current environment support accelerated progress in this area? Key questions to be resolved:

- What do decisions makers need to help them make more effective choices among competing medical products and services?
- What are the key building blocks for accelerating development of useful comparative effectiveness information?
- What are the pros and cons of different organizational (funding and governance) frameworks in terms of the rigor, independence, and transparency necessary to establish and maintain an effective initiative?

Is a national consensus possible? If so what are next steps? If not, what are the ramifications?

9:30 Using Evidence to Improve Value: What Do Decision-makers Need?

Jed Weissberg, The Permanente Federation

Respondents: Peter Bach, Sloan-Kettering

What kind of information do decision-makers need and from what sources would they trust it? What are the gaps that need to be filled? What considerations other than the strength of evidence should be applied to making decisions that are evidence based? What are key challenges?

10:45 BREAK

11:15 Building Blocks of Comparative Effectiveness

Steve Pearson, AHIP

Respondents: Jean Slutsky, AHRQ

What are the different roles and functions that can be put together in any entity charged with pursuing comparative effectiveness? There is a wide range of approaches to comparative effectiveness among other nations. What can we draw from their experience that might inform how we should put the pieces together in the US? What combinations of functions and roles characterize the current US landscape, and what models exist of new combinations that may be able to meet decision-makers' needs?

12:30 Lunch

1:00 Straws, Sticks, or Bricks: How to build a system of comparative effectiveness?

Gail Wilensky, Project Hope

Respondents: Jack Rowe, Columbia University
John Calfee, AEI

What are some options for a public/private/mixed role in comparative effectiveness? What are some pros and cons of various approaches? How can we move forward?

2:30 Next Steps

Stuart Altman, Brandeis University

3:00 Adjourn