

[CURRENT](#)[PAST ISSUES](#)[HOME](#) / [ARCHIVES](#) / [VOL 7 NO 2 \(2016\)](#) / [Formulary Evaluations](#)

Supporting Formulary Decisions: The Discovery of New Facts or Constructed Evidence?

Paul C Langley

University of Minnesota

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.24926/iip.v7i2.438>

keywords:

ICER, cost-effectiveness modeling, pseudoscience, credibility, imaginary worlds, scientific method

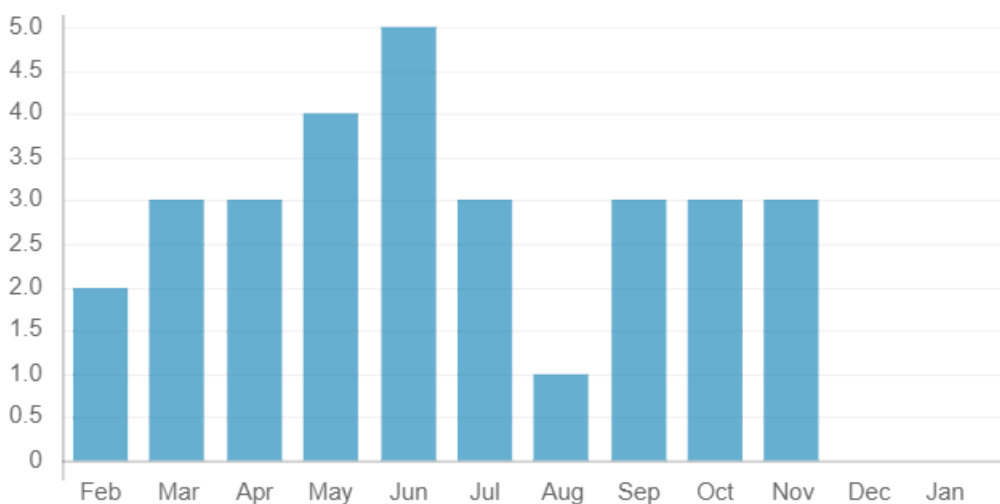
abstract

A critical question, given the growing importance of more targeted therapies to support personalized and precision medicine, is the credibility of the evidence base to support formulary decisions and pricing. On the one hand, for those who subscribe to the reference case model of the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE) in the UK, the decision rests upon the creation of modeled or simulated imaginary worlds and the application of threshold willingness-to-pay cost-per-QALY thresholds. On the other hand, for those who subscribe to the standards of normal science, the decision rests upon the ability to evaluate competing claims, both clinical and cost-effective, in a timeframe that is meaningful to a formulary committee. If we subscribe to the scientific method where the focus is on the discovery of new facts, untestable claims for clinical benefit and cost-effectiveness, such as created claims for lifetime cost per-quality-adjusted discounted life years (QALYs), are properly relegated to the category of pseudoscience. We have no idea, and will never know, whether the claims are right or even if they are wrong. If formulary decisions are to respect

the standards of normal science then there has to be a commitment to claims evaluation. A willingness to accept new products provisionally, subject to an agreed protocol to support the evaluation of clinical and cost-effectiveness claims. This dichotomy between the standards of normal science and pseudoscience is explored in the context of published claims for cost-effectiveness and recommendations for product pricing in the US.

Type: Commentary

downloads



metrics

No metrics found.



 PDF

PUBLISHED

2016-07-08

ISSUE

[Vol 7 No 2 \(2016\)](#)

SECTION

Formulary Evaluations

Copyright of content published in *INNOVATIONS in pharmacy* belongs to the author(s).

[Aims & Scope](#)

[About Innovations](#)

[Editorial Teams](#)

[Policies](#)

[Reviewer Guidelines](#)

[Partners](#)

[Author & Reviewer Accounts](#)

[Submit Article](#)

[Sign up for e-alerts](#)

Sections:

[Community Engagement](#)

[Education](#)

[Formulary Evaluations](#)

[Insights](#)

[Leadership](#)

[Pharmacy Practice](#)

[Policy](#)

[Practice-Based Research](#)

[Science](#)

ISSN: 2155-0417

Tweets by @liPJournal



Innov Pharm
@liPJournal

Successful academic writers have strong emotional habits that help them manage the ups and downs of writing. In addition to productivity goals, [#RxWritingChallenge](#) participants are exploring positivity and other key habits that support success.



Oct 29, 2019



Innov Pharm

[Embed](#)

[View on Twitter](#)



LIBRARIES

PUBLISHING

U of MN College of Pharmacy

[Home](#) | [Contact Publishing Services](#) | [My Account](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Acceptable Use of IT Resources](#)

The copyright of these individual works published by the University of Minnesota Libraries Publishing remains with the original creator or editorial team. For uses beyond those covered by law or the Creative Commons license, permission to reuse should be sought directly from the copyright owner listed on each article.

Platform &
workflow by
OJS / PKP

