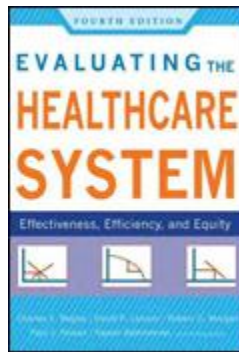


TRANSITION GUIDE



Evaluating the Healthcare System, Fourth Edition

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Now in its fourth edition, this book defines and illustrates the application of the effectiveness, efficiency, and equity criteria for evaluating healthcare system performance. It integrates the theories, issues, approaches, and methods of health services research, providing an excellent framework for understanding healthcare systems and change. The authors take a broad and integrative look at the role of public health and personal care services in enhancing community well-being.

WHAT'S NEW IN THIS EDITION

The fourth edition features:

- Two new discussions have been added on the nature of the policymaking process and problems in policy research.
- The section on populations at risk has been expanded to reflect recent literature on equity disparities related to predisposing, enabling, and need-related characteristics.
- The discussion of realized access has been revised to emphasize the mutable factors shown to affect access and explain disparities (insurance, education, etc.).
- Information about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act has been incorporated throughout the text.
- Pay for performance, accountable care organizations, and medical homes are introduced as newer payment and care delivery models designed to improve the efficiency and quality of healthcare in the United States.
- The book concludes with a comprehensive new case study illustrating the application and integration of the three perspectives of health services research in the evaluation of a recent policy change.

CHAPTER BREAKDOWN

Chapter 1 Introduction to Health Services Research and Policy Analysis

The discussion of the evolving nature and focus of health services research is updated and refined. The three perspectives of health services research are updated and the relationship of health services research to other methods of enquiry is updated and refined. The levels of analysis conducted by health services researchers have been revised. The overview of the objectives and practices of policy analysis have been updated and refined, and a revised conceptual framework for integrating health services research and policy analysis is presented. The historical perspective of health services research and service delivery in the U.S., and the international perspective on health services research and policy are updated and revised.

Chapter 2 Effectiveness: Concepts and Methods

As in the previous edition, Chapter 2 continues to portray the steps required for evaluating the effectiveness of health care delivery and performance at both the clinical and population levels. The Donabedian structure/process/outcome model is retained as the prevailing analysis model, but subsequently developed models are reviewed, including Glasgow's RE-AIM model, and inter-relationships between these models are reviewed.

A review of prevalent data sources is retained but updated, as are examples of health services effectiveness analyses. A shift in focus has been made to emphasize the critical analysis of published effectiveness analyses, such as noting the nature of the sampled population, the nature of the data analyzed, and to present a wider range of effectiveness study designs.

Chapter 3 Effectiveness: Policy Strategies, Evidence, and Criteria

As in the previous edition, Chapter 3 continues to review the challenging topic of understanding the ways that policy efforts might be effective in sustaining and improving health, and understanding the ways that policy efforts can provide population-wide indicators of health as benchmarks for observing effectiveness outcomes. As in the third edition, policy strategies have been presented, criteria for judging improvement have been presented, and many examples have been provided.

Since effectiveness-related policies are a product of the fitful and convoluted nature of policy-making, this chapter succinctly presents a number of these histories. This material has been significantly updated from the third edition. Because healthcare policies often strive to improve health outcomes for an entire population by striving to impact clinical-level service delivery, the clinical and population levels of analysis have been delineated and discussed.

Chapter 4 Efficiency: Concepts and Methods

This chapter contains updated references on the cost, financing, and level of efficiency of the U.S. healthcare system relative to other major industrial countries, including OECD research on more sophisticated healthcare system performance indicators. A recent Oregon policy experiment using a lottery system for enrollment in a limited number of Medicaid slots highlights the recent research reviewed on the benefit of insurance coverage for low income individuals.

The chapter discusses aspects of the national Affordable Care Act that address cost control and improvements in the efficiency of healthcare delivery. Particularly important are the i) development and funding of comparative effectiveness research and ii) use of economic evaluation to identify preventive services mandated for coverage with no out-of-pocket payments. This is an example of the new value-based insurance design which is another important new topic covered in chapter 4.

Chapter 5 Efficiency: Evidence, Policy Strategies, and Criteria

The chapter provides updated information on the historical changes in the structure of the healthcare system in the U.S. and how previous failure to address the efficiency and equity concerns lead to the development of the ACA in 2009. The ACA is contrasted with Enthoven's model for a universal health insurance system based on managed competition.

Pay for performance, accountable care organizations, and medical homes are introduced as newer payment and care delivery models designed to improve the efficiency and quality of healthcare in the U.S. These reforms are linked to the ACA.

Updated information on comparative health systems, showing how the U.S. performs relative to other major OECD countries in terms of cost, efficiency and health outcomes.

Chapter 6 Equity: Concepts and Methods

All of the material and references in the chapter have been updated. Information about the Affordable Care Act has been incorporated into the text. The conceptual frameworks section has been revised to more prominently discuss the historical role of distributive justice as a paradigm for assessing equity in health services research. Finally, the study designs section now includes a brief discussion of the role of non-randomized data and designs and references to sources for methods that have been developed for addressing the issues arising in their use.

Chapter 7 Equity: Policy Strategies, Evidence, and Criteria

All of the material and references in the chapter have been updated. The "Organization" discussion in the Distributive Justice section has been updated to reflect changes in infrastructure, and the "Financing" discussion has been updated to reflect the ACA changes. The section on "Population at Risk" has been expanded to reflect recent literature on disparities and equity relating to predisposing, enabling, and need-related characteristics. The section on "Realized Access" has been revised to emphasize the mutable factors shown to affect access and explain disparities (e.g., insurance, education, etc.). Appendix 7.1 has been updated to reflect the most currently available data.

Chapter 8 Integrating Health Services Research and Policy Analysis

Two new sections were added to this chapter on the nature of the policymaking process and problems in policy research. The existing material and references were updated. A new sub-section was added to include a discussion of the nature of the policymaking process and the political context of public decision-making. Existing material on the various roles that policy analysts can, do, and should play in the policy making process was updated. Existing material on the key tools and techniques that health services research contribute to policy analysis was revised and updated. The section describing some of

the specific challenges in health services research related to identifying health policy problems and determining the effects of policy alternatives was updated and revised.

Chapter 9 Applying Health Services Research to Policy Analysis

A new case study is presented to illustrate the kinds of information and analyses involved in applying health services research in determining the value of a policy change. The case is concerned with determining the outcomes in Texas of a change in the national breast and cervical early detection program. The nature of the program is described and its implementation in Texas. The specific features of the policy change are described and the steps involved in conducting a policy analysis are defined. Conceptual frameworks for evaluating the policy change are presented reflecting each of the perspectives of effectiveness, efficiency, and equity. Actual data was obtained and applied in a hypothetical evaluation of the policy change from each perspective.

INSTRUCTOR RESOURCES

For certified instructors: The following teaching aids are *ONLY* available to instructors:

- Test bank
- PowerPoint slides
- Websites of interest

For access, please e-mail hapbooks@ache.org and include your course, university, and department names as well as a phone number we can call to verify your employment as an instructor.