

Better Information for Better Decisions – The Role of Comparative Effectiveness Research

Gail R. Wilensky
Project HOPE
April 17, 2019



1

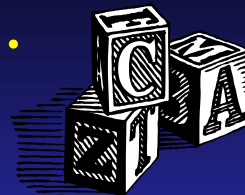
Lots of U.S. Challenges ---



- ◆ Spending growth rates that are *unsustainable*
 - slowed for several years; expected to grow 1.3% faster than GDP
- ◆ Lots of problems with *patient safety*
 - 250,000 deaths from medical error?
- ◆ Lots of problems with *quality*

2

Comparative Effectiveness Information A Basic Building Block...



Information on...

“What works when, for whom, provided by...”

also...

Recognition that “technology” is rarely
always effective or *never* effective

3



Other Countries...



- ◆ Mostly centralized process of CCE and economic assessments; literature review focus
- ◆ Agencies are usually part of government
Not surprising – use centralized payer systems

but...

- ◆ *Differ* on mandatory nature of recommendations
- ◆ *Differ* on transparency of process

4

U.S. Needed Something Different



Elemental building block to “spending smarter”

- ◆ Focus on *conditions* rather than *interventions/therapeutics*; *procedures*, not just Rx and devices
- ◆ Invest in what is not yet known; use what is known more effectively

Dynamic Process...

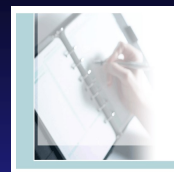
5

Setting Priorities for Comparative Effectiveness



- Starting Point:*** High cost medical conditions with lots of variation in treatment
- Proxy:*** Conditions reflecting highest cost DRG's with substantial geographic variation
- Also:*** Allow private funding of CCE assessments, subject to guidelines/with auditable results

Good Decisions Need Data from Different Sources



- ◆ “Gold Standard” - - double-blinded RCT
- ◆ “Real World” RCT (Sean Tunis)
- ◆ Epidemiological studies; medical record analyses
- ◆ Administrative data

Need to understand: All data have *limitations* ₇

But “Spending Smarter” Also Means Better Incentives



- ◆ Realigning financial incentives
- ◆ Rewarding institutions/clinicians who provide high quality/efficiently produced care
- ◆ Using “Value-based” insurance in private sector
- ◆ Rewarding healthy lifestyles by consumers