

Type of study	How are benefits captured?	Primary outcome	Strengths	Weaknesses
Cost Benefit Analysis	As costs (often through willingness to pay)	Incremental cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Captures all costs and benefits in one number (cost) • Includes patient preference in benefit calculation • Whether intervention is cost effective is easy to measure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Least reported type of economic analysis in published literature • Different methods for calculating benefits
Cost Effectiveness Analysis	Through clinical outcomes	Cost per clinical outcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes clinical outcomes that clinicians in the field are familiar with • Easy to incorporate clinical trial data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult to compare across different disease groups • Does not incorporate quality of life/patient preferences • Whether intervention is cost effective requires a willingness to pay threshold
Cost Utility Analysis	In the form of quality of life utilities	Cost per quality-adjusted life year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can compare results across different studies and disease groups • Widely accepted as the preferred economic evaluation by decision making bodies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often utility values have not been measured • Different utility measurement tools provide variable results
Cost of Illness	None	Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Captures the economic burden of a medical condition • Easily understood by non-academics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not incorporate clinical outcomes or patient preferences • Often calculated as gross costs and not disease specific costs