MODELING HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

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SUMMARY

Measuring health outcomes is critical for individual and societal decision making. This chapter briefly reviews the field of health outcomes modeling in general and provides detailed theoretical background for one specific class of such models, the Quality-Adjusted Life Years model, which is primarily grounded in operations research and utility theory. The chapter describes methodological issues and concludes with a discussion of promising areas for further research.

KEY WORDS

Health-related quality of life, Medical decision analysis, Cost-effectiveness analysis, Utility theory