

Course Unit	Health Economics		Field of study	-	
Classification	Postgraduate Degree in Management of Health Units		School	School of Technology and Management	
Academic Year	2019/2020	Year of study	1	Level	2-1
Type	Semestral	Semester	1	ECTS credits	4.0
			Code	5058-700-1103-00-19	
Workload (hours)	108	Contact hours	T	-	TP
			PL	-	TC
			S	-	E
			OT	-	O
					25

T - Lectures; TP - Lectures and problem-solving; PL - Problem-solving, project or laboratory; TC - Fieldwork; S - Seminar; E - Placement; OT - Tutorial; O - Other

Name(s) of lecturer(s) Alcina Maria Almeida Rodrigues Nunes

Learning outcomes and competences

At the end of the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:

1. Identify the health care market factors;
2. Understand the basic economic principles of health and health care sectors;
3. Understand the specificities of the health care demand and supply markets and how they are regulated;
4. Understand and distinguish forms of health financing and the concepts of equity and inequity in health;
5. Identify the different forms of economic health evaluation;
6. Understand and critically analyze indicators related to health economics in Portugal comparing them with the same indicators for other economies.

Prerequisites

Before the course unit the learner is expected to be able to:
Not applicable.

Course contents

Economy and the health sector. The health and healthcare market. Market failures: imperfect information, information asymmetry, and agency relationship. Financing models in health and equity. The economic evaluation in health. Economic health indicators (in particular the Portuguese economy).

Course contents (extended version)

1. Economy and the health sector
 - Health and health economics
 - Health economics specific characteristics
2. Health market and health care market
 - International comparisons on economic health care indicators
 - Health and the statistical value of life
 - Demand for health and for health care
 - Supply/production of health care
3. Market failures
 - Imperfect information
 - Asymmetric information
 - Agency relationship
4. Financing in the health care provision and Equity
 - The organization of financing in a health system
 - Equity and Inequity in health care provision
 - Insurance and the health market: adverse selection and moral hazard
5. Economic evaluation in health
 - Cost analysis
 - Cost-effectiveness analysis
 - Cost-utility analysis: Quality adjustment life years
 - Cost-benefit analysis
6. Health economic indicators in world economies
 - The Portuguese health economic indicators
 - International indicators

Recommended reading

1. Barros, P. P. (2013). Economia da Saúde - Conceitos e Comportamentos (3ª Edição). Livraria Almedina.
2. Bernell, S. (2016). Health Economics: Core Concepts and Essential Tools (1st Edition). Health Administration Press.
3. Folland, S., Goodman, A. C., & Stano, M. (2017). The Economics of Health and Health Care (8th Edition). Routledge.
4. Getzen, T. E. (2018). Health Economics and Financing (5th Edition). Wiley.
5. Phelps, C. H. (2018). Health Economics (6th Edition). Routledge.

Teaching and learning methods

The course will be taught through lectures complemented by class discussion. Students are encouraged to ask questions on the course materials and to share any personal experiences which are relevant to the course contents.

Assessment methods

- Alternative 1 - (Regular, Student Worker) (Final, Supplementary, Special)
- Final Written Exam - 100% (Assessment is subject to attendance - mandatory participation in 75% of classroom hours.)

Language of instruction

Portuguese

Electronic validation

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17-11-2019	20-11-2019	25-11-2019	13-12-2019