

PhD Completion Seminar

The University of Melbourne



Advancing economic evaluation methodologies towards better medical decision making through real-world longitudinal data

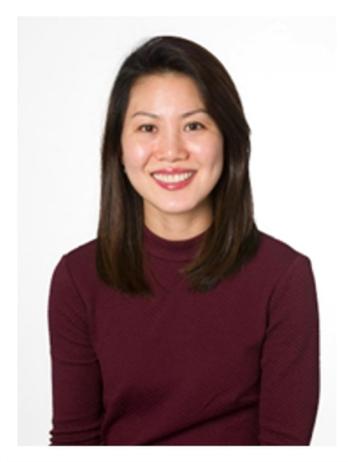
Presenter: Michelle Tew

Supervisors: A/Prof. Kim Dalziel, Prof. Philip Clarke, A/Prof. Michelle Dowsey & Prof. Karin Thursky

Tuesday 13th October 4.30pm–5.30pm via Zoom

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Michelle Tew is a PhD candidate and research fellow at the Centre for Health Policy, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health. Her research interests include economic evaluation and modelling, health services utilisation, pharmaceutical policy and using patient-reported outcomes to guide value-based care.

Her current research project focuses on the health economics of infections in cancer patients and patients undergoing lower limb arthroplasty. Her research aims to maximise the use of longitudinal data to better understand patterns of health outcomes and health service use, and to develop and test economic evaluation methods. Michelle completed her Masters in Public Health specialising in Health Economics and Economic Evaluation at the University of Melbourne and in Pharmacy at the University of Nottingham.

Health economic evaluation is a fundamental component in helping inform health care providers and policy makers in making decisions on priorities in health care. This is particularly relevant in today's tight budgetary climate and in response to continued calls for sustainable health and care systems. Economic evaluation evidence has influenced and contributed to many areas of health policy making, at all levels of the health care system – from shaping guidelines that guide clinical care to informing decision for subsidy of pharmaceuticals and medical services. For these evaluations to be useful to decisions makers, they need to provide useful and reliable information and to achieve this, methodological guidelines should be followed, and robust evidence of effectiveness and cost is paramount. With recent advances in information technology, data and statistical methods and implementation of electronic health records, health decision makers are increasingly seeking real-world, generalisable evidences to complement and support policy and clinical decisions.

This thesis aims to demonstrate the usefulness and practicality of applying real-world longitudinal data in health economics research and applications, specifically in the context of economic evaluations. It features six individual health economics studies which explore longitudinal data and show their value and contribution towards advancing economic evaluation methodologies and better decision making. Each of the studies answer specific research questions that contribute towards better informed decision making and health policy design.