MODULE SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

Module name	Health Economics
Module code	HPM006
School	Health Sciences
Department or equivalent	Health Services Research and Management Division
UK credits	15
ECTS	7.5
Level	7

MODULE SUMMARY

Module outline and aims

Economics is an important foundation of modern health systems and understanding the economic mechanisms governing the behaviour of providers and consumers of health care is the key for implementing and evaluating effective health policies.

This module aims to introduce the fundamental concepts and theories in mainstream microeconomics and their application to the analysis of health systems and health policies. Also, emerging new models from behavioural economics will be examined.

Content outline

1) Introduction to economic analysis in health care
2) The demand for health care
3) The production and costs of health care
4) The supply of health care
5) Markets, market failure and the role of government in health care
6) Health insurance and health financing
7) Equity in health care
8) Economic issues in the English National Health Service (NHS) and recent health policies
9) Economic issues in the United States health system and recent health policies
10) Principles of Behavioural Economics

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this module, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

- Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the principles and theories underpinning health economics
- Understand the economic mechanisms governing providers' and consumers' behaviours in health care markets

- Understand market failures and government interventions in health care
- Grasp the economic aspects governing health systems and health policies

Skills:

- Undertake literature reviews on specific health economic issues
- Critically appraise and summarise published papers and research studies in health economics
- Analyse health care markets using concepts and principles of health economics
- Analyse health systems and health policies using the tools of economic analysis
- Produce a synthetic presentation on topics and issues related to health economics

Values and attitudes:

- Show an appreciation of economic theories and principles shaping health care systems
- Show respect and tolerance for other participants
- Correctly reference the work of others and adhere to University regulations regarding plagiarism and academic misconduct

HOW WILL I LEARN?

Teaching and learning will take place via a mix of lectures, group activities and discussions which allow you to examine the issues in more detail, promoting discussion and developing communication and group working skills.

Teaching sessions will take place over four days (typically 10am to 5pm), and are supplemented by self-directed study which allows you both to gain a deeper understanding of the subject generally and to pursue topics which are of particular interest to you in greater detail.

Teaching and learning are facilitated by Moodle, the University's online Virtual Learning Environment.

Teaching pattern:

Teaching component	**Teaching type**	**Contact hours (scheduled)**	**Self-directed study hours (independent)**	**Placement hours**	**Total student learning hours**
Lectures, group work, exercises & discussions	Lecture	18	114	0	132
Group presentation	Seminar	6	12	0	18
Totals:		24	126	0	150

WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessments

You will produce a written report of 3,000 words on selected topics and issues in health economics (70%).

There will also be an assessed group presentation on selected topics and issues in health economics (30%).

Assessment pattern:

Assessment component	**Assessment type**	**Weighting**	**Minimum qualifying mark**	**Pass/Fail?**
Group presentation	Oral assessment and presentation	30%	50%	No
Written report	Report	70%	50%	No

Assessment criteria

Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria for module assessments will be made available prior to an assessment taking place. More information will be available from the module leader.

Feedback on assessment

Lecturers and/or the module leader will be available to provide formative feedback and advice on the written assignment prior to submission. Following each assessment marks and feedback will be provided in line with the Assessment Regulations and Policy, normally within 4 weeks of the submission deadline. Markers will be available to answer queries about the marks and feedback if these are not clear. A selection of all assessments will be internally moderated and sent to the external examiner. All initial marks will be therefore provisional, pending external examiner approval and ratification by the Assessment Board.

Assessment Regulations

In order to pass the module the students must complete the assessment components and achieve an aggregate Module Mark of 50%. The Module Mark shall be calculated from the Group presentation weighted at 30% with a minimum mark of 50%, and the Written report weighted at 70% with a minimum mark of 50%. The Programme Specification contains information on what happens if you fail an assessment component or the module, but in the first instance you should contact the module leader.

INDICATIVE READING LIST

Morris, S., Devlin, N. & Parkin, D. (2007). *Economic analysis in health care*. Wiley.

Jones, A.M. (ed.) (2006). *The Elgar companion to health economics*. Edward Elgar.

Glied, S., & Smith, P.C. (eds.) (2011). *The Oxford Handbook of Health Economics*. Oxford University Press.

Version: 2.0
Version date: June 2014
For use from: 2014-15

Appendix: *see* http://www.hesa.ac.uk/component/option,com_studrec/task,show_file/Itemid,233/mnl,12051/href,JACS3.html/ *for the full list of JACS codes and descriptions*

CODES

HESA Cost Centre	Description	Price Group
103	Nursing and allied health professions	C2

JACS Code	Description	Percentage (%)
L110 Applied economics	The study of the application of economic principles and analytical techniques to the study of particular industries, activities or the exploitation of particular resources.	100%