Supplementary Appendix

Table S1: MeSH terms for the Ovid (MEDLINE) search strategy.

Se	arch term	Results
1	(exp Registries/ or Datasets as Topic/ or exp Management Information Systems/ or hospital	16541
	records/ or exp medical records/ or nursing records/) and exp Quality Assurance, Health Care/	
2	(("Clinical" or "Clinical quality") adj ("Registry" or "Registries" or "register" or "registers")).mp.	938
3	(("Clinical" or "Clinical quality") adj ("data base" or database*)).mp.	2635
4	(("Clinical" or "Clinical quality") adj5 ("medical record*" or "patient record*" or "health record*")).mp.	4188
	exp "costs and cost analysis"/ or exp economics, hospital/ or exp economics, medical/ or economics, nursing/ or economics, pharmaceutical/	240706
6	exp Resource Allocation/	16404
7	exp Health Services Research/ec, mt, sn, td, ut [Economics, Methods, Statistics & Numerical Data, Trends, Utilization]	23288
8	exp Evaluation Studies as Topic/cl, ec, mt, st, td [Classification, Economics, Methods, Standards, Trends]	38495
9	Program Evaluation/	56767
10	Economic evalu*.mp.	10449
11	Cost-benef*.mp.	79465
12	Cost-eff*.mp.	121231
13	cost-util*.mp.	4165
14	Medica* expend*.mp.	3733
15	Medica* cost*.mp.	10127
16	Health* expend*.mp.	20335

Search term	Results
17 Health* cost*.mp.	12307
18 ("direct service costs" or "drug costs" or "hospital costs" or "health expenditures").mp.	47234
19 (cost or costs or expend* or finance* or economic*).mp.	981580
20 or/1-4	23961
21 or/5-19	1084097
22 20 and 21	3450
23 (randomized controlled trial or controlled clinical trial).pt.	551183
24 case-control studies/ or retrospective studies/ or cohort studies/ or longitudinal studies, up studies/ or prospective studies/ or cross-sectional studies/	or follow-2152209
25 meta analysis/ or "review"/ or systematic reviews/	2434008
26 exp animals/ not humans.sh.	4470062
27 23 or 24 or 25	4929042
28 22 and 27	894
29 28 not 26	888
30 limit 29 to (english language and yr="2000 -Current")	709

Table S2: Quality appraisal of the three studies using CHEERS guidelines.

Item		Score (1 = Yes; 0.5 = partial; 0 = No)				
		(2011)	(2018)	(2006)	score (%)	
Title an	d abstract					
1	Title	1	1	1	100%	
2	Abstract	1	1	1	100%	
Introdu	ction					
3	Background and objectives	1	1	1	100%	
Method	ls					
4	Target population, subgroups	1	1	1	100%	
5	Setting and location	1	1	1	100%	
6	Study perspective	1	1	1	100%	
7	Comparators	1	1	1	100%	
8	Time horizon	1	1	1	100%	
9	Discount rate	0	0	1	33%	
10	Health outcomes	1	1	1	100%	
11	Measurement of effectiveness	1	1	1	100%	
12	Measurement and valuation of	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	preference-based outcomes					
13	Estimating resources and costs	1	1	1	100%	
14	Currency, price date, conversion	1	1	1	100%	
15	Choice of model	0	0.5	0.5	33%	
16	Assumptions	1	1	1	100%	
17	Analytical methods	1	1	0.5	83%	
Results		<u> </u>				
18	Study parameters	1	1	1	100%	

19	Incremental costs and outcomes	1	1	1	100%
20	Characterising uncertainty	1	1	1	100%
21	Characterising heterogeneity	0	1	0	33%
Discussion					
22	Study findings, limitations, generalizability	1	1	0.5	83%
Other	<u> </u>			<u> </u>	
23	Source of funding	0	1	1	67%
24	Conflicts of interest	1	1	0	33%
Quality score (n = 3)		83%	93%	85%	-
Average quality score (n = 3)		87%			

N/A = not applicable

Table S3: Quality appraisal of the ACSQHC report using AACODS guidelines.

Item		Score					
		(Yes = 1; Unclear = 0.5; No= 0)					
Auth	Authority						
1.1	Does the report identify who is responsible for the intellectual	1					
	content?						
1.2	Are they reputable?	1					
Accu	racy						
2.1	Does the item have a clearly stated aim or brief?	1					
2.2	Does it have a stated methodology?	1					
2.3	Has it been peer-reviewed?	1					
2.4	Has it been edited by a reputable authority?	1					
Cove	rage						
3.1	Are any limits clearly stated?	1					
Obje	ctivity						
4.1	Is the author's standpoint clear?	1					
4.2	Does the work seem to be balanced in presentation?	1					
Date							
5.1	Does the item have a clearly stated date related to content?	1					
Signi	Significance						
6.1	Is the item meaningful?	1					
6.2	Does it add context?	1					
6.3	Does it strengthen or refute a current position?	1					
6.4	Would the research area be lesser without it?	1					

Table S4: Quality appraisal of the three studies using the CHEC-extended checklist.

Question	Score (1 = Yes; 0.5 = partial; 0 = No)			
	Hollenbeak	Thanh	Woolley	Overall
	(2011)	(2018)	(2006)	score (%)
Is the study population clearly described?	1	1	1	100%
Are competing alternatives clearly described?	0	0	1	33%
Is a well-defined research question posed in	1	1	1	100%
answerable form?				
Is the economic study design appropriate to the	1	1	1	100%
stated objective?				
Are the structural assumptions and the validation	1	1	0.5	83%
methods of the model properly reported?				
Is the chosen time horizon appropriate in order to	1	1	1	100%
include relevant costs and consequences?				
Is the actual perspective chosen appropriate?	1	1	1	100%
Are all important and relevant costs for each	1	1	1	100%
alternative identified?				
Are all costs measured appropriately in physical	1	1	1	100%
units?				
Are costs valued appropriately?	1	1	1	100%
Are all important and relevant outcomes for each	1	1	1	100%
alternative identified?				
Are all outcomes measured appropriately?	1	1	0.5	83%
Are outcomes valued appropriately	1	1	1	100%
Is an appropriate incremental analysis of costs and	1	1	1	100%
outcomes of alternatives performed?				
Are all future costs and outcomes discounted	0	0	1	33%
appropriately?				
	I	1	1	1

Are all important variables, whose values are	1	1	1	100%
uncertain, appropriately subjected to sensitivity				
analysis?				
Do the conclusions follow from the data reported?	1	1	0.5	83%
Does the study discuss the generalizability of the	1	1	0.5	83%
results to other settings and patient/client groups?				
Does the article/report indicate that there is no	1	1	0	67%
potential conflict of interest of study researcher(s)				
and funder(s)?				
Are ethical and distributional issues discussed	0	0	0	0
appropriately?				
% Yes	17	17	16	-
Overall Quality	85%	85%	80%	83%