

ISPOR STUDENT NETWORK

Newsletter

AUGUST 2023 | SUMMER ISSUE

**ISPOR
Annual 2023
recap**



**A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF
THE ISPOR STUDENT NETWORK**

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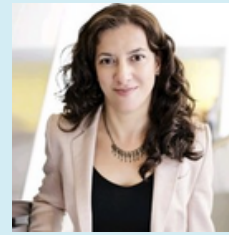
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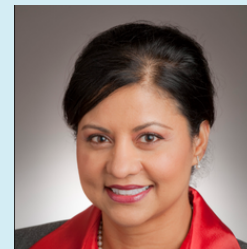
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SUBMIT AN ARTICLE TO THE NEWSLETTER!

To submit an article for the next issue of our student newsletter, please contact the ISPOR Student Network at studentnetwork@ispor.org

LETTER FROM THE PAST STUDENT NETWORK CHAIR

Dear ISPOR Colleagues,

As I write this summer newsletter address, it is with a mix of emotions that I reflect on my term as the Student Network Chair for ISPOR. It has been an absolute honor to serve in this role and work alongside such an exceptional group of over 50 student leaders, our incredible network of 2,000+ student members, the ISPOR Faculty Advisory Committee, and ISPOR staff. Your support and dedication have been instrumental in driving the mission of ISPOR and advancing the field of health economics.

I am continually impressed by the talent, passion, and diverse perspectives that our student leaders bring to the table. Hailing from 14 different countries and representing 50 universities, these individuals embody the future of our field. Many of them hold degrees in healthcare-related fields and are actively pursuing further training, ensuring a bright future within HEOR.

Throughout my term, my focus has been on three key goals: Engagement & Re-Engagement, Professional & Educational Development, and Globalization. As my term concludes, I am proud to say that we have fostered a sense of belonging and inclusivity within the ISPOR Student Network Community while bolstering engagement through leadership calls, student network committees, and conference attendance. However, there is still much work to be done, and I look forward to continuing to support the network as we work to strengthen our local student chapters this upcoming year under the leadership of Mohin Chanpura.

This past year was a busy one, full of excellent leadership within our committees that furthered the reach of the ISPOR Student Network. Our Education Committee and Publications Committee helped produce three webinars, engaged in numerous fireside chats, and overhauled our now quarterly newsletter. Our Chapter Onboarding Committee helped revitalize the Adopt-A-Chapter program, our Member Engagement Committee created great content for the new LinkedIn page, and the Event Planning committee stepped up to plan a total of 9 events for two conferences - wow!

LETTER FROM THE PAST STUDENT NETWORK CHAIR

Two other big projects have been in the works this past year. I'm excited to have helped lead an effort to launch a pilot program at ISPOR Annual that provided a platform for individuals from underrepresented backgrounds to network with and receive guidance from experienced professionals in HEOR. Stay tuned for updates on this program from Mohin as ISPOR works to increase this program's reach for ISPOR Annual 2024. In addition, myself, along with ISPOR Staff and our advisor, Dr. Zeba Khan have worked to restructure the ISPOR Student Network. The changes made will both increase our team's efficiency and provide more stable leadership for the network moving forward. With that being said, I'm excited to announce our new leadership position of chair-elect, which will be held by Kanya Shah. Kanya will serve as the ISPOR Student Network chair starting in July 2024.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to Robert Selby, Jada Lamptey, Nancy Chen, and Dr. Zeba Khan for their unwavering support of the ISPOR Student Network. It has been a privilege to serve in this role, and I am immensely proud of the accomplishments we have achieved together. The passion, diversity, and dedication that exists within the ISPOR Student Network is truly inspiring. Thank you for an excellent year working together.

With warmest regards,



TYLER D. WAGNER, PHARM.D.

*Past Global Student Network Chair,
ISPOR*

Ph.D. Candidate

*Virginia Commonwealth University,
United States*

LETTER FROM THE STUDENT NETWORK CHAIR

Greetings ISPOR Colleagues!

I am honored to be introducing myself as your new Student Network Chair for the 2023-24 academic year. If the past three years of the COVID-19 pandemic have taught us anything, it's that the world is in dire need of better-informed health decision-making (based on value and backed by real world evidence). As we find ourselves at the forefront of this paradigm shift in the way the world thinks about healthcare, note that your contributions to the fields of health economics and outcomes research as members of the ISPOR Student Network are bound to have generational impact; I'd thus like to thank you all for volunteering your best efforts to grow and develop both the network and our field.

This network's continuous growth, of course, wouldn't have been possible without the outstanding leadership of our outgoing chair, Tyler Wagner, whom I had the pleasure of collaborating with many times over the last two years as a member of the publications committee. Under Tyler's leadership, the student network grew to almost 60 committee members, chairs, and regional leads, and saw an unprecedented level of focus devoted towards diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. ISPOR Annual also saw record attendance from students and professionals alike this year; it was a pleasure to be able to connect with so many of you in-person for the first time as over 4,000 total conference attendees descended upon Boston in May.

As we embark on the upcoming year, I'd like to take a moment to share a bit about myself. I hail from Lawrenceville, New Jersey in the United States, and, funny enough, grew up just two miles up the road from ISPOR's current headquarters. While I started my post secondary education at Rutgers University-New Brunswick with aspirations of becoming a formulation scientist, my desire for a career through which I could more fulfillingly help influence patient health outcomes led me to HEOR. Having graduated with a B.A. in Economics last year, I am now days away from obtaining my M.S. in Health Outcomes, Policy, and Economics from the Rutgers School of Public Health. Outside of academics, I am an avid New York sports fan, a huge trivia nerd, and a frequent traveler, having visited 27 other states and 11 foreign nations so far. I look forward to adding Denmark to that list this fall while attending ISPOR Europe, where I hope to be able to connect with many more of you.

LETTER FROM THE STUDENT NETWORK CHAIR

As your incoming ISPOR Student Network Chair, I am excited to continue building upon the strategic goals that Tyler has established. While the student network recently enjoyed rapid expansion in membership, a main focus of mine will be to ensure that we are operating as a well-oiled machine, unhampered by diseconomies of scale. To accomplish this, our committee structure has been reorganized for the upcoming year to support four major pillars: education, event planning, publications, and survey & evaluation. At the same time, as HEOR continues to evolve into an interdisciplinary field, I intend to work closely with our student chapters to explore methods to promote outreach to, and increase membership among, students from a wider array of academic backgrounds including medicine, pharmacy, economics, public health, public policy, and computer science.

I look forward to an exciting and productive year ahead, filled with meaningful collaborations, insightful discussions, and impactful initiatives. I encourage all members of our student network, whether you'll be serving on one of our committees or not, to stay involved by attending our educational webinars and contributing to our bimonthly "By the Numbers" segments in *Value & Outcomes Spotlight*. If you have any ideas for initiatives you feel would foster your professional development, please don't hesitate to share, as I am eager to listen. Additionally, should you ever need assistance, know that I, our ISPOR Student Network Advisor, Dr. Zeba Khan, and the ISPOR staff are all here to help.

Warmest regards,



MOHIN CHANPURA

*Global Student Network Chair, ISPOR
MS Student
Rutgers University, United States*

ISPOR ANNUAL 2023 BOSTON, MA



ISPOR 2023 STUDENT NETWORK NETWORKING EVENT

Author:

Anu Bompelli, ISPOR Student Network Education Committee Co-Chair

The first post-COVID student networking event organized by the ISPOR Student Network on May 7, 2023 at the ISPOR 2023 brought together pharmacy and HEOR students from around the world. With an impressive turnout, this event provided a unique opportunity for students at various stages of their academic journey to connect, share research ideas, and forge new friendships. The event was particularly special as it enabled student network leaders who had collaborated remotely over the past year to finally meet in person.

The global reach of the event allowed attendees to interact with peers from various countries, fostering a rich cultural exchange and broadening their perspectives. The networking event provided an ideal platform for students to exchange research ideas and gain valuable insights from their peers.

The networking event served as a great opportunity for undergraduate and master's students to connect with PhD students and gain insights into advanced academic programs. Students eagerly reached out to PhD students to learn about different programs and determine which ones aligned with their research interests. They also discussed potential internship opportunities and sought advice regarding future job prospects. The event provided a platform for these aspiring students to engage with experienced individuals who could offer guidance and mentorship, helping them make informed decisions about their academic and professional paths.

Furthermore, the networking event played a significant role in inspiring students, who had been hesitant to apply for leadership positions within the student network. By interacting with current student network leaders, these students gained a newfound confidence and were motivated to step forward and apply for leadership roles in the next term. The event proved instrumental in breaking down barriers and empowering students to take on challenging and rewarding positions within the network.

Beyond the academic and research discussions, the networking event provided a social setting for students to interact and form meaningful friendships. Attendees bonded over shared interests, personal experiences, and aspirations, fostering a sense of community within the student network. This vibrant environment empowered students to build networks that extend beyond their academic programs and create lifelong connections with like-minded individuals. For many attendees, the networking event marked the first opportunity to meet their virtual collaborators in-person. The atmosphere was filled with excitement and camaraderie as students eagerly connected with the friends they had only known through online interactions. These long-awaited in-person meetings further strengthened the bonds formed during the past year and added a new dimension to their professional relationships.

The informal student networking event organized by the ISPOR Student Network proved to be a resounding success, facilitating meaningful interactions, and the formation of lasting friendships. This gathering of like-minded individuals not only enhanced the students' academic experiences but also served as a source of inspiration and empowerment, fueling their passion for making a difference in the field of healthcare.



ISPOR 2023 STUDENT NETWORK ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Author:

Kanya Shah, ISPOR Student Network Chair-elect (2024-25)

The ISPOR Student Network hosted a roundtable discussion featuring three experts discussing one of the hottest topics in HEOR: alternative payment models for medications in the US. The panel included Dr. Inma Hernandez, PharmD, PhD from UCSD, a global expert in pharmaceutical pricing, Dr. John O'Brien, PharmD, MPH, the President and CEO of the National Pharmaceutical Council, and Dr. Jason Shafrin, PhD, Senior Managing Director at the Center for Health Economics and Policy at FTI Consulting.

The speakers came prepared to share their wealth of knowledge with students, young professionals, and conference attendees interested in this topic. To begin the roundtable discussion, each speaker reviewed key points relating to alternative payment models, including the current pharmaceutical supply chain, and the flow of drug product, money, and contracting through various stakeholders in the United States pharmaceutical supply chain. The discussion also included a review/introduction to various alternative payment models and a summary of market inefficiencies that create roles for alternative payment models. The alternative payment models discussed included the subscription model (Netflix Model), cost plus pharmacy model (Mark Cuban), and the pharmacy-PBM discount card model (e.g. GoodRx).





After covering background information and setting the stage for a discussion on alternative pricing models, the question-and-answer part of the session began. Through questions from the moderator and audience, the speakers touched on topics including hurdles/limitations in implementing innovative payment models for medications, coverage of generic drugs, ability of alternative payment models to address market failures, and equity/accessibility of newer payment modes to all individuals, regardless of income or insurance status.

The session was well attended by a lively and inquisitive audience. Both students and professionals asked insightful questions, engaged with speakers and peers, and continued the conversation of this important and timely topic.

As moderator of the discussion, I thoroughly enjoyed discussing this topic with the speakers. Dr. O'Brien, Dr. Hernandez, and Dr. Shafrin each brought a unique perspective to the discussion and shared insightful comments that sparked my (and the rest of the audience's) interest. Additionally, many individuals (both students and professionals) approached me at the end of the discussion and for the remainder of the conference to share their thoughts, comments, and gratitude for a session.

ISPOR ANNUAL 2023 STUDENT RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

The Student Research Spotlight was an overwhelming success at ISPOR Annual. The poster tour, held on **Tuesday, May 9, 2023**, was one of the most well-attended poster tours of the conference. Five students with high scoring conference abstracts were selected to share their research in the poster tour in front of their peers. Attendees of the event rotated in a round robin format to each presenter and listened to a 5-minute elevator pitch that summarized the research study, the methods, challenges, implications, and conclusions.

PRESENTATIONS

Economic Value of a Novel Macrophage-Regulating Treatment for Diabetic Foot Ulcers from a Healthcare Sector Perspective.

Presenter: Alice (Hsuan Yu Su), National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

Cost-Effectiveness of Tremelimumab or Tremelimumab in Combination with Durvalumab Vs Durvalumab As Treatment of Advanced Hepatocellular Carcinoma.

Presenter: Tiange Tang, Tulane University, New Orleans

Impact of Breathlessness Severity on Quality of Life, Healthcare Use, Productivity Loss and Economic Cost to the Australian Society.

Presenter: Dr. Anthony P. Sunjaya, The George Institute for Global Health, UNSW Sydney

Trends in Remote Patient Monitoring Among Medicare Beneficiaries during COVID-19: A Comparative Interrupted Time Series Analysis

Presenter: Ruchira Vishwas Mahashabde, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Arkansas, USA

Induction Cost per Responder of Biologic Therapies for Plaque Psoriasis in Canada

Presenter: Stefania Verrillo, University of Montreal, Canada

MODERATORS

Zeba M Khan, RPh, MS, Ph.D.

Rutgers University,
Piscataway, NJ, USA

Tyler D. Wagner, Pharm.D.

Virginia Commonwealth University,
Richmond, VA, USA

STUDENT NETWORK WEBINAR

**Missed a webinar?
Catch it on demand!**



ISPOR STUDENT NETWORK

Health Equity in HEOR: Past, Present & Future Research Implications

Open to all ISPOR Members and Non-members

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Identify key concepts and methodologies used to evaluate health equity in health economics
- Learn key findings and recommendations from ICER's recent initiative to evaluate health technology assessment methods that support health equity
- Provide an overview of the ISPOR Health Equity Research Special Interest Group and its activities

Mar 31, 2023
10:00 AM ET

Live Webinar

Register Now

ISPOR
Student Network



On March 31, 2023, the ISPOR Student Network Education Committee hosted a webinar on "Health Equity in HEOR: Past, Present & Future Research Implications", featuring a panel of speakers with extensive experience with evaluating and incorporating health equity in HEOR: Shainur Premji, PhD, Research Fellow, Centre for Health Economics, University of York, UK, Melanie Whittington, PhD, Director of Health Economics, Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER), USA, and Stacey Kowal, MSc, Principal Health Economist, Health Policy & Systems Research, Genentech, USA.

The speakers provided an overview of health equity and unique insights into incorporating health equity research into economic evaluations. Dr. Premji kicked off the presentations with an overview of key concepts of health equity, including what it is, why it is important, and how we can address it as aspiring health economists and outcomes researchers. Dr. Whittington introduced ICER's recent initiative on "Advancing Health Technology Assessment Methods that Support Health Equity", which outlines each method, strengths, limitations, and practicality for implementation within health technology assessment (HTA). Stacey Kowal introduced the ISPOR Health Equity Research Special Interest Group (SIG), which focuses on dissemination and advancement of novel methods, including equity-informative CEA, provides a forum to connect people and discuss, fosters multi-stakeholder dialogue, and collaborates with other SIGs and organizations to improve data sources. The session concluded with a lively Question & Answer session that included discussion on how HTA bodies are incorporating health equity, data challenges, and tracking progress on health equity.

The recording is available [here](#) on the ISPOR website under the "Live and On-Demand Health Economics and Outcomes Research Webinars."

Jacinda Tran

PharmD, MBA, PhD candidate
University of Washington, USA



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ISPOR STUDENT NETWORK

ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF DIGITAL HEALTH TECHNOLOGY

Open to all ISPOR Members and Non-members

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Understand the role of health economics and outcomes research in the value assessment of digital health technologies.
- Identify key concepts and methodological considerations in the economic evaluation of digital health technologies.
- Provide an overview and comparison of national frameworks and models for economic evaluation of digital health technologies.
- Learn about the impact of digital health technologies in healthcare today, including examples of real impact on health outcomes.

 July 25, 2023
10:00 AM ET  Live Webinar

[Register Now](#)



Katarzyna Kolasa, PhD
Professor of Health Economics, Kozminski University, Warsaw, Poland



Simon Leigh, PhD
Director of Research, Organization for the Review of Care and Health Apps (ORCHA), Liverpool, United Kingdom

The ISPOR Student Network Education Committee hosted a webinar on "Economic Evaluation of Digital Health Technology" led by **Katarzyna Kolasa, PhD**, Professor of Health Economics, Kozminski University, Warsaw, Poland, and **Simon Leigh, PhD**, Director of Research, Organization for the Review of Care and Health Apps (ORCHA), Liverpool, United Kingdom on **July 25, 2023 at 10:00 AM ET**.

The speakers provided insights into the economic evaluation of digital health technology, which presented unique challenges compared to pharmaceuticals, healthcare services, and medical devices. In this webinar, we learned about the current role of health economics and outcomes research in assessing the value of digital health technologies, as well as the impact of digital health interventions in today's healthcare systems. Additionally, the speakers compared and contrasted different national frameworks and highlighted special considerations for economic evaluation methodologies related to digital health interventions.

Anu Bompelli

PharmD, MS, Ph.D. Student
University of Minnesota, USA



IN CASE YOU MISSED THEM...

PAST FIRESIDE CHATS

1

[How to bring your research into high-impact publications](#)

2

[Shaping your graduate school journey and getting a holistic experience](#)

3

[2022 Student Experiences with Internships and Fellowships](#)



ISPOR COMMUNITIES

JOIN TODAY!



CONNECT WITH:

- Special Interest Groups
- Committees
- Student Network Leadership:
email studentnetwork@ispor.org if
you're not a student leader but
would like to be involved!

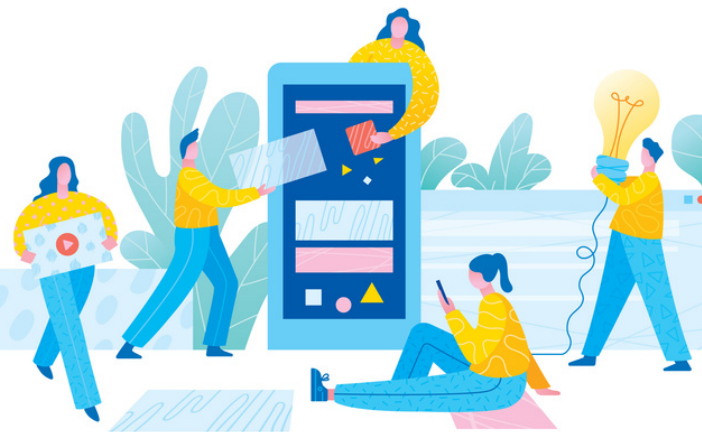


REASONS TO JOIN

- Network and collaborate with
HEOR colleagues globally
- Stay up-to-date on events and
announcements
- Share ideas on discussion boards
- Volunteer opportunities

HEOR Careers

ISPOR Career Center—*The Job Site for HEOR Professionals*



CREATE YOUR PROFILE!

- Upload your resume to be searchable by recruiters
- Set up job alerts

[Click to set up now!](#)

FELLOWSHIPS & INTERNSHIPS

Learn about HEOR organizations that provide employment opportunities for students!

[Access directory here!](#)



FEATURED ARTICLES

EDITOR'S CHOICE



[LINK](#)

Use of Utility and Disability Weights in Economic Evaluation of Pediatric Vaccines

NEPPELENBROEK ET AL.

This *Value in Health* article focused on how utility weights and disability weights have been used in the context of quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs) and disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs)-based cost-effectiveness analysis (CEA) of pediatric vaccines for infectious diseases and assess the comparability between weights.

A systematic review was conducted focusing on CEAs of pediatric vaccines for 16 infectious diseases, published between January 2013 and December 2020 and using QALYs or DALYs as outcome measure.

Out of 2154 articles identified, 216 CEAs met our inclusion criteria. Of the included studies, 157 used utility weights and 59 used disability weights in their valuation of health states. In QALY studies, the source, background, who's preferences (adults'/children's) were applied and adjustments made to utility weights were poorly reported.

This review identified considerable gaps in the way valuation weights are used and reported on in CEA.

LOOKING BEYOND SURVIVAL DATA: HOW SHOULD WE ASSESS INNOVATION IN ONCOLOGY REIMBURSEMENT DECISION MAKING

AIKATERINI FAMELI ET AL.

Traditionally, cancer drugs have been reimbursed based on their ability to extend overall survival (OS). However, in some treatment settings, reliance on OS data presents limitations as it requires long trial durations, is susceptible to confounding from subsequent lines of therapy, and has limited ability to demonstrate impact on disease burden or quality of life (QoL). In settings where time to demonstrate OS is extended, alternative endpoints such as time to disease progression or patient response to treatment can be captured earlier with less confounding and may also have stand-alone value in capturing disease/symptom burden and quality of survival. While payers acknowledge limitations associated with OS, the primary concern preventing adoption of alternative endpoints is uncertainty that these endpoints translate into survival or QoL improvements, thus potentially causing additional treatment burden and cost to healthcare systems without patient benefit.

Cross-stakeholder actions to enable greater use of alternative endpoints and patient-reported outcomes (PROs) as measures of value beyond survival in the absence of mature OS data include: (1) ensure sufficient weighting is given to outcomes beyond mortality in health technology assessments (HTAs); (2) improve the PROs toolkit and PROs data collection methodologies; and (3) raise awareness of and generate evidence for the stand-alone value of alternative endpoints. Health economists have a specific role in assessing the socioeconomic impact of drugs that have been approved using alternative endpoints to avoid additional treatment burden and cost to healthcare systems without patient benefit.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED



ISPOR

Are you an ISPOR member yet? Stay up to date on conferences, short courses, communities, and research by becoming a member! Here is the [link](#) on ISPOR memberships. It's never too late to get involved!

ISPOR STUDENT NETWORK

Reach out to studentnetwork@ispor.org to be added to the ISPOR Community for student leaders. The ISPOR Student Network also has 7 committees that student members can serve on!

LOCAL ISPOR STUDENT CHAPTER

Contact your local chapter to learn about upcoming activities and chapter elections. Consider running for an officer position!



CONTACT
US



Questions?

studentnetwork@ispor.org

