



LABOR AND POPULATION

Case Study Session

Discussant Remarks

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**Methods and Case Study Workshop
Benefit-Cost Analysis Reference Case Guidance Project**

November 2, 2017

General Comments

- Commend Gates project team on the inclusion of case studies
 - See recommendations in practice
 - Identify other issues
- Main objective of Reference Case project is to focus on valuing outcomes, primarily from health perspective
 - Issues discussed earlier today apply in these applications
 - Serve to illustrate data and information constraints that analysts will encounter in application of resulting BCA guidance

Specific Points (1)

- As case study exercises, the two papers in this session are well executed
 - Wong/Orazem: Focus on bundle of nutritional interventions
 - Pradhan/Jamison: Value of increasing educational attainment
- One issue in application is concern with double counting of benefits
 - Value of reduction in mortality risk
 - Value of reduction in morbidity risk
 - Value of productivity gains (e.g., earnings)

Specific Points (2)

- Need to address sources of uncertainty
 - Valuation of outcomes: mortality, morbidity, health care utilization, productivity
 - Magnitude of impacts of intervention/policy
 - Retrospective vs. prospective analyses
 - Identifying valid evidence of impacts and associated uncertainty
 - Role of standardized sensitivity analysis vs. other approaches to capturing uncertainty (e.g., Monte Carlo methods)

Considerations for Reference Case Guidance

- Addressing potential for double counting
- Acknowledging multiple sources of uncertainty
- Approaches to recognizing uncertainty in BCA estimates