Methodological advances in multi-sectoral, multi-country economic analyses: the PECUNIA project

EUPHA-ECO webinar: Economic burden of diseases: methodological pearls and pitfalls
(22 September 2021)

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This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 779292
PECUNIA Project (2018-2021)
Heterogeneity in ‘unit cost valuation methods’

**Unit cost**: average monetary value of a unit of resource use (e.g. contact) (Beecham 2000)

**Example:**
Application of international costing approaches based on Austrian data: general practitioner (GP) consultation unit cost (2015) → **staggering differences** in unit cost estimates

- **DE (top down) payer perspective**
- **UK (bottom-up microcosting) economic cost**
- **AT (market price)**

Unlabeled chart with values:
- € 15.6
- € 25.3
- € 43.1

+17% +6.2%
Harmonisation step 4: Valuation

- **Reference Unit Cost (RUC):** standardized methodology applied in unit cost development

- **PECUNIA RUC Templates:**
  - Microsoft Excel (2013) based input masks with automated calculations based on harmonized methodology for transparent RUC development
  - Service 1, 2, 2-short (top-down micro or gross costing); Personal time; Productivity loss; Tangible consequences
  - Primary and/or secondary input data

- **PECUNIA RUC Compendium:**
  - Microsoft Excel (2013) based collection of harmonised RUCs across countries

**Workflow:**

1. **Resource use and cost data**
2. **PECUNIA RUC Template(s)**
3. **Harmonized unit costs**
4. **PECUNIA RUC Compendium**