

Database of Instruments for Resource Use Measurement

## Review of UK Resource Use Measures

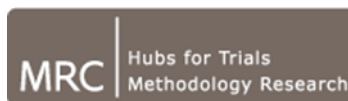
With thoughts of mince pies and late night shopping on people's minds, we are pleased to announce the publication of our most recent research in the new edition of the PSSRU's 2015 Unit Costs of Health and Social Care report, compiled by Lesley Curtis and Amanda Burns (see [link](#)).

Prepared by Colin Ridyard and Dyfrig Hughes of the Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation, Bangor University in conjunction with others of the DIRUM team, we reviewed papers citing publications deposited within DIRUM to assess: (i) which resource use measures are commonly used; (ii) how are resource use measures administered; (iii) which items of resource use were mostly measured using patient self-report; (iv) how the use of measures differ according to the availability of alternative methods; and (v) how estimates compare when more than one method is used for the estimation of the same resource items. The review highlights the extensive use of Beecham and Knapp's CSRI. Patient interviews are the more common and successful method of questionnaire administration but whilst concerns may still exist around recall bias, a small number of studies show good agreement between medical records and patient /carer recall. Read more by following this [link](#).

## Health Economics Working Group

The Health Economics Resource Use and Costs Working Group brings together health economists, within the MRC Hubs for Trials Methodology Research and across the UK, and other important stakeholders from NHS trust finance departments and government bodies. Its aim is to improve methods for resource-use measurement, costing and analysis in randomised controlled trials through collaborative methodological research and dissemination (see [link](#)).

The Health Economics Resource Use and Costs Working Group encompasses the DIRUM team, and will develop this resource further to include relevant material making it a primary resource for health economists involved with trial-based economic evaluation.



### Related research

The MRC Network of Hubs for Trials Methodology Research awarded funding to a collaborative group from Bristol, Bangor and Oxford Universities, led by Jo Thorn, to identify a core set of important resource-use items for inclusion in a modular, patient-reported resource-use measure.

A comprehensive list of 350 items of care extracted from DIRUM-listed measures has been reduced to 60 items and categorised into 'domains' describing different types of healthcare.

Two rounds of Delphi are aimed to reduce this list further to arrive at a consensus list of core items. The first round prioritised 34 items; panelists will soon receive invitations to take part in round two.

### DIRUM impact

DIRUM is cited increasingly in protocols for NIHR Health Technology Assessment (HTA) studies.

Submit your resource use measure directly via this link

