Short Biography



J.L. (Hans) Severens, PhD (1963)

Since 2009 Hans Severens is professor of Evaluation in Health Care at the Institute of Health Policy and Management and the Institute of Medical Technology Assessment at Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands. He holds an MSc Policy and Management in Health Sciences from the Maastricht University, and a PhD from the Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands. From 2001 until 2009 he was appointed as professor of Medical Technology Assessment at Maastricht University and co-head of the department of Clinical Epidemiology and Medical Technology Assessment of the University Hospital Maastricht.

Hans' work is focused on economic evaluations of health care technologies, either as part of clinical trials or independent modelling studies and working on the research methods within this field. In this respect he worked on the validity and reliability of cost measurement, productivity costs, the statistics of incremental cost-effectiveness, the efficiency of implementation strategies and the international transferability of cost-effectiveness studies. In close collaboration with clinical researchers he has been working on studies in a broad range of medical disciplines, such as rheumatology, oncology, infectious disease, rehabilitation, geriatrics, and psychiatry.

He organizes and teaches both full and short courses regarding the principles of economic evaluations (teaching within the International Health Economics Diploma Course at Erasmus University; leading the development of a joint degree in health economics, policy, and management in cooperation with universities of Innsbruck-Austria, Oslo-Norway, and Bologna-Italy; current director of the NIHES-Health Services Research master; formerly being responsible for the HTA-profile within the Health Sciences Research Master at Maastricht University; ISPOR short courses; and courses throughout the world). Besides this, he is consultant to several pharmaceutical companies and evaluator to MUNDO, Maastricht University Centre for the International Cooperation in Academic Development (evaluating educational projects in for instance Ghana, Yemen, and Ethiopia). Currently he is leading a team of economic researchers from Erasmus University Rotterdam and Maastricht University as one of the ten Technology Assessment teams contracted by NICE, UK. Besides, he participated in several of the ISPOR Task Forces.

Since 2008 Hans is a full member of the Dutch National Health Council (GezondheidsRaad) and for over 7 years member of the Committee 'Farmaceutische Hulp' (CFH) of the Health Care Insurance Board (CVZ), for drug reimbursement advice). He is former member of the Board of Directors of the International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) and was co-editor of the scientific journal of this society, 'Value in Health' for 10 years. Nearly 200 peer reviewed papers are on his list of publications and Hans currently holds a Hirsch index of 24.

Selected papers:

Knies S, Candel MJJM, Boonen A, Evers SMAA, Ament AJHA, Severens JL. Lost productivity in four European countries among patients with rheumatic disorders: are absenteeism and presenteeism transferable? Pharmacoeconomics (accepted for publication).

Frederix GWJ, Severens JL, Hövels AM, Raaijmakers JAM, Schellens JHM. Reviewing the cost-effectiveness of endocrine early breast cancer therapies: influence of differences in modeling methods on outcomes. Value Health 2012; 15 (1): 94-105.

Tran-Duy A, Boonen A, van de Laar MA, Franke AC, Severens JL. A discrete event modelling framework for simulation of long-term outcomes of sequential treatment strategies for ankylosing spondylitis. Ann Rheum 2011; 70 (12): 2111-2118.

Drummond M, Barbieri M, Cook J, Glick HA, Lis J, Malik F, Reed SD, Rutten F, Sculpher M, Severens J. Transferability of economic evaluations across jurisdictions: ISPOR good research practices task force report. Value Health 2009; 12 (4): 409-418.

Severens JL, Brunenberg DEM, Fenwick EAL, O'Brien B, Joore MA. Cost-effectiveness acceptability curves and a reluctance to lose. PharmacoEconomics 2005; 23 (12): 1207-1214.