

Constanza Vargas Parada

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PERSONAL PROFILE

Organized and responsible person eager to learn new things and work in a professional and teamwork environment. Before moving to Australia in late 2017, I worked as a health economist at the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Unit at Pontificia Universidad Catolica in Chile. Since I moved to Sydney I have been working as a research fellow at the Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation (CHERE) University of Technology Sydney (UTS) having a role as a Pharmaceutical Benefit Advisory Committee (PBAC) evaluator, as a researcher in the conduction of economic evaluations alongside clinical trials and in the field of economic modelling and cost effectiveness. On July 2019, I was promoted to a Senior Research fellow position having a role in coordinating all Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) related projects. My research work has mainly been focused on the development of economic evaluations to support decision-making. As part of my research work I have experience writing technical reports, conducting critical evaluation of scientific and economic evidence, elaborating manuscripts to be submitted to peer reviewed journals, presentations on international conferences and the dissemination of results to relevant actors.

EDUCATION

Postgraduate Studies Master in Health and Economics (Advanced) University of Queensland, Australia	2012 – 2013
Graduate Studies Pharmacy Pontificia Universidad Catolica, Santiago, Chile.	2002 - 2008
Undergraduate Studies Lincoln International Academy School	1986 - 1999

WORK EXPERIENCE

Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation (CHERE) - UTS **Nov. 2017 – to date**
Senior research fellow

Since joining CHERE, I have been involved in the review and conduction of evaluations for the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC). Among my main responsibilities are the development of PBAC Commentaries in a timely manner, participate in meetings with the Department of Health (DoH), attend the (Economics Subcommittee) ESC meeting and provide a fluent communication within the internal evaluators team and the DoH. I am involved in a number of economic evaluations conducted alongside clinical trials and I am an associate investigator (AI) of an National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) funded clinical trial. I also have teaching responsibilities in health economics and economic evaluations. I am also involved in research projects mainly focused in economic modelling and cost effectiveness. In July 2019 I was promoted to a Senior research fellow position and since then, the CHERE coordinator of all MSAC related projects. Similar to PBAC, MSAC require the development of commentaries in a timely manner and also full HTA reports for which broader research techniques are required. As the internal coordinator for MSAC, I must ensure an adequate team is involved, review documents and lead projects to ensure they are conducted as per the contract terms. Coordination duties also require the development of proposals, submitting timely manner quotes and coordinate internal meetings to ensure a team-work environment.

Responsible for the coordination, implementation and execution of research projects mainly related to economic evaluations. Currently been working in the development of projects in haemophilia, metastatic lung cancer, metastatic renal cell carcinoma, metastatic melanoma, colon cancer, diabetes, genetics among others. Some of these projects are privately financed (mainly pharmaceutical industry) and others publicly financed (FONIS). Among my responsibilities is the development of proposals, elaboration of technical reports and manuscripts, costing, literature review and implementation of decision models (decision trees, Markov models, survival analysis in Excel and TreeAge). All studies are presented in academic conferences. I also have academic responsibilities that require my collaboration in the preparation of materials and teaching of subjects in health economics and economic evaluations. Additionally, this work requires dealing with the elaboration of grant proposals and administrative duties related to the management of the HTA unit.

BID – Banco Interamericano del Desarrollo
Consultant

April 2016 – December 2016

Responsible for the total execution of a BID regional project “Evidence based decisions for reimbursement of high cost drugs - DIME” to support decision making in Latin-American countries. These includes collection of data, elaboration of reports and the execution of a local workshop to train relevant actors on the proposed decision-making tool and disseminate this regional project. This project requires regular meetings with the rest of the countries and constant collaboration alongside.

Self Employed Consultant
Health Economics Researcher

May 2014 – March 2015

Responsible for the conduction of health economics evaluations. As a consultant I was requested to do the systematic review of the evidence, perform the decision model adaptations, elaborate technical reports and elaborate an academic manuscript. A total of 2 economic evaluations were conducted during this period. As a consultant, I also provided support to the epidemiologic analysis of an obesity impact study.

MSD Chile
Designated Point of Contact for Medical Information

January 2009 – December 2011

As part of the medical Department, was responsible of processing medical information requirements and product complaints handling (product quality complaints and Adverse Events reports). These required excellent customer service and communication skills as well as deep knowledge regarding compliance. Additionally, was the contact person for the handling of post marketing Investigator Initiated Studies. These included tasks from data revision, critical assessment of clinical studies, translation of local studies that were sent to headquarters for revision, oral presentations regarding these topics in a local and global basis and strategic planning with each business unit area.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

- **Lecturer at Universidad de los Andes – Master in Epidemiology – Faculty of Medicine**
Responsible for the elaboration, coordination and teaching of two core modules for the master in epidemiology: (1) Basic concepts on Health Economics and (2) Economic Evaluations in Health care.
- **Lecturer at Universidad Chile – Diploma “HTA and Pharmacoeconomics” – Faculty of Medicine – School of Public Health**
Responsible for the teaching of the module on “Health Outcomes”.
- **Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile**
Collaboration on academic activities for the module of “Economics Evaluations in Health care” part of the Master of Health Management.

RESEARCH PROJECTS (Public financing)

NHMRC 2019

Melanoma Margins Trial-II: A Phase III, Multi-centre Randomised Controlled Trial Investigating 1cm vs 2cm Wide Surgical Excision Margins for AJCC Stage II Primary Cutaneous Melanoma (MeIMarT-II)

FONIS 2016 - 2018: Second researcher

Costo efectividad de nuevas estrategias de tamizaje de cáncer de mama en Chile (Cost effectiveness of screening strategies for the prevention of breast cancer in Chile)

FONIS 2016 - 2018: Co-investigator

Participación de grupos de pacientes en procesos de toma de decisiones sobre cobertura en salud en Chile: explorando desafíos y oportunidades (Participation of patients in decision-making processes on health coverage in Chile: exploring challenges and opportunities)

FONIS 2016 - 2018: Co-investigator

Evaluación económica del tratamiento de artritis reumatoide con terapia biológica en Chile (Economic evaluation of biologics for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis in Chile).

FONIS 2014 - 2015: Co investigator

Estudio de Costo Efectividad del cariotipo molecular como herramienta diagnóstica en niños con trastorno del desarrollo psicomotor (Cost effectiveness study to assess a novel genetic diagnostic test on children with congenital anomalies)

FONIS 2014 - 2015: Co investigator

Estudio de Costo Efectividad de estrategias de screening de cáncer de colon (Cost effectiveness of colon cancer screening strategies)

All research projects and publications can be accessed through the following link:

<https://www.uts.edu.au/staff/constanza.vargas>

INDEPENDANT CONSULTANCIES

- 2015 - Astrazeneca

Cost effectiveness dossier

Internal and external training on cost effectiveness.

- 2015 – Tecnofarma

Consultancy focused on the costing of a new cancer drug.

- 2015 – AVALON Health Economics

Data collection and data analysis on a cost study of antibiotics use in Chilean Hospitals (Manuscript under revision)

- 2015 – Universidad del Desarrollo

Systematic literature review in collaboration with a FONDECYT Project (“Desarrollando inteligencia en salud pública primaria para inmigrantes en Chile: un estudio multi-métodos”).

- July 2014 - July 2015 – Universidad del Desarrollo

Epidemiological data analysis for a cost consequence study related to obesity in Chile. Responsible for the data collection, epidemiologic analysis and final report.

PUBLICATIONS

Vargas, C, Balmaceda, C, Rodríguez, F, Rojas, R, Giglio, A & Espinoza, MA 2019, 'Economic evaluation of sunitinib versus pazopanib and best supportive care for the treatment of metastatic renal cell carcinoma in Chile: cost-effectiveness analysis and a mixed treatment comparison', Expert Review of Pharmacoeconomics & Outcomes Research, vol. 19, no. 5, pp. 609-617. View/Download from: Publisher's site

- Vargas Parada, CL, Bilbeny, N, Balmaceda, C, Rodriguez, MF, Zitko, P, Rojas, R, Eberhard, ME, Ahumada, M & Espinoza, M 2018, 'Costs and consequences of chronic pain due to musculoskeletal disorders from a health system perspective in Chile', *Pain Reports*, vol. 3, no. 5, pp. e656-e656.
- Espinoza, MA & Vargas, C 2017, 'Evaluación de tecnologías sanitarias para la toma de decisiones y la rendición de cuentas: una urgente reflexión para el sistema de salud chileno [Evaluation of health technologies for decision making and accountability: an urgent reflection for the Chilean health system]', *Value in Health Regional Issues*, vol. 14, pp. 33-34. View/Download from: Publisher's site
- Vargas, C, Espinoza, MA, Giglio, A & Soza, A 2017, 'Estudio de impacto presupuestal de Daclatasvir asociado a Asunaprevir desde la perspectiva del sistema de salud público chileno', *Value in Health Regional Issues*, vol. 14, pp. 28-32. View/Download from: Publisher's site
- Vargas Parada, C & Lennert Veerman, J 2016, 'Cost-Effectiveness Study of HPV Vaccination as a Primary Prevention Strategy for Anal Cancer in HIV-Positive Men in Chile', *Value in Health Regional Issues*, vol. 11, pp. 17-23. View/Download from: Publisher's site
- Vargas, C, Giglio, A, Soza, A & Espinoza, MA 2015, 'Estudio De Impacto Presupuestal De Daclatasvir Asociado A Asunaprevir Desde La Perspectiva Del Sistema De Salud Publico Chileno.', *Value in health : the journal of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research*, vol. 18, no. 7, p. A866. View/Download from: Publisher's site
- Vargas, CL, Espinoza, MA, Giglio, A & Soza, A 2015, 'Cost effectiveness of daclatasvir/asunaprevir versus peginterferon/ribavirin and protease inhibitors for the treatment of hepatitis c genotype 1b Naïve patients in Chile', *PLoS ONE*, vol. 10, no. 11. View/Download from: Publisher's site

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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| 2017 | Workshop at the ISPOR Sao Paulo conference for the DIME project led by the Inter-American Development Bank |
| 2016 | Poster presentation in the International ISPOR conference Washington. |
| 2015 | Poster presentation in the Latin American ISPOR Santiago conference: Granted "Best Poster Presentation" award "Estudio de Impacto presupuestal de Daclatasvir/Asunaprevir para el tratamiento de la hepatitis C en Chile". |
| 2015 | Poster presentation in the International ISPOR conference Philadelphia. |

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 2014 - National conferences focused on Economic Evaluations as a tool to support decision making" and other related topics. All these are directed to the private health care sector (ISAPRE - private payer, Pharmaceutical Industry), public health care sector (FONASA - public payer, Ministry of Health) and symposia (mental health, Community pharmacy, among others).
- International presentation (Argentina): Patients role in decision making
- International presentation (Peru): Economic Evaluations in Health care: How to measure health outcomes.
- Collaboration with ISPOR local chapter in the training on health economics.

- 2015 Evaluating committee: FONIS 2015
- 2015 Reviewer for the “Revista Chilena de Infectología” on a cost effectiveness manuscript.
- 2014 (November) Reviewer for Value in Health Regional Issues on several manuscripts on cost effectiveness.
- 2014 ISPOR Chilean Chapter: Constant participation in educational activities.
- 2014 (Mayo) Reviewer for BMC Public Health on manuscript relate don cost of illness.
- 2013 Post graduate Thesis: Cost-Effectiveness Study of HPV Vaccination as a Primary Prevention Strategy for Anal Cancer in HIV-Positive Men in Chile.
- 2011 Granted a Scholarship from the Government of Chile to study a Master in Health and Economics (Advanced) at the University of Queensland, Australia

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook)
- Treeage, Basic Stata
- Excellent oral presentation skills

PERSONAL ANTECEDENTS

Citizenship : Chilean
Marital Status : Married
Languages : Native Spanish
English (spoken and written advanced level)
French (spoken and written basic level)
Areas of Interest : Health and Economics, Health Technology Assessment.

Sydney, 2021