

**Health Solutions** 

**Knowledge**base

## **Resource Allocation** in Health Care **Decision Making**

**Understand how mathematical** optimization techniques can be used to make better use of health care dollars

Resource allocation methods consider efficiency in the context of real-world constraints on available resources, the feasibility of different implementation options, and relevant priorities.

## What can resource allocation models tell us?

These methods use mathematical optimization techniques to identify the allocation of health care dollars between a set of alternatives to either:



Maximize some goal within a defined budget or amount of other resources, such as reduced morbidity or increased quality-adjusted life-years for a given level of spending on interventions

- or -

Minimize resource use to reach a specified goal, such as which vaccines to fund to reduce vaccine-preventable deaths by 50%

## How can different players in the public health and healthcare system benefit from resource allocation methods?

Some examples include...



Payers: Selecting drugs to include on a formulary or treatment options to cover for a given health condition



Pharmaceutical companies: Selecting targets for research and development or for focused marketing strategies



**Government public health entities:** Budgeting for a public immunization program, identifying target risk populations for prevention or screening programs



Healthcare providers: Selecting organ donor recipients, operating room scheduling, staff scheduling, feasible integration of new medical devices

## In addition, these methods provide



Transparency by using a formal decision-making process and

Increased control of expenditures via efficient use of resources.



Learn more about our expertise in resource allocation and other health economic modeling at RTI Health Solutions.