

Measuring real-world cost-effectiveness: why and how?

In 2019 all five Finnish university eye clinics founded an ecosystem to measure real-world cost-effectiveness and named it *aces-rwm* (*automation in care and evaluation of system with real-world monitoring*). The leading principle of the ecosystem can be summarized in one sentence, i.e., promote wellbeing of patients and citizens within an affordable eye care system.

To begin with, we need to know how our patients are seeing and doing within our every-day care. *aces-rwm* enables such learning by using the structured, easy to use, single-entry data recording IT tool package which automatically evaluates the data both for individual patients and groups of patients.

Nevertheless, evaluating our own real-world outcomes is far from enough. Huge variabilities have been recognized for decades in the care practices nationally and internationally, regardless of guidelines and access to care criteria. Obviously, all cannot be right. We need to know whom of us are under- and/or over-caring as well as under- and/or over-spending, and whom of us would need to change our care practices.

Therefore, *aces-rwm* ecosystem includes also automatically created protocols for benchmarking real-world outcomes between different units, including quality of life measures and costs. Although by now such tools have been developed for the Big Four diseases accounting 2/3 of eye care services, *aces-rwm* ecosystem is adaptable to any disease and medical specialty.