

# PRiMHE

Programme in the Methods of Health Economics

## ‘Challenges in developing a life-course approach to assessing capability well-being for use in economic evaluation.’

### Professor Joanna Coast

Joanna Coast is Professor in the Economics of Health & Care at the University of Bristol. Jo qualified with a BA (Econ) (Hons) in Economics in 1988 and an MSc in Health Economics in 1990, both from the University of York, and a PhD in Social Medicine from the University of Bristol in 2000. Jo's research interests lie in the theory underlying economic evaluation, developing capability measures of outcome for use in economic evaluation, priority setting, end-of-life care and the economics of antimicrobial resistance. She also has a methodological interest in the use of qualitative methods in health economics. She has published extensively across these research areas and received major grants from the Medical Research Council, the European Research Council and Wellcome. She is Senior Editor, Health Economics for *Social Science and Medicine*, a board member of the international Health Economics Association (iHEA) and honorary Professor at the University of Birmingham, where she was previously based.

**Date: 21 November 2019/15:00 – 16:00**

**Venue: Medical University of Vienna, Center for Public Health**

**[Kinderspitalgasse 15, 1090 Vienna, Austria \(Please use the entrance Zimmermanngasse\)](#)**

**Bianca von Bienenfeld Room (SE3), 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**

### Summary

The use of public values in health care decision making is now well established in organisations such as the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE) in England, and Zorginstituut Nederland in the Netherlands. These values tend to focus on measured changes in health status. Where the interventions being evaluated draw on both health and social care, however, existing measures that capture only health changes may result in poor decisions. ‘Capability’ measures, such as the ICECAP suite of measures, draw on a broader evaluative space, concentrating on what a person has ‘reason to value’ described in terms of what a person is able to do and be in life. The start and end of life, however, cause particular difficulties for evaluation even within this broader evaluative space. These extremes of the life-course are characterised not just by potentially different values in terms of ‘what a person is able to do and be in life’, but also by a greater need for, and reliance upon, support from others. Both factors influence what needs to be measured and valued in evaluations that use capability as an evaluative space. This lecture focuses on the challenges of measuring and valuing capability at either end of the life-course as well as the subsequent challenge of incorporating different values at different parts of the life-course into a decision-making framework that can be used by an organisation such as NICE.

*This lecture is accredited with 1 DFP-point for members of the Austrian Medical Chamber.*



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