

Economic Review Analytic Framework Description: Family-based Interventions to Prevent Substance Use Among Youth

The analytic framework postulates that the intervention implemented for parents, caregivers, and the youth within their families reduce substance use among youth and other risk behaviors, thus reducing morbidity and mortality.

The framework goes on to show the intervention cost is composed of cost planning and startup, recruitment, staff wages, staff training, and compensation for parent or caregiver time, supplies, and infrastructure. Among these costs, it is postulated that staff training, staff wages, and compensation for parent or caregiver time are the drivers of intervention cost magnitude. Effective interventions that prevent substance use and other risk behaviors lead to economic benefits in terms of healthcare cost averted, averted costs of injuries and death, averted costs to the justice system, and averted losses in education attainment and productivity at worksites when youth enter the workforce. It is postulated that all the mentioned benefits are drivers of total benefit because of the intervention.

The framework further postulates that reduced morbidity and mortality lead to increased number and quality of life years lived. Cost-effectiveness is defined as the net cost per quality-adjusted life years gained or the net cost per disability-adjusted life years averted. Cost-benefit is defined as the ratio of benefit to cost or net benefit which is the difference between benefits and cost. The Community Preventive Services Task Force issues an economic statement based on cost-effectiveness or cost-benefit evidence.