Catching the low-hanging fruit in medicines optimisation

Rita Faria, Mark Sculpher, Centre for Health Economics, University of York, UK

Evidence on effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of interventions

Conclusions

- Research has evaluated interventions on one particular stage of the medicines pathway
- Process outcomes are often used rather than end outcomes (health outcomes, costs)
- Remains unclear:
  - Which aspect of suboptimal use of medicines is a key driver of costs and health loss
  - Which stage of the medicines pathway is more likely to benefit from intervention

Directions for future research

- Decision analytic modelling of the full medicines pathway
  - To evaluate which aspects of suboptimal medicines use have the most impact
  - To indicate where an intervention could provide the greatest benefits
  - To estimate the how much to invest in improving the pathway