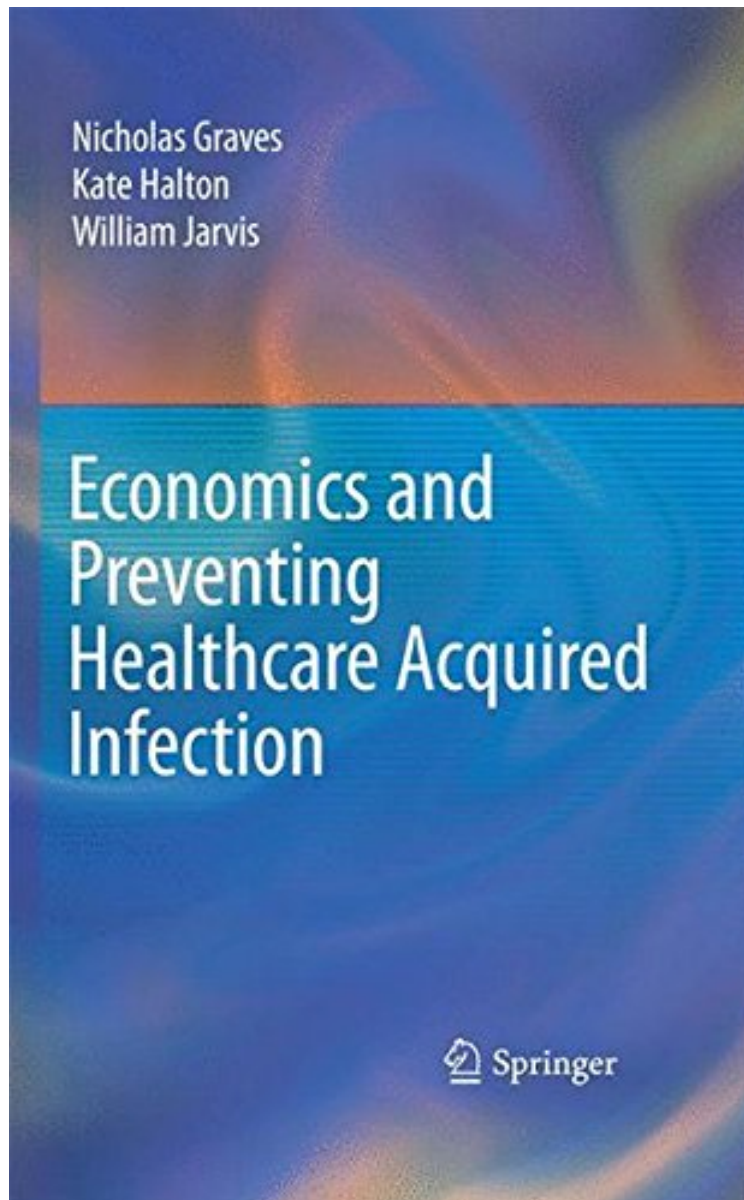


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## Preventing Healthcare Acquired Infection:

Reasons for Writing This Book The published literature on the economic appraisal of healthcare acquired infection (HAI) is described by phrases such as: With so many virtues of the cost-benefit approach identified, it is perhaps puzzling why greater use of economic appraisal has not been made in the area of infection control [1] Clinicians should partner with economists and policy analysts to expand and improve the economic evidence available [2] the quality of economic evaluations should be increased to inform decision makers and clinicians [3] The economics of preventing hospital-acquired infections is most often described in general terms. The underlying concepts and mechanisms are rarely made explicit but should be understood for research and policy-making [4] The aim of this book is to describe how economics should be used to inform decision-making about infection control. Our motivation stems from the previous quotes which show economics is being used within the infection control community, but not to its full potential. Our expectation is that you do not have any formal training in economic analyses. Economic analyses have been used for many decades to argue for increased funding for hospital infection-control. In 1957, Clarke [5] investigated bed wastage in British hospitals due to *Staphylococcus aureus* in patients wounds. She concluded . the average length of stay in hospital of patients whose wounds were infected with Staph.

From the reviews: "This book on the cost of healthcare-associated infectious is written from an economic rather than an accounting perspective, a difference that is explained in detail . It is written for infection-control personnel and infectious disease practitioners with no prior knowledge of economics. Graduate and professional students and researchers in health-related fields with an interest in healthcare epidemiology may find this book a helpful introduction. it is easy to read and clearly organized." (Linnea A. Polgreen, Doodys Service, August, 2009)From the Back CoverEconomics and Preventing Healthcare Acquired Infection Nicholas Graves, Kate Halton, and William Jarvis The evolution of organisms that cause healthcare acquired infections (HAI) puts extra stress on hospitals already struggling with rising costs and demands for greater productivity and cost containment. Infection control can save scarce resources, lives, and possibly a facility's reputation, but statistics and epidemiology are not always sufficient to make the case for the added expense. Economics and Preventing Healthcare Acquired Infection presents a rigorous analytic framework for dealing with this increasingly serious problem. Engagingly written for the economics non-specialist, and brimming with tables, charts, and case examples, the book lays out the concepts of economic analysis in clear, real-world terms so that infection control professionals or infection preventionists will gain competence in developing analyses of their own, and be confident in the arguments they present to decision-makers. The authors: Ground the reader in the basic principles and language of economics. Explain the role of health economists in general and in terms of infection prevention and control. Introduce the concept of economic appraisal, showing how to frame the problem, evaluate and use data, and account for uncertainty. methods of estimating and interpreting the costs and health benefits of HAI control programs and prevention methods. Walk the reader through a published economic appraisal of an infection reduction program. Identify current and emerging applications of economics in infection control. Economics and Preventing Healthcare Acquired Infection is a unique resource for practitioners and researchers in infection prevention, control and healthcare economics. It offers valuable alternate perspective for professionals in health services research, healthcare epidemiology, healthcare management, and hospital administration.About the AuthorNicholas Graves is a Senior Research Fellow in Health Economics at the School of Public Health, Queensland University of Technology. He is also a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Infectious Diseases at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Australia. William Jarvis is a well-known figure in infection control. He was formerly Chief of the Epidemiology Branch at the CDC, as well as Director of the Hospital Infections Program at the CDC. He is a past President of The Society for Healthcare Epidemiologists of America (SHEA), and is currently Vice-President of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control (APIC).