



# HEALTH ECONOMICS

## ESTRO-HERO paper

### Developing time-driven activity-based costing at the national level to support policy recommendations for radiation oncology in Belgium

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The health economics for radiation oncology (HERO) project began in 2010, thanks to the European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology (ESTRO). The project is aimed to develop a knowledge base for the economic evaluation of radiation treatment in European countries in terms of both financial and health costs. It provides solid data to the radiotherapy community to support their dialogues with governments, payers and decision-makers to advocate for both better resource planning and better funding for radiotherapy, which ultimately lead to better care for cancer patients.

In August 2022, the first national results of the cost accounting model were published in the *Journal of Accounting and Public Policy*. The authors assess the intricacies of applying the ESTRO-HERO tool<sup>1</sup>, a time-driven, activity-based costing method, to inform price-setting policy at a national level for external beam radiotherapy. They discuss the policy implications in terms of both the updating of legal recommendations and the development of a new reimbursement system in the Belgian setting.

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You can view the full paper here [>>](#)

<sup>1</sup>The ESTRO-HERO tool is available online. Requests to use it can be sent to Chiara Gasparotto at ESTRO: [cgasparotto@estro.org](mailto:cgasparotto@estro.org).



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