

B.2 Health economics literature search strategy

Health economic evidence was identified by conducting a broad search relating to ME/CFS population in NHS Economic Evaluation Database (NHS EED – this ceased to be updated after March 2015) and the Health Technology Assessment database (HTA – this ceased to be updated after March 2018), with no date restrictions. NHS EED and HTA databases are hosted by the Centre for Research and Dissemination (CRD). Additional searches were run on Medline and Embase for health economics.

Table 21: Database date parameters and filters used

Database	Dates searched	Search filter used
Medline	2014 – 30 June 2020	Exclusions Health economics studies
Embase	2014 –30 June 2020	Exclusions Health economics studies
Centre for Research and Dissemination (CRD)	HTA - 2003 – 31 March 2018 NHSEED - 2003 to 31 March 2015	None

Medline (Ovid) search terms

1.	Fatigue Syndrome, Chronic/
2.	chronic* fatigue*.ti,ab.
3.	(fatigue* adj2 (disorder* or syndrome* or post viral or postviral or immune dysfunction* or post infection* or postinfection*)).ti,ab.
4.	((myalgic or post infection* or postinfection*) adj (encephalomyelitis or encephalopathy)).ti,ab.
5.	((ME adj CFS) or (CFS adj ME) or CFIDS or PVFS).ti,ab.
6.	(Systemic Exertion Intolerance Disease or SEID).ti,ab.
7.	((CFS adj SEID) or (SEID adj CFS) or (ME adj CFS adj SEID) or (ME adj SEID) or (SEID adj ME)).ti,ab.
8.	((Orthostatic intolerance or postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome or postural tachycardia syndrome or POTS) adj6 (CFS or chronic* fatigue* or ME or myalgic or SEID or systemic exertion)).ti,ab.
9.	((Post-exertional or postexertional) adj2 malaise).ti,ab.
10.	(neurasthenic neuroses or epidemic neuromyasthenia or neurataxia or neuroasthenia or neurasthenia).ti,ab.
11.	((atypical or simulating or resembling) adj poliomyelitis).ti,ab.
12.	((chronic adj2 epstein Barr virus) or CEBV or CAEBV or chronic mononucleosis).ti,ab.
13.	xenotropic murine leukemia virus-related virus.ti,ab.
14.	effort syndrome*.ti,ab.
15.	((akureyri or iceland or tapanui or royal free or royal free hospital) adj disease*) or ((yuppie or yuppy or tapanui) adj flu)).ti,ab.
16.	or/1-15
17.	letter/
18.	editorial/
19.	news/
20.	exp historical article/
21.	Anecdotes as Topic/

22.	comment/
23.	case report/
24.	(letter or comment*).ti.
25.	or/17-24
26.	randomized controlled trial/ or random*.ti,ab.
27.	25 not 26
28.	animals/ not humans/
29.	exp Animals, Laboratory/
30.	exp Animal Experimentation/
31.	exp Models, Animal/
32.	exp Rodentia/
33.	(rat or rats or mouse or mice).ti.
34.	or/27-33
35.	16 not 34
36.	limit 35 to English language
37.	Economics/
38.	Value of life/
39.	exp "Costs and Cost Analysis"/
40.	exp Economics, Hospital/
41.	exp Economics, Medical/
42.	Economics, Nursing/
43.	Economics, Pharmaceutical/
44.	exp "Fees and Charges"/
45.	exp Budgets/
46.	budget*.ti,ab.
47.	cost*.ti.
48.	(economic* or pharmaco?economic*).ti.
49.	(price* or pricing*).ti,ab.
50.	(cost* adj2 (effective* or utilit* or benefit* or minimi* or unit* or estimat* or variable*)).ab.
51.	(financ* or fee or fees).ti,ab.
52.	(value adj2 (money or monetary)).ti,ab.
53.	or/37-52
54.	36 and 53

Embase (Ovid) search terms

1.	chronic fatigue syndrome/
2.	chronic* fatigue*.ti,ab.
3.	(fatigue* adj2 (disorder* or syndrome* or post viral or postviral or immune dysfunction* or post infection* or postinfection*)).ti,ab.
4.	((myalgic or post infection* or postinfection*) adj (encephalomyelitis or encephalopathy)).ti,ab.
5.	((ME adj CFS) or (CFS adj ME) or CFIDS or PVFS).ti,ab.
6.	(Systemic Exertion Intolerance Disease or SEID).ti,ab.
7.	((CFS adj SEID) or (SEID adj CFS) or (ME adj CFS adj SEID) or (ME adj SEID) or (SEID adj ME)).ti,ab.

8.	((Orthostatic intolerance or postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome or postural tachycardia syndrome or POTS) adj6 (CFS or chronic* fatigue* or ME or myalgic or SEID or systemic exertion)).ti,ab.
9.	((Post-exertional or postexertional) adj2 malaise).ti,ab.
10.	(neurasthenic neuroses or epidemic neuromyasthenia or neurataxia or neuroasthenia or neurasthenia).ti,ab.
11.	((atypical or simulating or resembling) adj poliomyelitis).ti,ab.
12.	((chronic adj2 epstein Barr virus) or CEBV or CAEBV or chronic mononucleosis).ti,ab.
13.	xenotropic murine leukemia virus-related virus.ti,ab.
14.	effort syndrome*.ti,ab.
15.	((akureyri or iceland or tapanui or royal free or royal free hospital) adj disease*) or ((yuppie or yuppy or tapanui) adj flu)).ti,ab.
16.	or/1-15
17.	letter.pt. or letter/
18.	note.pt.
19.	editorial.pt.
20.	case report/ or case study/
21.	(letter or comment*).ti.
22.	or/17-21
23.	randomized controlled trial/ or random*.ti,ab.
24.	22 not 23
25.	animal/ not human/
26.	nonhuman/
27.	exp Animal Experiment/
28.	exp Experimental Animal/
29.	animal model/
30.	exp Rodent/
31.	(rat or rats or mouse or mice).ti.
32.	or/24-31
33.	16 not 32
34.	limit 33 to English language
35.	health economics/
36.	exp economic evaluation/
37.	exp health care cost/
38.	exp fee/
39.	budget/
40.	funding/
41.	budget*.ti,ab.
42.	cost*.ti.
43.	(economic* or pharmaco?economic*).ti.
44.	(price* or pricing*).ti,ab.
45.	(cost* adj2 (effective* or utilit* or benefit* or minimi* or unit* or estimat* or variable*)).ab.
46.	(financ* or fee or fees).ti,ab.
47.	(value adj2 (money or monetary)).ti,ab.
48.	or/35-47

49.	34 and 48
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NHS EED and HTA (CRD) search terms

#1.	MeSH DESCRIPTOR Fatigue Syndrome, Chronic
#2.	(chronic fatigue or fatigue syndrome*)
#3.	((myalgic adj (encephalomyelitis or encephalopathy)))
#4.	((((ME adj CFS) or (CFS adj ME)))
#5.	(post viral fatigue or post viral syndrome* or viral fatigue syndrome* or PVFS)
#6.	#1 OR #2 OR #3 OR #4 OR #5
#7.	(neurasthenic neuroses or epidemic neuromyasthenia or post infectious encephalomyelitis or neurataxia or neuroasthenia)
#8.	((((atypical or simulating or resembling) adj poliomyelitis))
#9.	(chronic epstein Barr virus or chronic mononucleosis)
#10.	(xenotropic murine leukemia virus-related virus)
#11.	((((chronic fatigue and immune dysfunction syndrome*) or cfids or chronic fatigue-fibromyalgia syndrome* or chronic fatigue disorder* or Systemic Exertion Intolerance Disease or SEID or effort syndrome or post infectious fatigue))
#12.	(((((akureyri or iceland or tapanui or royal free or royal free hospital) adj disease*) or ((yuppie or yuppy or tapanui) adj flu)))
#13.	#7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10 OR #11 OR #12
#14.	#6 or #13