

INTERPRETIVE POLICY ANALYSIS CONFERENCE 2021

Panel Title:

P8 - Value concepts in contemporary policymaking

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The concept of value has gained new currency in contemporary policymaking but remains elusive: for instance, in the case of health care, the concept of 'value' is put forward by policymakers, practitioners, economists, insurers, researchers, managers, and patients to justify, question or promote new interventions, and policy instruments (including so-called 'nudges'). The emergence of the SARS-CoV2 vaccine is a case in point: beyond clinical value, vaccines are ascribed economic, ethical, and societal value, too.

This panel uses biomedicine, health care, and public health policy to explore these questions empirically and conceptually.

We ask:

- How are practices, 'things', and processes made valuable in biomedicine and health care policy?
- Who gets to define value in contemporary democracies and by what means (e.g. quantitative measurements, qualitative best practices)?
- What social practices and technologies are involved in these practices? What criteria and value repertoires become salient in different spaces (organizational settings, policy contexts, patient movements etc)?
- How are ethical, moral, and economic norms involved and what controversies can we identify?
- What methods can policy analysts use to address these controversies?

In this panel, we welcome both conceptual and empirical papers on the subject of value, and encourage speakers to reflect on the impact of their research on policy and practice.