Program Overview
The Center for Health Outcomes and PharmacoEconomic Research is offering a 2½-day course on comparative effectiveness research (CER). The program will consist of lecture-based learning combined with hands-on activities and workshops.

Who Should Attend
• Those seeking to obtain a basic understanding of CER methods and those interested in taking it to the next level
• Persons responsible for interpreting and communicating comparative effectiveness messages to decision makers

Continuing Education
The University of Arizona College of Pharmacy is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as a provider of continuing pharmacy education. Credit for each individual session will be awarded to pharmacists completing that session. A total of 18.25 hours is available for participating in all sessions. Statements of credit will be sent via email within four weeks after the program.

Venue
All sessions will be held in state-of-the-art facilities at The University of Arizona College of Pharmacy.

Lodging
Area hotels offer lodging at reasonable rates and close proximity to the College.
• Marriott University Park - 520-792-4100
• Arizona Inn - 800-933-1098
• Embassy Suites Paloma Village - 520-352-4000
• Windmill Inn - 520-577-0007

March 12 – 14, 2012
A 2½-day program offered by The Center for Health Outcomes & PharmacoEconomic Research
Using PICOTS to assess CER applicability
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• Define applicability of CER
• Explain the PICOTS' framework
• Evaluate the applicability of CER using the PICOTS' framework
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-013-L01-P (1.25 hours)

Heterogeneity: understanding important differences relevant to CER
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• Identify heterogeneity of treatment effects in clinical trials
• Distinguish between clinical, methodological, and statistical heterogeneity
• Analyze statistical tests used to evaluate heterogeneity in systematic reviews
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-014-L01-P (1.25 hours)

Introduction to the Effective Health Care Program
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• Explain the purpose of AHRQ's Effective Health Care Program
• Outline the processes used by the Effective Health Care Program
• Identify products of the Effective Health Care Program
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-015-L01-P (0.75 hours)

Evaluating observational studies
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• Summarize methods used to minimize bias in observational studies
• Propose methods for evaluating comparative effectiveness observational studies
• Appraise quality of comparative effectiveness observational studies
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-017-L01-P (1.25 hours)

Fundamentals of meta-analysis – combining studies and synthesizing evidence
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• List the attributes of a high-quality meta analysis
• Propose methods to evaluate statistical heterogeneity in meta-analyses
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-018-L01-P (1.25 hours)

Evaluating systematic reviews
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• List the attributes of a high-quality systematic review
• Appraise the quality of comparative effectiveness systematic reviews
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-019-L01-P (1 hour)

Evaluating strength of evidence
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• Evaluate the strength of a body of evidence
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-020-L01-P (0.75 hour)

Conducting effective literature searches for comparative effectiveness reviews
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• List 3 databases to use for conducting literature searches
• Describe sources of ‘grey’ evidence
• Explain approaches to conducting evidence searches
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-021-L01-P (1 hour)

CER Translation: moving evidence from paper to patient
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• Describe how CER studies are used in health care benefit design
• Explain the role of “real world” data as a component of CER
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-022-L01-P (1 hour)

The role of instrumental variables in conducting observational CER
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• Explain applications for instrumental variables
• List 2 challenges with instrumental variables
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-024-L01-P (1.5 hours)

Mixed treatment comparisons: approaches for indirect evidence assessment
Upon completion of this session participants will be able to:
• Justify the use of indirect treatment comparisons
• List 3 key-good research practices for indirect treatment comparisons
• Explain how mixed treatment comparisons borrow evidence across studies
ACPE Program Number: 0003-0000-12-025-L01-P (1 hour)