



Call for Papers: 10th Annual Caribbean Health Economics Symposium
December 12-14, 2026
Scrubb Island Resort, Spa & Marina | British Virgin Islands

We are pleased to invite you to submit a paper for the **10th Annual Caribbean Health Economics Symposium**, to be held December 12-14, 2026, at the Scrub Island Resort, Spa & Marina, British Virgin Islands.

The conference provides a global forum for path-breaking health economics research critical to public policy, financing, and technology innovation. Five to seven papers will be selected by the organizing committee for presentation on December 13 and 14. Up to two presenters for each paper will be eligible for a travel and lodging honorarium. Brief panel discussions with medical industry experts will be woven into the program. Additional attendees not presenting papers are welcome to participate in the program and sponsored activities, such as the US versus UK health economics sail challenge or exploring islands that inspired Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*.

Now Accepting Papers: Please submit abstracts (one page) and/or complete paper drafts if available.
Submission Deadline: October 1, 2026

Papers may cover any topic from the field of health economics. In selecting this year's program, the committee particularly welcomes submissions aligned with the themes below. Presentation format will be a discussion of the paper by the author(s) followed by participant discussion and questions. Full papers will be required in advance of the meeting. For an illustration of paper quality, see last year's 2025 CHES program (available on request).

Submission Requirements

- Papers/abstracts must be submitted by October 1, 2026 (midnight, Hawaii time)
- Full paper or extended abstract (one page)
- Include names and organizations of up to two presenters
- Submit papers to: CHES@terramedica.co.uk
- Presenters will be notified by October 15, 2026.

Potential Submission Themes

Insurance markets

- Drivers of insurance premium costs
- Barriers to insurance coverage of generic and biosimilar drugs
- Impacts of vertical integration between PBMs/insurers/pharmacies on market competition, costs, and access
- Economic and workforce impacts of Medicaid policy changes

Hospitals and health systems

- 340B Drug Pricing Program growth, transparency and accountability
- Impact of 340B on patient affordability and health system costs
- Drivers of hospital cost growth and competition
- Provider consolidation among 340B hospitals, impact on prices and patient access

Pharmaceuticals

- Impacts of U.S. drug pricing policies, such as the Inflation Reduction Act or the proposed Most Favored Nations policy, on patient access, provider reimbursement, R&D incentives, the market for generic and biosimilar drugs, and other economic outcomes
- Relationships between biopharma R&D investment and expected returns

- Role of intellectual property frameworks (e.g., Hatch-Waxman and BPCIA) in promoting competition and innovation
- Role of pharmaceuticals in healthcare cost growth, labor productivity, and other outcomes, including long-term trade-offs between drug cost expansion and reductions in broader healthcare and non-medical social spending
- Role of medical technology in cost growth, labor productivity, and other outcomes
- Growth in China's global competitiveness

Honoraria

Honoraria will be available for up to two presenters for each paper selected for presentation. The scholarship includes lodging for three nights and airfare (up to \$1,000 for travel). Note the median travel expense from past CHES meetings was \$980.00, with one traveler coming within \$5.00 of the maximum.

Conference Logistics

- When: December 12 (afternoon) – December 14 (noon), 2026
- Where: Scrub Island Resort, Spa & Marina, British Virgin Islands
- Activities in the BVI (for those arriving earlier or staying later, at own lodging expense)
 - [The Baths, Virgin Gorda](#)
 - [Kite-sailing in North Sound](#)
 - Snorkeling
 - [Scuba diving on the RMS Rhone](#) (sunk in 1867)
 - [Sailing, yachting and boat tours](#)
 - [Sage Mountain National Park](#)

If you choose to self-pay, as several do:

- Room rate, Scrub Island Resort: \$425 + tax, which includes a 40% discount off the lowest-price double-occupancy room and breakfast buffet. Other hotels available with shuttle service: Leverick Bay, Little Dix Bay and Saba Rock.

If your travel is governed by US federal travel rules

- The maximum US Department of State per diem rate is \$238, and maximum lodging is \$138. An Airbnb is possible, but you will need to use a ferry in the morning to reach events.

Airports

- Tortola, Beef Island, BVI (Airport Code: EIS) — free boat shuttle to Scrub Island Resort
- St. Thomas, USVI (Airport Code: STT) — requires an additional air or ferry transfer

Thanks for your consideration. If you have any questions, please email CHES@terramedica.co.uk.

We look forward to seeing you at CHES in December 2026!

CHES Organizing Committee:

Karl Claxton, York University
 Steve Parente, University of Minnesota
 Ashley Swanson, University of Wisconsin
 Robert Town, University of Texas, Austin