Contents

Summary .............................................. 3
Introduction ....................................... 3
The Benefit-and-Cost Model for Medical Interventions .................... 3
Peptic Ulcer Disease ............................... 4
Cimetidine .......................................... 4
The Benefit-and-Cost Model Applied to Cimetidine ....................... 5
Review of Benefit-and-Cost Analyses of Cimetidine ...................... 6
Suggestions for Further Research ..................... 6
Introduction ....................................... 6
The Benefit-and-Cost Model for Medical Interventions .................... 7
Peptic Ulcer Disease ............................... 10
Definition and Etiology ............................ 10
Symptoms and Diagnosis ........................... 11
Treatment and Natural History ..................... 11
Epidemiologic Patterns ............................ 13
Cost of Illness .................................... 18
Summary ............................................ 22
Cimetidine .......................................... 23
Physiologic Rationale and Development .................. 23
Diffusion ........................................... 24
The Benefit-and-Cost Model Applied to Cimetidine ....................... 25
Elements in the Analysis ............................ 25
Clinical Effects .................................... 26
Health System Effects ............................. 39
Outcome ............................................ 46
Summary ............................................ 48
Review of Benefit-and-Cost Analyses of Cimetidine ...................... 49
Available Analyses .................................. 49
The Study by Robinson Associates, Inc .................. 49
Guidelines for Review of Health Care Cost Analyses ..................... 57
Suggestions for Further Research ..................... 58
References ......................................... 59

LIST OF TABLES
Table No. .............................................. Page
1. Selected Contemporary Interventions
   Used in Peptic Ulcer Disease ..................... 7
2. Number of Deaths in the United States With
   Ulcer Disease as the Primary Cause, 1960-79 .. 15
3. Mortality Rates in the United States for
   Deaths Due to Ulcer Disease, 1953-78 .......... 16
4. Number of U.S. Hospital Discharges With
   Ulcer Disease Diagnoses, 1966-78 ............ 16
5. Ulcer Disease in the United States According
   to the Health Interview Survey, NCHS .......... 17
6. Costs of Ulcer Disease in 1975 as Estimated
   by NCDD and SRI .............................. 19
7. Costs of Ulcer Disease in 1975 and 1977
   as Estimated by SRI ........................... 22
8. NCHS and CPHA Data on Number of
   Selected Surgical Procedures in the
   United States, 1966-78 .......................... 22
9. Components and Measures of Components
   in a Benefit-and-Cost Analysis of Cimetidine .. 26
10. Short-Term, Double-Blind, Placebo-
    Controlled Studies of Cimetidine: Effect on
    Duodenal Ulcer Healing ........................ 29
11. Short-Term, Double-Blind, Placebo-
    Controlled Studies of Cimetidine: Effect on
    Gastric Ulcer Healing ........................... 31
12. Short-Term, Double-Blind, Placebo-
    Controlled Studies of Cimetidine: Effect on
    Duodenal Ulcer Pain Relief .................... 32
13. Short-Term, Double-Blind, Placebo-
    Controlled Studies of Cimetidine: Effect on
    Gastric Ulcer Pain Relief ...................... 33
14. Controlled Trials of Maintenance
    Cimetidine in Peptic Ulcer ..................... 36
15. Results of Treatment With Two Hypothetical
    Subpopulations of Ulcer Patients: Type A
    More Resistant to Treatment and Prone
    to Relapse Than Type B ....................... 37
16. Short-Term, Double-Blind, Placebo-
    Controlled Studies of Cimetidine: Effect on
    Antacid Consumption ......................... 40
17. Number of Selected Surgical Procedures in
    the United States, 1966-78 .................... 41
18. Proportion of Patients With First-Listed
    Diagnosis of Ulcer Disease Having Surgery,
    1966-78 ........................................ 43
19. Number and Rate of All and Selected
    Abdominal Surgical Procedures in the
    United States, 1970-78 .......................... 43
20. Percentage Cost Savings Estimated From
    Robinson Associates Study ...................... 56

LIST OF FIGURES
Figure No. .............................................. Page
1. Benefit-and-Cost Model for Medical Interventions .................. 8
2. Number of Deaths in the United States With
   Ulcer Disease as the Primary Cause, 1966-79 . 15
4. Paradigm Decision Tree: Cimetidine and
   Alternative Intervention Strategies ................ 26
5. NCHS Data on Number of Selected Surgical Procedures in the United States, 1966-78 .... 42
6. CPHA Data on Number of Selected Surgical Procedures in the United States, 1966-78 .... 42
7. Number of Deaths in the United States From Ulcer Disease, 1976-79 .................. 46