

The role of cross-border assessments in the future



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Presentation outline

- A changing context for HTA
- Joint Action 1 on HTA – impressions so far
- Future HTA network – are cross-border assessments feasible?

A changing context for HTA

- Joint Action 1 on HTA planned in a different setting
 - No agreement on future HTA network
 - Better economic setting
- Now new political priorities in EU
 - Reforms at national level to improve public finances
 - Health affected as a major budget post
 - EU asked to provide assistance to MS on health reform
- ...and Directive 2011/24/EU calls for increased cooperation between national health systems
 - ...including on HTA

The role of the joint actions

- Both Joint Action 1 and Joint Action 2 on HTA have potential to largely influence future EU HTA work
 - By developing tools for effective interaction
 - By establishing effective models for work sharing and joint assessments
 - By agreeing on common guidelines for assessing different health technologies
 - By demonstrating gains in resource use at national level
 - By suggesting how stakeholders can interact when technologies are assessed

Impressions from JA1

■ Rapid assessments of relative efficacy – key issues

- Is the quality of the assessment at a level which allows reuse at national level?
- Can the assessment be done within the time limits of pricing/reimbursement decisions?

Impressions (2)

■ Tools for interaction

- Potentially very important to ensure efficient cooperation
- Are the web-based tools simple to use?
- Do they contribute to more cross-national cooperation?

Impressions (3)

■ Interaction with stakeholders

- Stakeholder Advisory Groups linked to the work packages important and positive
- Still need to refine where in the process input from stakeholders is useful
- Time constraints a challenge for stakeholder feedback
- Uneven resource base for different stakeholders: How can the patient and health professionals play a stronger role?

The future for cross-border assessments

- Cross-border assessments are potentially very useful
 - For Member States
 - For the European healthcare industry
 - For patients and health professionals

Member states

- Work-sharing can increase capacity at national level to do more HTA's
- Coordinated collection of patient data can increase our knowledge of optimal ways to treat small patient groups (e.g. for rare diseases)
- The network can increase HTA capacities in Member States with limited resources

The European healthcare industry

- Structured framework for interaction will increase industry's understanding of HTA needs
- Common standards and guidelines on HTA will simplify data requirements
- ...and consequently simplify pricing & reimbursement dossiers

Patients and health professionals

- Improved transparency on national uptake decisions if the same assessment of clinical aspects is used across Europe

However...

- Such a development depends on Member States' willingness
- The Joint Actions on HTA must demonstrate
 - Can joint HTA's be done time- and cost-effectively?
 - Is the output of a quality which can be used in national settings?
 - Are the payers of health services willing to use the joint HTA's as a basis for their decisions?

The Commission does...

- recognise that not all Member States will engage in joint HTA work until the added value is clearly demonstrated
- commit to financing European HTA activities while effective working methods are developed