

EUnetHTA

Possible Role of European
Collaborative Assessments in
National Reimbursement
Processes

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Health Care Service System in Finland

- the publicly funded and organised Finnish health care service system - the quality is considered to be good
- challenges and recent concerns
 - ageing population and rising public expectations
 - inequality in the access to an extensive set of health care services may increase
 - Re-organisation (reform) of governmental institutes and municipal structures

EU and National Health Systems

- Most national HTA agencies play an advisory or regulatory role in the decision making process

Health Technology Assessment

- Decisions making process- and its many levels
 - governmental, hospital districts, municipalities, individual service providers and professionals
 - 20 hospital districts, over 300 municipalities organising care
- HTA is an advisory tool and in most cases is not directly bound to the decision-making
 - screening programmes and HTA



Health Care Services

- Care provided against flat rate fees in the public municipal system
- Relatively low daily charge in hospitals; independent of technologies used
- Access to specialised care in the municipal system requires referral from either a municipal or a private physician



Reimbursement




- The statutory National Health Insurance (NHI) scheme covers all Finnish residents and it is run by the Social Insurance Institution (SII)
- Occupational health care is a distinct form of care - services often provided by a private or municipal system
- Partial reimbursement of patient fees from the NHI
 - private medical care
 - medicinal products/pharmaceuticals in outpatient care
- National screening programs are free of charge

MUMM programme - Managed Uptake of Medical Methods

- Joint project of Finnish hospital districts and the national HTA agency Finnohta
- Collects and prioritises assessment topics relevant for hospitals
- Produces rapid literature reviews on select topics
 - Best national experts and HTA methodologists
 - Published in Finnish Medical Journal
- Hospital directors agree on recommendations based on the reviews
 - Following recommendations is voluntary

Traffic light model of the MUMM recommendations



Traffic light	Effectiveness	Safety	Costs
 Green	Adequate	Adequate	Reasonable Should be used - may have limitations
 Yellow	Promising, but evidence scarce	Obviously adequate	Reasonable
	Adequate	Adequate	High
	Adequate	Known insufficiently	Reasonable
	Information inadequate	Adequate	Reasonable
 Red	Poor or unknown	Adequate	Reasonable
	Adequate	Poor or unknown	Reasonable
	Adequate	Adequate	Overly expensive

Use while gathering information research, registry, literature

Should not be used

Note: "Reasonable" or "high" cost is a political decision – no set limits.

International Collaboration

- MS's could benefit from the joint assessments while
 - access to expertise: there is not the same level of expertise within the 27 Member States- rare technologies/rare diseases
 - avoid duplication of procedures at national level- discussed standards and methodology
 - sharing work load
 - regulatory agencies- HTA agencies
 - health technology assessment bodies, may have different preferences in the interpretation of analyses



Beyond the Assessment

- Divergent requirements between Member States - HTA an advisory role
- Incorporating findings in the decision making at national level procedures

