

HTA conflicts in Europe – agreeing to disagree?

Bilimoria, Jay¹; Roussi, Kalliopi¹; Martin, Alison¹; Edema, Christianah
¹Crystallise Ltd, Colchester, CO4 9PE



Introduction

Obtaining approval by Health Technology Assessment (HTA) bodies is crucial for market access for a new product, but approval rates vary by location.

Objective

We aimed to compare decisions on the same cancer technologies for the same indications by the most prolific European HTA bodies.

Method

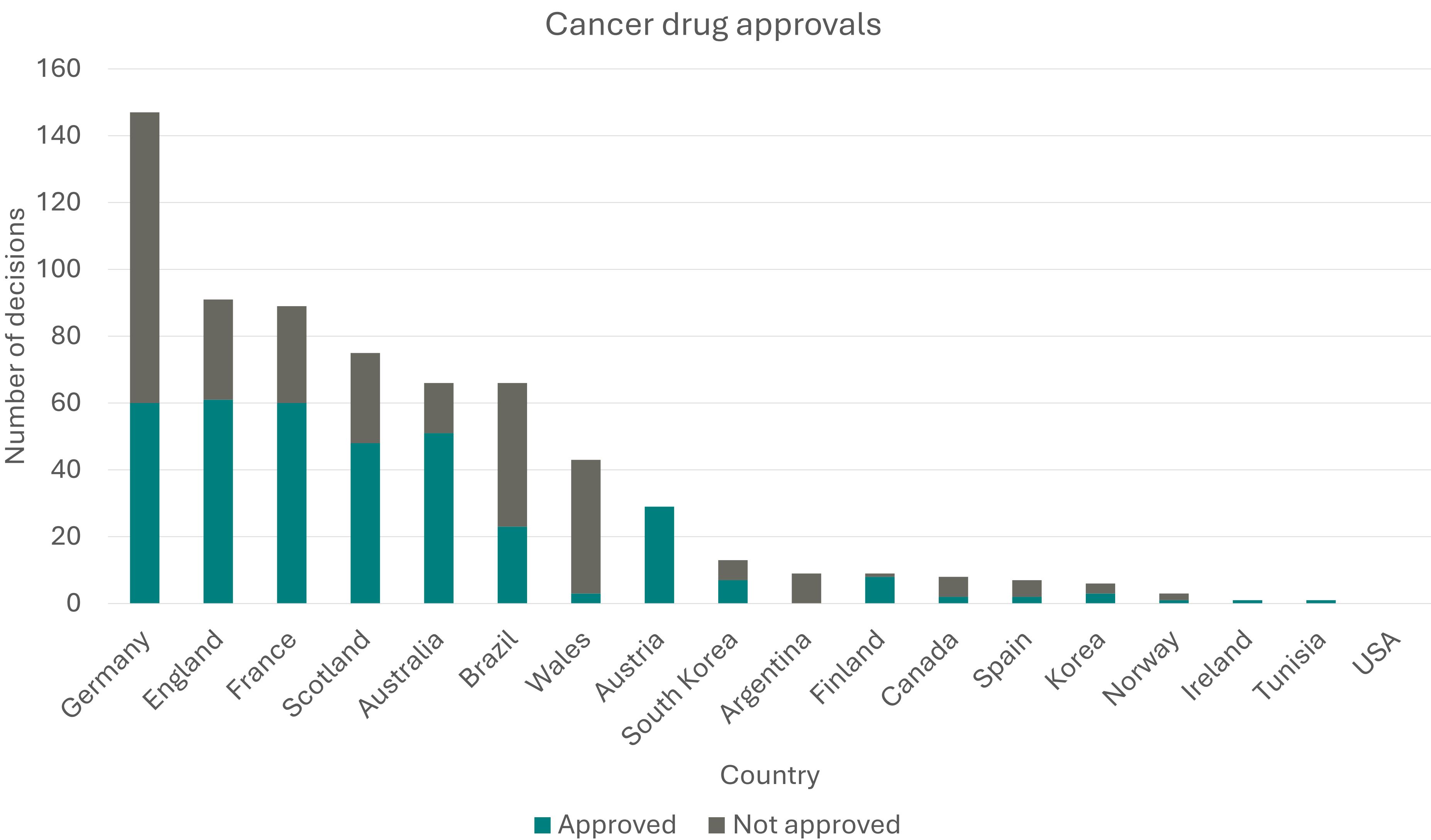
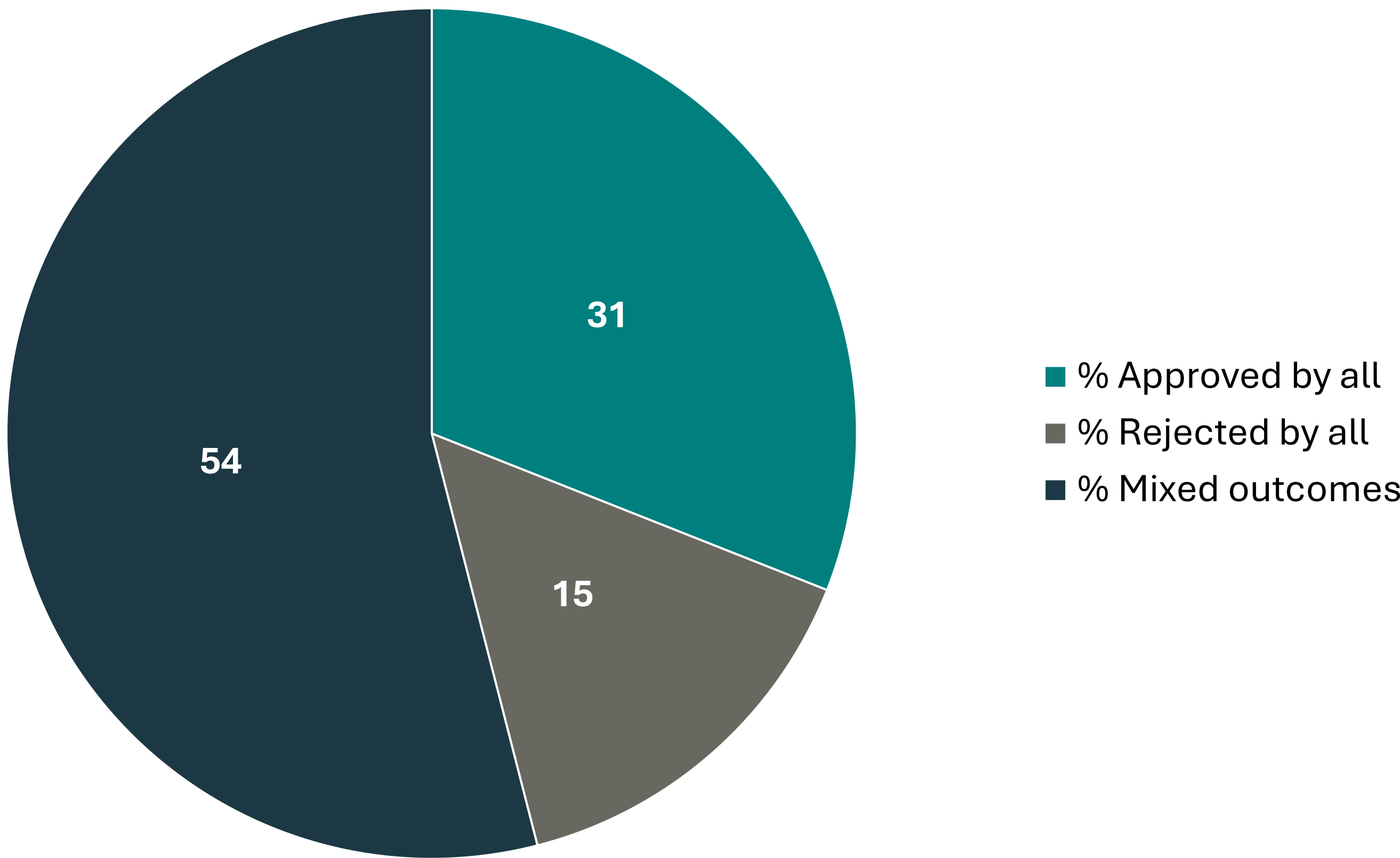
We assessed all decisions published by 24 HTA bodies internationally from May 2023 to April 2025 using data from the HTAngel newsletter (<https://www.crystallise.com/htangel/>). Final decisions from NICE in England, HAS in France, IQWiG in Germany and SMC in Scotland were compared for interventions assessed for the same cancer indication. Terminated applications were classed as non-approvals.

Results

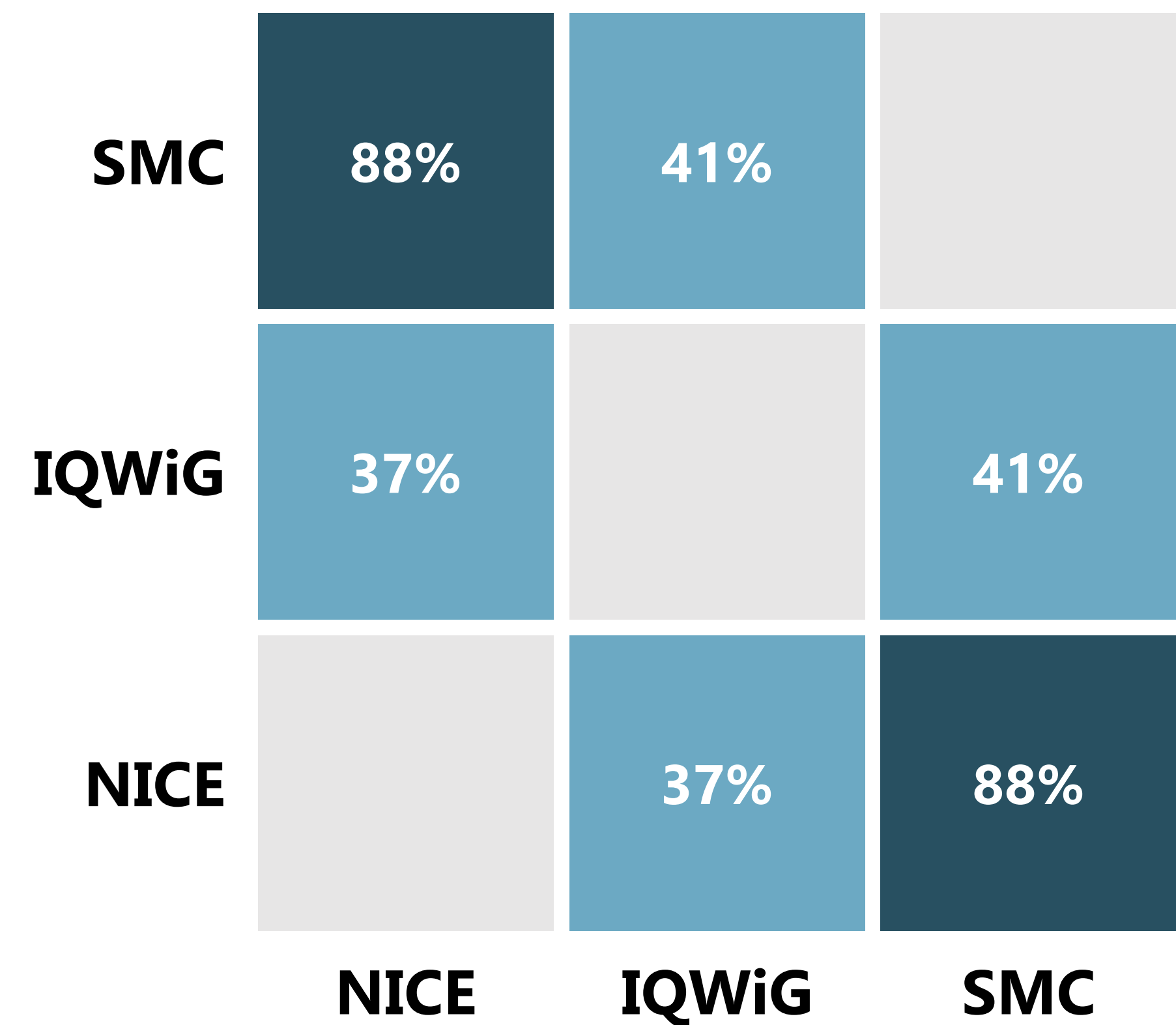
Across all HTA bodies, 697 decisions were made on cancer technologies, with 52% resulting in approvals. NICE approved 66% of 93 decisions, HAS 67% of 89, IQWiG 40% of 149, and SMC 64% of 75.

Among 75 technologies reviewed by more than one agency, 31% were approved by all, 15% rejected by all, and 54% had mixed outcomes. HAS showed the highest consistency, aligning with other agencies 50 to 63% of the time. NICE agreed with IQWiG on 37% and with SMC on 88% of overlapping technologies, while IQWiG and SMC aligned 41% of the time. IQWiG was the most likely to issue multiple decisions on a single technology, changing its stance in 38% of such cases.

Among 75 technologies reviewed by more than one agency



Percentage agreement on technologies between agencies



Conclusion

Although NICE and SMC generally agree with each other, there is otherwise little agreement between the main European HTA bodies about cancer technologies, with most disagreements being with IQWiG. A previous decision by one body is a poor predictor of subsequent decisions.

Contact Information

Email: contact@crystallise.com
Website: www.crystallise.com



LinkedIn
(Crystallise Ltd)



YouTube
(@crystallise3499)



Free monthly newsletter
www.crystallise.com/htangel/