# Impact of Publication of the French Commission for Economic and Public Health Evaluation (CEESP) Doctrine on French Medico-Economic Evaluation – a Quantitative Analysis

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### **BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE**

- For healthcare products with moderate to major Clinical Added Value, a costeffectiveness model is expected to be submitted to the CEESP as part of the market access reimbursement procedure in France.
- The CESP doctrine, published in July 2021, aims to set out the general economic evaluation framework<sup>1</sup>.
- The objective of this analysis was to evaluate the impact of this doctrine on economic evaluation, by comparing pre- and post-doctrine CEESP opinions.

#### **METHODS**

- CEESP opinions published 18 months before (January 2020 July 2021) and after (July 2021 December 2022) the doctrine were selected from IQVIA internal and exhaustive database of published economic opinions and assessed using an extraction grid built on doctrine's key insights:
  - Assessment of methodological conformity
  - Uncertainty qualification
  - CEESP's position to guide public-decision making

## **RESULTS**

- On the 79 economic opinions eligible, 36 opinions were published before and 43 after the doctrine publication. Most opinions were about drug evaluations.
- Before the publication, 50% of opinions were related to a first assessment. After publication, 60% was related to an extension of indication.
- The main therapeutic area was solid oncology-tumors with 49% of opinions published post-doctrine compared to 27% pre-doctrine.

#### **Assessment of methodological conformity**

- The CEESP doctrine defines the general framework elucidating the grading of methodological reservations. A major reservation designed an item deemed to fail to comply with the current recommendations which invalidates all or part of the economic evaluation.
- Similar proportion of opinions with major reservations were observed pre-and post-doctrine publication (33% versus 30%), the main driver being clinical data integration in the model (*Figure 1*).

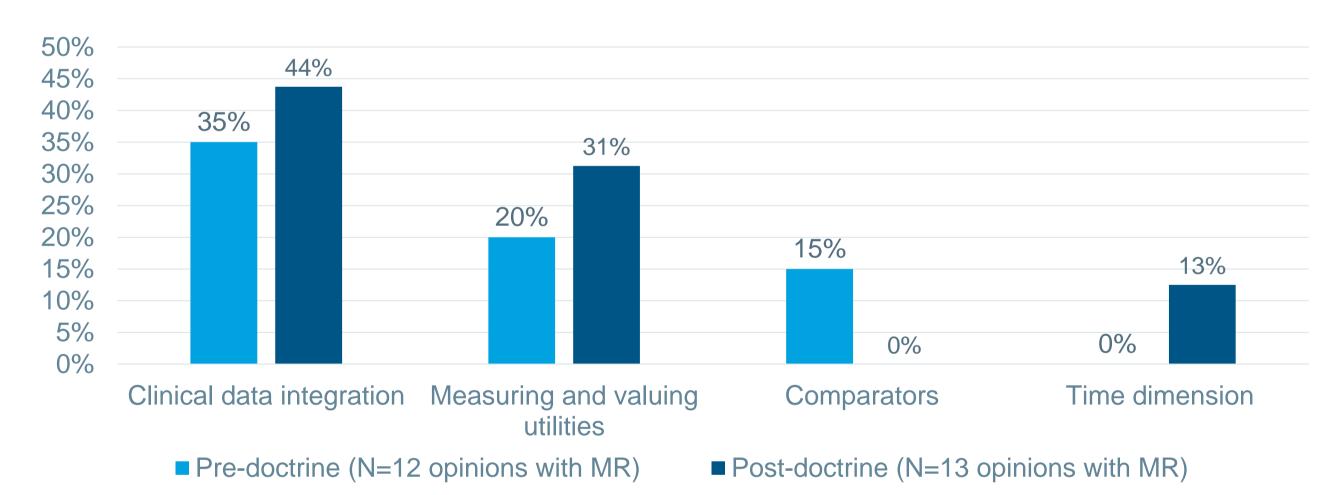


Figure 1 : Major reservations (MR) criteria

#### **Uncertainty qualification**

- The doctrine introduced the major overall uncertainty as a new criterion to qualify uncertainty in CEA, which invalidate the analysis.
- Among the post-doctrine opinions sample, 9 opinions received a major overall uncertainty.
- The reasons behind a major overall uncertainty can be multiple. Major overall uncertainty main drivers were the number of important reservations, in addition to uncertainty about key parameters estimation (*Figure 2*).

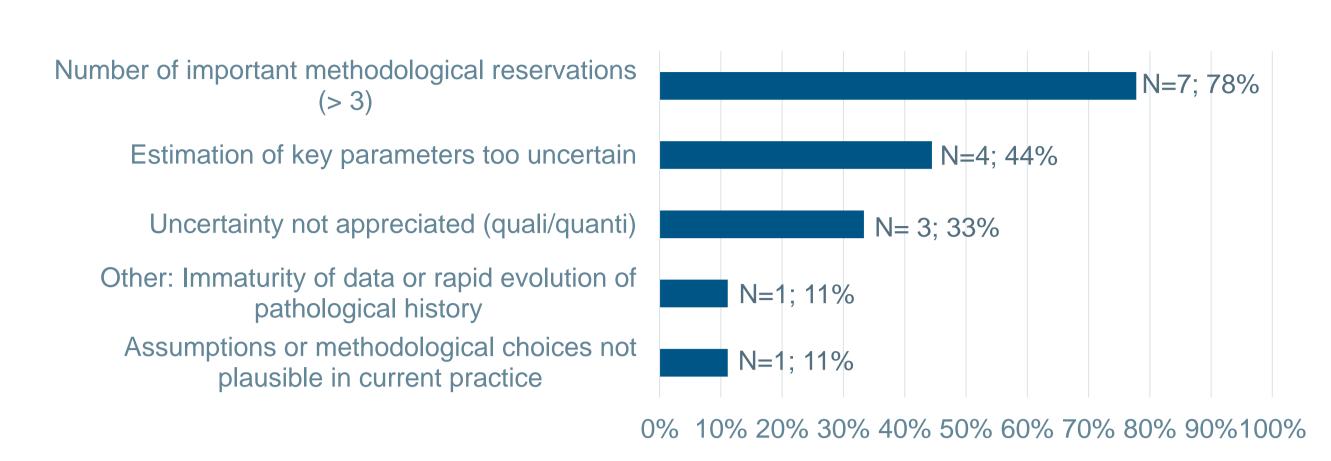


Figure 2: Main major overall uncertainty drivers

- Scenario analyses were the main source of uncertainty, without a clear threshold to define the major overall uncertainty, since variations between 11% to 1000% of the ICER versus base case were observed (*Figure 3*).
- Economic opinions with a major overall uncertainty have a much higher average ICER's variation in scenario analysis than economic opinions without (268% vs 124%). Uncertainty was greater in pre- than in post-doctrine overall opinions (*Figure 4*).

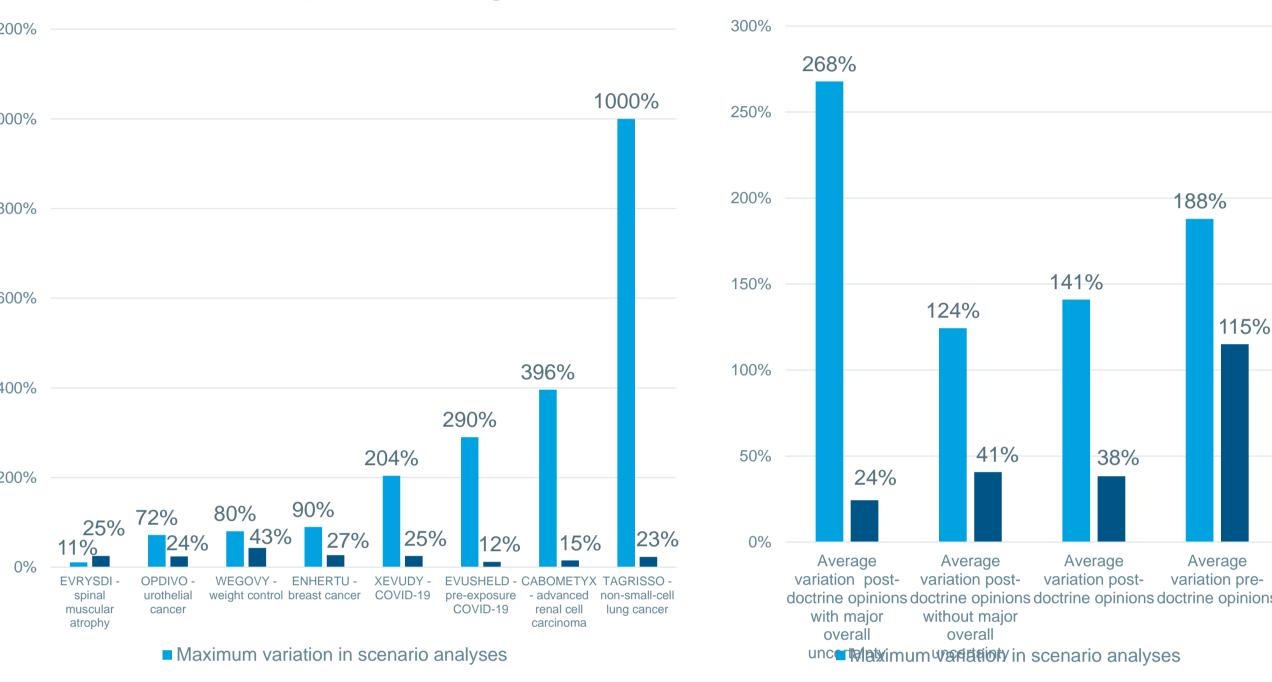


Figure 3: ICER variations regarding scenario vs deterministic sensitivity analysis (DSA) – opinions with major overall uncertainty (n=9)

Figure 4: ICER variations regarding scenario vs deterministic sensitivity analysis (DSA) – total sample (n=79)

#### **CEESP's position to guide public-decision making**

- In France, public decision-makers do not regulate prices with reference to a particular ICER threshold. Nevertheless, the CEESP is entitled to deliver an opinion on the ICER level which can rank as high, very high, or extremely high.
- ICER qualification was more frequent in opinions published before the doctrine (*Figure 5*).
- Regarding the large ICER dispersion, no specific trend permits to determine a potential threshold at which the ICER is qualified as high or more (*Figure 6*).

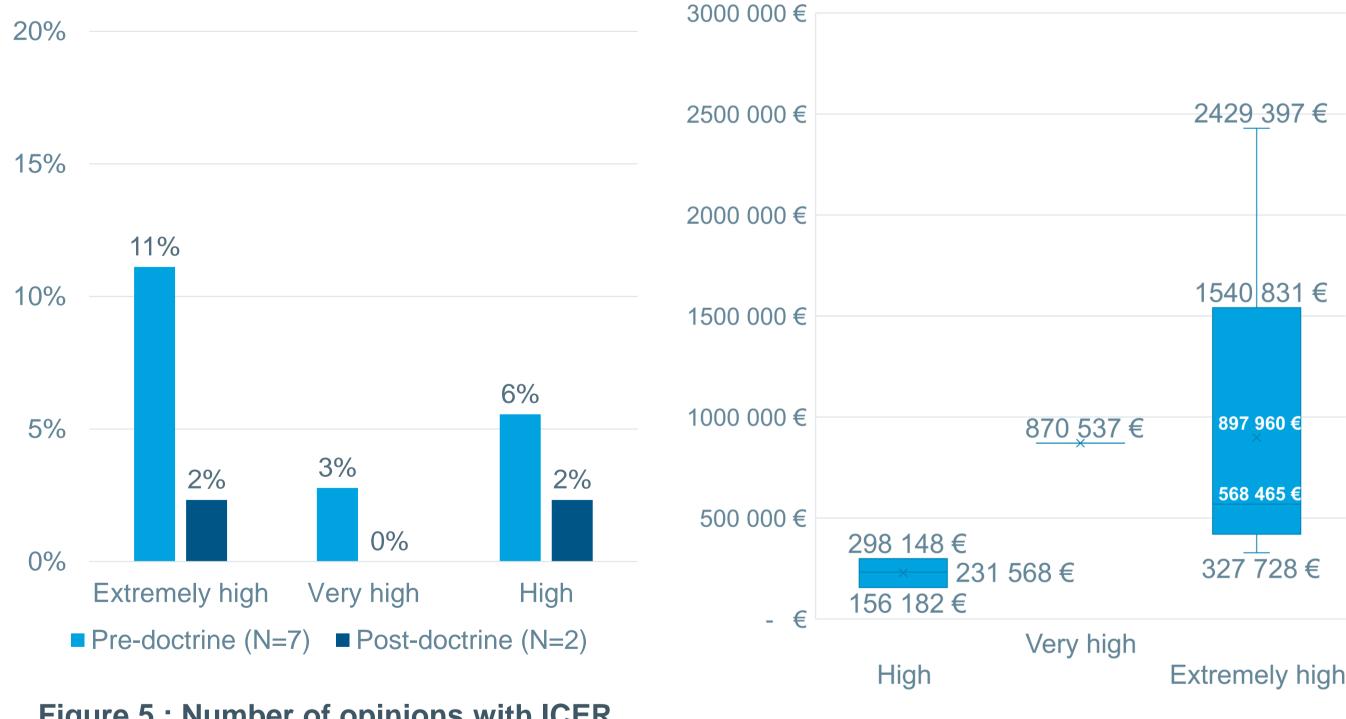


Figure 5: Number of opinions with ICER qualification (among opinions without major reservations or a major overall uncertainty)

Figure 6 : ICER dispersion

## CONCLUSION

Based on previous criteria used by the CEESP, the pre- and post-doctrine period do not seem to differ significantly: the doctrine's publication impact seems limited. However, the introduction of the major overall uncertainty enables to integrate uncertainty as a determining factor for invalidating the cost-effectiveness analysis, in addition to the major reservation, both being potential challenges for price negotiation with the Economic Committee in France.

Acronyms: CEA: Cost-Effectiveness Analysis; CEESP: Commission for Economic and Public Health Evaluation; HAS: French National Authority for Health; ICER: Incremental Cost-Effectiveness Ratio; MR: major reservation

Reference : 1. Haute Autorité de Santé. Doctrine of the Commission for Economic and Public Health Evaluation. Saint-Denis La Plaine: HAS; 2021.

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