Fit for Purpose Policy Recommendations Related to Funding, Pricing, and Procurement of Point-of-Care Tests Used in Patients With Respiratory Tract Infections

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What did we do?

- Diagnostic point-of-care tests (POCT) have potential to combat antimicrobial resistance through the reduction of over- and misuse of antibiotics. However, in most European countries POCT are rarely applied.
- Based on data collected in interview-based country case studies, a mapping of barriers and facilitators for POCT use related to the peri-launch phase (which consists of HTA, pricing, funding, and procurement) highlighted potentials to improve pricing and funding policies to increase POCT uptake in European countries.
- Draft recommendations were derived from this assessment of the status-quo by an expert group of health policy researchers and were revised in a comprehensive review process that included both written and oral comments in expert meetings.

What did we find?

Our research resulted in seven fit for purpose policy recommendations related to funding, pricing, and procurement of POCTs used in patients with community-acquired acute respiratory tract infections (CA-ARTI).

Use of POCT perceived Insufficient evidence to as not sufficiently inform funding remunerated decisions Adapting doctors' Concluding remuneration to managed-entry reward use of agreements to generate data in **POCT** practice Patient out-of-pocket No consequences for payments for POCT inappropriate prescribing Linking doctors' Introducing remuneration of product-specific reimbursement of antibiotic

Four recommendations relate to funding:

Three recommendations relate to pricing & procurement: Lack of price control for Uncertainty about financial impact of use POCT which can be a challenge for public of POCT budgets **Exploring innovative** Exploring subscription-based introduction of price regulation for POCT procurement models Tenders focus on price, Recommendations on pricing concern about and procurement were shortages combined since free pricing Strategic public was applied in most European countries and the procurement of price could only be **POCT** influenced via procurement.

POCT: diagnostic Point-of-Care Test

prescribing to use

of POCT

What does this mean?

- Optimizing national policies related to funding, pricing, and procurement of CA-ARTI POCT can lead to improved uptake of diagnostics prior to antibiotic prescriptions in community care
- Sufficient funding consisting of reimbursement of the POCT and remuneration for applying the POCT is essential
- Country-specific circumstances are critical to successful implementation

the POCT

Overarching activities such as benefit assessment, stakeholder communication, population health literacy, or surveillance activities can be strongly related to pricing and funding

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