

Bridging HTA assessment and policy appraisal

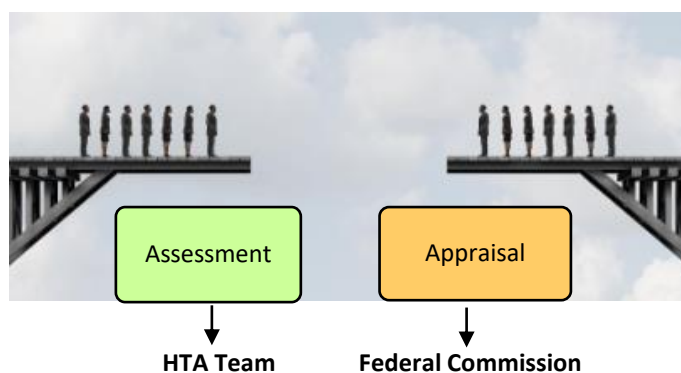
Swiss Federal Office of Public Health; www.bag.admin.ch

HTA in Switzerland

Assessment : In 2017 a HTA unit was established within the **Swiss Federal Office of Public Health**. The unit produces full, short and customised HTA reports. In addition to evaluating new technologies, the HTA unit **reevaluates technologies** that are already being reimbursed.

Appraisal: The HTA reports inform **Federal Commissions** when making coverage decisions. These decisions are based upon whether the technology meets the **effectiveness, appropriateness and economic efficiency (EAE) criteria**, as defined by law.

E: clinical effectiveness: efficacy, effectiveness, safety
A: appropriateness: patient relevance, ethical, legal, social and organisational issues (ELSO)
E: economic efficiency: costs, cost-effectiveness, budget impact



How do technology reevaluations affect existing coverage recommendations?

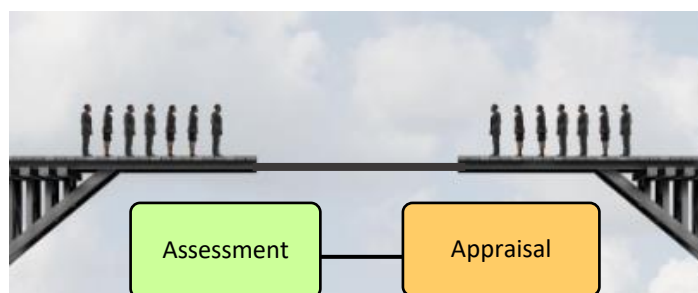
Appraisal	Drugs	Medical Services	Diagnostics/ Analyses	Total
No change in coverage status	5	3	1	9 (31%)
Coverage arrest	0	0	0	0
Coverage conditions are sharpened	3	3	2	8 (27.6%)
Guideline recommendation	1	1	0	2 (6.9%)
Pending appraisal	7	2	1	10 (34.5%)
Total	16	9	4	29

What stands out?

- Assessment findings and coverage decisions (appraisal) are not necessarily in line
- Coverage decisions are most often less stringent than assessment findings
- Coverage status changes take time to implement

Reasons for assessment-appraisal gap

- Lack of more effective or safer alternative technology; societal or cultural reasons; patient resistance regarding coverage changes
- Resistance from or disagreement between stakeholders; implementation of proposed change is hindered by organization issues; lack of monitoring tools
- Legal reasons



How to bridge assessment and appraisal?

Next steps

- 1) Explore and discuss regulation options earlier in the HTA process (FOPH intern)
- 2) Anticipate on consequences of reimbursement changes in the society (FOPH intern)
- 3) Involve patients and practitioners earlier in the process of implementing recommendations
- 4) Intensify communication between HTA team and Federal commissions