APPRAISING THE APPRAISERS: WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT IN EUROPE?

Zoe Garrett, MPhil, MRes
National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) & EUnetHTA
Manchester, UK

Building a model of sustainable HTA cooperation

Zoe Garrett
Senior Technical Adviser, NICE
Lead EUnetHTA JA3 WP7 National Implementation and Impact
ISPOR Plenary: November 7, Glasgow
EUnetHTA Joint Action 3 (2016-2020)

- European Network for Health Technology Assessment
- Aims to contribute to the development of a sustainable model of Health Technology Assessment (HTA) in Europe in collaboration with stakeholders and the European Commission
- Specific objectives:
  - To increase production of high quality joint HTA work
  - To increase uptake and implementation of joint HTA work
  - To support evidence-based, sustainable and equitable choices in healthcare and health technologies

Whose model?

- HTA producers
- HTA users
- Providers
- Payers
- Clinicians
- Patients
- Industry
- Decision-makers

?
Whose model?

- HTA users
- Providers
- HTA producers
- Decision-makers
- Industry
- Patients
- Payers
- Clinicians

Inclusive

Status of health technology assessment

- HTA not established in all countries for all technologies
- Countries with HTA-related activity rather than a formal HTA system
- Agencies produce assessments themselves or evaluate evidence provided by the Industry

Yellow – data for pharma and non-pharma. Blue – data for pharma only; Red – No HTA process (in development)
Model characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model characteristic</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Explicitly supports agencies to develop their HTA systems and capability to use and produce HTA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Flexible implementation of joint HTA while systems establish and change</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agencies embed use of joint HTA into their processes as they establish and change</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agencies become more familiar and efficient in using joint HTA and as experience grows more meaningful usage occurs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Predictability

- Agencies often react to requests:
  - HTA agencies not always involved in topic selection
  - Small number of agencies currently using horizon scanning
  - Little advanced notice of assessments being required
  - Even when topics are known in advance, topics and data may be confidential limiting sharing
Capacity

- Limited capacity to carry out assessments

Model characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model characteristic</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Predictable, agencies know what to expect:  
  • Explicit topic selection and prioritisation criteria  
  • Transparent topic selection and prioritisation processes  
  • Advanced notification of topics for joint assessment  
  • Annual work plans  
  • Forward-looking to identify possible priorities in advance:  
    • Collaborative horizon scanning  
    • Early dialogues  
  • Involvement of decision makers and users in topic selection as well as HTA agencies | Topics chosen are relevant to the largest possible number of countries  
Joint HTA is seen as reliable and predictable source of HTA  
Agencies can plan to use joint HTA |
Timeliness

- Variations in launch
- Different initiation times
- Inflexible and short timeframes
- HTA agency not the initiator

Model characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Characteristic</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Explicit consideration of timeliness of the assessment as part of topic scheduling</td>
<td>Joint HTA is available when agencies and decision makers need it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Coordinate with Industry to identify launch plans across Europe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- In the short term, joint assessment is made available at the latest at marketing authorisation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Relevance
- Inconsistency caused by the relative effectiveness assessment and cost effectiveness information coming from different sources
- Variation in the range of domains needed in the assessment
- Requests for the assessment of a subgroup only

Model characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Characteristic</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Include project planning and scoping as part of topic selection</td>
<td>Project plan and scope reflects a European scenario</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Support agencies to be involved in early project planning</td>
<td>Industry can start to plan evidence requirements earlier to meet needs of joint HTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Include users and decision makers in discussions about the information needed ranging from relative effectiveness assessment to full HTA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Work with Industry to ensure consistency of joint HTA with national in cost effectiveness analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accountability and Transparency

- HTA is often part of a larger formal process requiring procedural transparency, accountability and availability of documents

Health Technology Assessment       Decision-making

Model characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Characteristic</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Publish documents underpinning the assessment</td>
<td>Joint HTA becomes a meaningful alternative to national HTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transparency of the topic selection, prioritisation and assessment processes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Transparency of conflicts of interest for authors and contributors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion

• A sustainable model of HTA cooperation provides an opportunity to make better use of HTA resources and to support evidence-based, sustainable and equitable choices in healthcare
• However, a sustainable model of HTA cooperation should also strive to be a solution to the challenges many agencies face
• To be sustainable, the model needs to:
  • Listen to a variety of stakeholder voices
  • Support agencies to develop and establish processes where needed
  • Be predictable and forward-looking
  • Produce timely and relevant outputs
  • Meet the requirements for accountability and transparency that go hand-in-hand with the context in which HTA is used

Thank you

This presentation arises from the EUnetHTA Joint Action 3 which has received funding from the European Union, in the framework of the Health Programme