

First Plenary Session
**HEARING THE PATIENT'S VOICE IN
HEALTH CARE DECISION MAKING IN ASIA**



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Background

- Most countries in Asia-Pacific are in the framework of universal coverage
 - Either achieved or targeting to achieve UC
 - Insurance agencies act as purchaser of health services, including drugs
- As share of drug expenditure out of NHE rising in most countries, efficient use of drug budget a key concern in most HCS

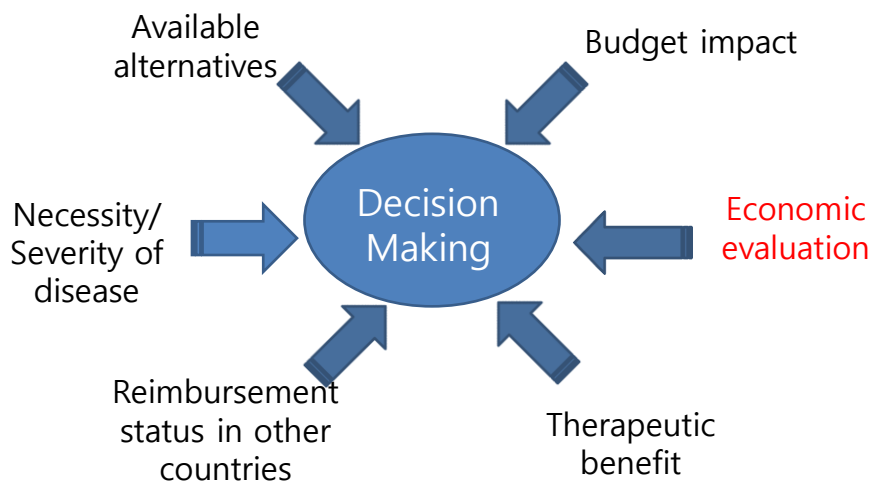
Background

- Consumer voice in decision making about their health service and treatment has been emphasized for improved service quality, safety, and patient health outcome (VAGO 2012, IAPO, SDM(Shared Decision Making), and others)
- "Patients have a moral and ethical right to play a meaningful role in developing healthcare policies" (IAPO)
- Patient voice for drug reimbursement decisions is no exception
- Attempt to review a few country experiences of consumer participation for drug reimbursement decisions, and draw lessons

Korean case

- Government insurance agency, Health Insurance Review & Assessment Service (HIRA), assesses drugs for reimbursement list
- Mandatory pharmaco-economic evidence, along with clinical and other related evidences, required for reimbursement decisions of new drugs

Factors considered in drug reimbursement decision



Source: Bae (2009)

Consumer participation: Drug Reimbursement Appraisal Committee, HIRA

	Term II (2009.3~ 2011.2)	Term III (2011.3~ 2013.6)	Term IV (2013.7~ 2015.6)
Total members	18	16	18
Medical specialist (physicians, Pharmacists)	9	7	10
Academic association (evaluation specialist)	3	3	3
Consumer representative	3	2	2
Government	3	4	3

Source: HIRA, 2014

Remark

- With the history of consumer involvements in key health care reforms in Korea, including consolidation of insurance funds, separation of drug dispensing from prescription, case payment reform (K-DRG), HTA regulation
- Consumer participation at all levels of health care process - including advising, review, appraisal, and decision making – been expected and accepted, and is likely to continue
- Consumer voice in drug reimbursement decisions is no exception
- Improved knowledge by consumer representatives on specific drug related issues may help to get to better decisions
- Government offers special education for consumer groups on certain aspects of health care process: DUR Education session, DRG Academy
- Concerted effort by regulator, provider, industry and consumers will certainly help to achieve improved patient health outcome