

Improving the Efficiency in Assessment of Health Technologies in Europe

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Why a European Perspective?

- ▶ Health technologies are the same in the European countries
 - The role of “national” technologies is diminishing
- ▶ A European market for health technologies
 - Development towards a single market with a single price
- ▶ Creation of the European patient
 - Directive for cross border care
 - But no European health insurance yet

HTA in Europe A Success Story

- ▶ Developed into an important national policy instrument in less than 25 years
- ▶ More than 30 government HTA organizations in the EU member states
- ▶ Development of competence and methodology for HTA

HTA Addresses Major European Health Issues

- ▶ Improved outcome from health care systems despite slow growing expenditures
 - Effective use of available technologies (static efficiency)
- ▶ Incentives for innovation (R&D)
 - Improved dynamic efficiency through introduction of new technologies
- ▶ Equal access to effective interventions
 - Reduced variations between and within countries

What are the Problems with HTA?

1. Studies are not available for most technologies
 - Problem with priorities and/or available resources
 - Too much focus on pharmaceuticals?
2. Studies are undertaken but not used
 - Problems with implementation
 - What about “X-inefficiency”?

What are the Problems with HTA?

3. Data are not available at time of assessment
 - For reimbursement decisions at launch
 - Can effectiveness be predicted from experimental data for assessment of efficacy?
4. Methods needs to be improved and standardized
 - Particularly methods for assessment of relative effectiveness and cost-effectiveness

How to improve efficiency in HTA

- ▶ Exchange of information between HTA agencies in Europe
 - Can be used to build competence, but is time and resource consuming
 - How do you secure an optimal exchange of information?
- ▶ Division of labour between HTA agencies in Europe
 - It is division of labour **and** exchange of information (trade) that creates efficiency

How to improve efficiency in HTA: Focus on pharmaceuticals

- ▶ Creating a mechanism (institution) in Europe that gives combined scientific and HTA advice
 - Because it is inefficient to do this at the national level
 - Because it can strengthen innovation in Europe to benefit both the health care systems and the economy
- ▶ Creating a mechanism (institution) in Europe for assessing relative effectiveness
 - Because such assessments will be based on the same clinical evidence in all countries
 - Because it improves efficiency and reduce variations in access to treatments

Methodological developments to improve efficiency in HTA

- ▶ Indirect comparisons
 - Based on the same set of experimental studies
 - Results unlikely to differ between countries
- ▶ Social perspective in economic evaluations
 - With an option to differentiate the perspective for specific stakeholders
- ▶ Development of a standardized measure for health outcome
 - Can EQ-5D be European?

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Key principles for the improved conduct of health technology assessments for resource allocation decisions

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