



eunethta

EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT

EUnetHTA Collaboration

Key activities and achievements in
2009

March 2010

Key achievements in 2009

After its launch in November 2008 and a successful completion of the EUnetHTA Project (2006-2008), the EUnetHTA Collaboration is further developing a sustainable, permanent collaboration for HTA in Europe.

In 2009 twenty-five Founding Partners¹ of the EUnetHTA Collaboration joined forces with other partners in the EU Member States and the European Commission to implement the results of the EUnetHTA project and the Pharmaceutical Forum (on relative effectiveness of pharmaceuticals) through a Joint Action on HTA 2010-2012 (EUnetHTA Joint Action) - 55 organisations in total (as of March 2010) committed their resources to participate in the planned activities within the framework of the EUnetHTA Joint Action. The Ministries of Health of the European Union Member States officially nominated organisations to participate in the EUnetHTA Joint Action. The Secretariat of the EUnetHTA Collaboration (which was established in the National Board of Health of Denmark upon completion of the EUnetHTA Project) coordinates the EUnetHTA Joint Action.

In 2009 while working in a transitional mode from the project phase of operations into a more permanent functioning, the EUnetHTA Collaboration succeeded in making progress in and implementing most of the planned activities for 2009²:

- Successful application and signature of the agreement with the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers (EAHC) on a Joint Action on HTA (EUnetHTA Joint Action) with a budget of € 5,9 million - organisation of the consortium of partners, development of the technical, financial and organisational structure of the Joint Action on HTA proposal.
- Publication of 14 scientific articles reporting the EUnetHTA Project results as a supplement to the International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care (IJTAHC)³. A letter to the editor about another article on the HTA Core Model in IJTAHC was produced and accepted through an efficient and rapid collaboration between several of the European HTA agencies.
- British Medical Association Medical Book Competition: The EUnetHTA Project/European Observatory Book "Health Technology Assessment and Health Policy making in Europe" was highly commended in the Public Health category nomination.
- Launch of the online version of the EUnetHTA Toolkit (with the user's guide and security guidelines) for new evidence generation on promising health technologies (29 health technologies were introduced in the database in 2009). First steps on integration into the global information management system to be developed during the EUnetHTA Joint Action in 2010-2012.
- The online tool for managing and using the HTA Core Model and Core HTAs was designed during 2009, and opened as a first pilot with limited functionality in January 2010, for testing within the EUnetHTA community.

¹ Organisations that sent to the EUnetHTA Secretariat by November 20 2008 a Declaration of Intent to establish the EUnetHTA Collaboration and that contributed financially to its operation in 2009.

² Please see Work Plan 2009

³ Open access to the articles – [download your full-text copy here!](#)

- Launch of the online version of the Glossary of the HTA Adaptation terms (prototype).
- Continuously updated list of the on-going and planned HTA projects – currently with 731 unique projects identified. Survey of EUnetHTA partners for ongoing and planned HTA projects with an active feedback on identified common topics with the potential for collaboration. Assessment of needs and possible solutions for the planned and ongoing project (POP) database was conducted; an online Workroom (Members-only site) hosts the current POP list.
- Work on developing a EUnetHTA Information Management System was initiated: a new, improved intranet (Members Only) area was launched. Collaboration with the HTAi Vortal maintenance team and CRD HTA Database team was initiated; possibilities for cooperation will be further investigated during EUnetHTA Joint Action period with a goal of minimizing the redundancy of tools and improving the information flow within EUnetHTA as well as between EUnetHTA and other HTA associations.
- Launch of the EUnetHTA News aggregator (prototype)
- Organisation of working groups and initiation of activities in the new function on the relative effectiveness assessment of pharmaceuticals (definition of objectives, work methods, integration of new partners nominated by the Ministries of Health, establishment of working contact with European Medicines Agency, preparation of the work plan 2010-2012).
- A draft stakeholder involvement policy was developed and initial contact with the stakeholder group representatives established. An exploratory meeting with the representatives from the stakeholder groups, EU institutions and EUnetHTA Executive Committee was organised in cooperation with the European Commission (DG SANCO). Comments and suggestions received during the meeting were taken into consideration in further revisions of the stakeholder policy to be adopted by the EUnetHTA Collaboration Plenary Assembly.
- A document, “EUnetHTA Governance and Organisational Structure” developed and endorsed by the EUnetHTA Plenary Assembly (with participation from the new organisations that joined the EUnetHTA Joint Action upon nomination by the respective Ministries of Health).
- The first draft of the Work Plan 2010-2012 in eight work packages of the EUnetHTA Joint Action (Coordination, Dissemination, Evaluation, Core HTA, Relative Effectiveness Assessment of Pharmaceuticals, Information Management System, New Technologies, and Strategy and Business Model Development) was developed by end of 2009.
- A set of institutional and performance indicators to assess the level of development of Health Technology Assessment units, programs or agencies
- A directory of HTA organisations and experts.
- EUnetHTA Collaboration activities and results of the EUnetHTA Project were presented at several international scientific conferences (HTAi, DIA, ISPOR, ISQuA) including at the European Conference on HTA Methodology in Stockholm (co-organised by SBU and EUnetHTA in connection with the Swedish EU Presidency). In addition EUnetHTA representatives were invited to give presentations at e.g., a European Voice Healthcare debate event in Brussels, Financial Times /Philips Morning Seminar on Innovation in Brussels, European Observatory Summer School in Venice, SSE/LSE/ESSEC European Health Policy Decision Makers Forum in Stockholm, European Health Forum Gastein in Bad Gastein, Health Technology Assessment World Europe in London, etc. EUnetHTA assisted in organising an HTA internship for an Erasmus Mundus scholarship student by the European Commission studying European Masters in Sustainable Regional Health Systems.

EUnetHTA Founding Partners

AETS (ISCCIII), Agency for Health Technology Assessment, Instituto de Salud Carlos III, Spain
AETSA, Andalusian Agency for Health Technology Assessment, Spain
AGE.NA.S. - Agenzia Nazionale per i Servizi Sanitari Regionali, Italy
AHTAPoI, Agency for HTA, Poland
ASSR Regione Emilia Romagna, Agenzia Sanitaria e Sociale Regione Emilia Romagna, Italy
Avalia-t, Galician Agency for HTA, Spain
CAHTA, Catalan Agency for HTA and Research, Spain
CAST, Center for Applied Research and Technology Assessment, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark
CVZ - College voor zorgverzekeringen, Netherlands
DACEHTA, National Board of Health, Denmark
DIMDI, Deutsches Institut für Medizinische Dokumentation und Information, Germany
FinOHTA, Finnish Office for HTA (at THL – National Institute for Health and Welfare), Finland
HAS, Haute Autorité de santé / French National Authority for Health, France
IQWIG, Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care, Germany
KCE, Belgian Health care Knowledge Centre, Belgium
LBI/HTA, Ludwig Boltzman Institute of Health Technology Assessment, Austria
NETSCC, National Coordinating Centre for HTA, United Kingdom
NOKC, Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services, Norway
OSTEBA, Basque Office for Health Technology Assessment, Spain
Regione Veneto, Direzione Piani e Programmi Socio Sanitari, Italy
SBU, Swedish Council on Technology Assessment in Health Care, Sweden
SNHTA, Swiss Network for Health Technology Assessment, Switzerland
State Health Care Accreditation Agency, Ministry of Health, Lithuania
UETS, Health Technology Assessment Unit, Agencia Lain Entralgo, Spain
University Hospital "A.Gemelli", Italy

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