

One study reported no change in hospitalization rates following a program to reduce IVIg use, and an observational study comparing IVIg with SCIG found more hospitalizations with SCIG but lower total costs per patient. The CUA comparing IVIg with no IVIg suggested that IVIg treatment was not cost effective, but this study was published in 1991 and had significant limitations. The other CUA found that home-based SCIG was more cost effective than IVIg, but model inputs were derived from unpublished data in a very small patient cohort with HGG and different malignancies.

**Conclusions:** Our review highlights key gaps in the literature. The cost effectiveness of Ig replacement in patients with hematological malignancies is still very uncertain. Despite the increasing use of Ig replacement there are limited data regarding its direct and indirect costs, and its optimal use and implications for healthcare resources remain unclear. Given the paucity of data on the cost and cost effectiveness of Ig treatment in this population, further health economic research is warranted.

## OP96 Adapting Patient Involvement For Fast Track Appraisals

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**Introduction:** The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) is piloting a new innovative approach to the way digital products, devices, and diagnostics that most reflect system need and demand are assessed. This early value assessment (EVA) approach will allow a more rapid assessment to enable patients to benefit from promising technologies sooner. Involving patients in the health technology assessment (HTA) lifecycle is a core principle at NICE, but established methods are not suitable for a rapid timeframe. NICE needs to adapt the approach to ensure that patients are supported to participate in EVAs and that their involvement is meaningful.

**Methods:** Due to the rapid timeframe, it was important to ensure patient contributors were not overloaded with information and that contact points were aligned. NICE reviewed the standard induction, support documents, and contact points to adapt the support provided. This included:

- updating recruitment documents to communicate the role of the committee and the EVA process;
- combining induction meetings between various NICE teams and providing recorded presentations;
- organizing earlier peer support with experienced lay members; and
- advising which of NICE's nine online modules were most relevant.

**Results:** Support for patient contributors has been an important part of the HTA process, so enabling people to prepare and confidently deliver content at a committee meeting is vital. There has been some variation in the processes for different topics, but the feedback received from patient contributors indicated that their involvement

was meaningful and valued. This was attributed to their close working relationship with the project team. NICE is collecting feedback from all patient contributors using an online survey. The findings of this survey and the evaluation of the support mechanisms will be presented.

**Conclusions:** Despite shorter timeframes, patient involvement has not been compromised. NICE will use the feedback from patient contributors to review and adapt the induction process and support offered. This will support patient contributors and enable NICE to allocate appropriate resources in the shortened timeframe.

## OP98 Improving Patient Involvement In Health Technology Assessments: Is It Enough To Train Just The Patients?

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**Introduction:** Patient involvement is a core principle of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and we continually strive to improve patient involvement in health technology assessments (HTAs) of medicines. We iteratively surveyed and reviewed how patient involvement can be improved with patient organizations, patient experts, NICE HTA decision-making committees, and staff. We re-examined feedback that we collect on an ongoing basis, as well as one-off evaluations, to check how we can improve patient involvement.

Improvements ranged from support for and how we work with patient stakeholders to training the various stakeholders who take part in the HTA process to build up a comprehensive and evolving training package and stimulate a cycle of continually improving patient involvement.

**Methods:** We reviewed the outcomes and recommendations from the following larger projects:

- Review of public involvement across NICE 2015;
- Improving meaningful patient involvement in HTAs 2019;
- Improving patient expert involvement in committee meetings 2019; and
- The value of patient expert input 2022.

Feedback from monthly surveys of patient experts and organizations was also reviewed.

**Results:** The results included recommendations about:

- Changing the culture so that patient involvement at NICE is everybody's business;
- The key role of the committee chair in including patient experts;
- The importance of committee culture and behavior in including and valuing patient input;

- The need for a greater understanding of how NICE technical teams can best support and obtain the most meaningful evidence from patients; and
- What additional support and training patient organizations and experts want from NICE's public involvement team.

**Conclusions:** We concluded that not only patients need training, but also everybody included in the NICE medicines HTA process. Over time we have gradually added to our training portfolio for patient organizations and experts as well as NICE staff and independent committees. We now run patient involvement as part of the induction program for all staff, technical staff, medicines committee chairs, and NICE committees and lay members.

We also provide monthly training for patient organizations and patient experts.

## OP100 Patient Perspectives In Value Assessment Frameworks: The Asia Pacific Perspective

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**Introduction:** The importance of patient centricity in healthcare decision making has been recognized and advocated for decades. However, approaches for including the patient perspective are diverse, and progress varies among countries. Some reimbursement bodies acknowledge the importance of patient preferences in health technology assessment (HTA) and funding decision processes. However, patients' perspectives are not yet systematically and transparently included in value assessment frameworks globally, and even less so in the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region. This systematic review aimed to investigate how patients' perspectives are used to inform pricing and reimbursement decisions in the APAC region.

**Methods:** A systematic review is ongoing that utilized a search of 12 databases, including MEDLINE and Embase, to identify publications on the consideration of patient perspectives in health policy decision-making published to November 2022. Conference abstracts published in the last five years from ISPOR and Health Technology Assessment International (HTAi) were screened, along with gray literature and government websites from Australia, China, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand. Publications were included if the impact of either one or more of the following on HTA decision-making was assessed: active participation of patients or patient advocacy groups; type, extent, and evolution of patient-reported outcomes; health-related quality of life or quality of life tools; and themes where the impact of patients' perspectives on value assessment was the primary outcome. Countries were characterized into archetypes based on similarities or differences in the weight and value assigned to patient perspectives in decision-making.

**Results:** A total of 6,438 retrieved citations will undergo the systematic review process. Additionally, 758 conference abstracts from

ISPOR, 1,312 from HTAi conferences and 73 records from gray literature will be screened.

The results of the systematic review will be consolidated into country archetypes, examples, and learnings. Gaps and opportunities will also be identified.

**Conclusions:** The research will provide recommendations to increase shared decision-making and support the development of decision-making frameworks that systematically incorporate patients' perspectives in value assessment across APAC countries.

## OP102 Towards Universal Health Coverage: Health Technology Assessment Roadmap Development In The Emirate Of Abu Dhabi Involving The Whole Ecosystem

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**Introduction:** The mission of the Department of Health (DoH) of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates is to provide its population with a healthy life and world leading preventive and curative services. While the DoH has regulations in place to grant market approval to new health technologies, there is a need to develop a clear overall framework for reimbursement and disinvestment decisions. Establishing a structured health technology assessment (HTA) framework is critical for informing decisions on health technologies that offer value for money, with the aim of improving equitable access to health care, financial risk protection, and, ultimately, better health outcomes.

**Methods:** During 2022, the DoH collaborated with the Radboud University Medical Center to explore the feasibility of applying an evidence-informed deliberative process (EDP) HTA approach through workshops and interviews involving all stakeholders in the ecosystem, such as policy makers, principal investigators, providers, patients and public groups, product manufacturers, payers, and purchasers. A situational analysis was conducted to collect stakeholders' views and build EDPs. Based on this analysis, a structured roadmap was developed.

**Results:** The comprehensive five-year roadmap to implement a holistic HTA framework in Abu Dhabi consisted of five major elements, starting with the establishment of an appropriate HTA policy framework as a foundation. Abu Dhabi should firmly establish its HTA structure and program (in one to two years), and at the same time invest in developing and retaining HTA training capacity so that over time (within three to five years) the country can build up its own expertise to sustain the program. This needs to be accompanied by continuous awareness raising among all relevant stakeholders.

**Conclusions:** This roadmap is the first and most important step toward implementing a holistic HTA framework in Abu Dhabi.