

PP96 Joint Clinical Assessments – Implementation And Lessons For The Next Stage Of EU HTA

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Introduction. The European Network for Health Technology Assessment (EUnetHTA) was a voluntary cross-border initiative on HTA harmonization established by European Commission in 2005. Between 2016-2021, EUnetHTA completed 56 Joint Assessments (28 drugs; 28 other technologies) including 14 reviews of COVID treatments.

Methods. We conducted a review of the 14 EUnetHTA joint assessment reports of drugs in non-COVID 19 indications. We cross-referenced recommendations with national guidance in 30 member countries (including UK) and conducted an analysis of time to national assessment, choice of comparator, direct reference to EUnetHTA assessment, and time to reimbursement decision.

Results. Six products in oncology, 2 in endocrine and metabolic diseases, 2 in infectious and parasitic diseases, and cardiovascular, digestive system, eye disorders and central nervous system (one each) were identified. On average, EUnetHTA published its recommendation 52 days after market authorization for oncology products and 33 days for non- oncology products. EUnetHTA recommendations considered on average 4 comparators (range 1-8) as part of the assessment. All of the 6 oncology products have been assessed by national HTA bodies, however uptake was low with an average of 5 reports referencing the EUnetHTA report. Similarly for the non-oncology products assessed only 3 of 30 HTA bodies cite the EUnetHTA report. Citing HTA bodies were: AETSA (Spain), HAS (France), INFARMED (Portugal), NoMA (Norway), and TLV (Sweden). There was no clear reduction in the time to reimbursement for these products in these markets.

Conclusions. According to EUnetHTA, there has been an increased use and dissemination of joint assessment reports since 2016. Our analysis shows that the level of implementation across countries is heterogeneous despite publication of the EUnetHTA reports shortly after market authorization. The future the EU HTA will depend on the timeliness, rigor and transparency of joint clinical assessment reports and improved uptake of these reports at a national level.

PP97 Recommendations For Generating South African Health-Related Quality Of Life Data For Cost-Utility Analyses

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Introduction. Health-related quality of life (HRQoL) data are necessary for conducting cost-utility analyses (CUAs) as part of health technology assessments (HTAs), but the lack of robust HRQoL data may delay or even prevent patient access to medicines when National Health Insurance is introduced in South Africa. This study aimed to make recommendations for evidence generation activities to support national HTA in the public health sector, with a focus on creating South African HRQoL data suitable for CUAs.

Methods. A systematic review of HRQoL research in South Africa formed the basis for three analyses. The first analysis quantified and evaluated the suitability of HRQoL studies for CUAs. The second analysis determined the performance indicators of the research output and identified collaborative networks through bibliometric analyses. The third analysis critiqued the translation methodology of the HRQoL instruments retrieved in the systematic review.

Results. Based on the published literature, existing HRQoL data are unlikely to support CUAs because they were derived from observational or cross-sectional studies that lacked the methodological details necessary to determine their scientific merit according to HTA requirements. Overall, there was a lack of research continuity in this field, with numerous isolated research networks. Despite the strong contribution of South African based researchers and organizations in this area, their performance was below that of international counterparts. Since only a few HRQoL instruments suitable for CUAs would be valid in the South African context, HRQoL research output in South Africa could be optimized by using more rigorous study designs and by the expansion of researcher networks to include those working in HTA and related fields. The three-level EQ-5D is the tool best suited for use in South Africa, so its utilization should be encouraged and supported by establishing a South African value set.

Conclusions. Future data generation activities should incorporate the recommendations from this study because existing South African HRQoL data are likely to be inadequate for conducting CUAs in national HTA.

PP98 Occupational Therapy For Adult Persons With Cognitive Impairments: A Systematic Overview On Clinical Efficacy

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Introduction. Damage to the central nervous system (CNS) in adulthood, may lead to cognitive impairments. In Germany, occupational therapy is most often prescribed for neurological diagnoses, including stroke and traumatic brain injury (351 and 343 cases per 100,000, respectively in 2018). For cognitive impairments, the primarily prescribed remedies are sensorimotor-perceptive, motor-functional and neuropsychologically oriented treatment or training of cognitive performance. Here we report the results of a health