

Conclusions. This study suggests an alternative approach to conceptualize the domains originally described as “ELSI+”. We identified clusters of relevant concepts that focus on patient perspectives (preferences, experiences, quality of life, function), burden and harm, fairness (individual and societal), and organizational issues. Basing ELSI+ on conceptual consonance, rather than academic disciplines or traditions, provides a framework for coherent consideration of ELSI+ in HTA.

OP79 Improving Public Understanding Of Scottish Medicines Consortium Advice

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Introduction. Transparency of processes and decision making is important to the Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC). An independent review of access to new medicines in Scotland in 2016 recommended that SMC should review its communication of decisions with a view to achieving greater transparency. SMC therefore began to develop plain English summaries of advice on each new medicine.

Methods. A multi-stakeholder approach was adopted to develop the summary documents, with patient groups involved. Firstly, a review of communications for the public from other HTA organizations was conducted. The public involvement team then held a workshop to find out what patient groups felt would be important to include when explaining SMC decisions to patients and the public. The process was also informed by reviewing examples of good practice from other parts of NHSScotland, including patient versions of Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) clinical guidelines. Exemplar documents were then developed and feedback sought from the Public Involvement Network Advisory Group.

Results. A format was developed for the SMC ‘Decision Explained’ summaries consisting of a question and answer format for each medicine decision in a two page document. The summaries were piloted internally over a six month period, during which the development process and layout were finalized. Since September 2018 these summaries have been published on the website alongside the technical advice.

Conclusions. Partnership working between SMC and patient groups has helped to develop a new way of communicating SMC’s decisions to patients and the public in a clear way, helping to improve transparency and understanding. Evaluation of the summaries will be undertaken from six months of publication.

OP80 Impact Of Patient Group Participation At Scottish Medicines Consortium Committee Meetings

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Introduction. The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC) encourages patient group (PG) representatives to participate in the decision-making committee meetings, answering questions from committee members and providing points of clarity throughout discussions if required. In a continuous improvement approach the process and the participant experience is continually evaluated to monitor impact and emerging themes.

Methods. The interactions between committee members and PG representatives are recorded in writing by the public involvement team to monitor the questions or points of clarity raised. These interactions were analyzed using thematic analysis to look for emerging themes. Following the meeting, PG representatives are invited to complete an online survey on their experience of working with SMC.

Results. From July 2017 to October 2018, 36 PG representatives have attended committee meetings for the discussion of their submission. Committee members asked 17 PG representatives to contribute. Key themes that have emerged to date include insight into the impact of living with the condition on quality of life and how a new medicine may affect this. Survey feedback has been positive with participants reporting that patient engagement has been strengthened, and that the patient voice is heard, valued and supports committee members in making fully informed decisions. PG representatives expressed a willingness to participate again. Feedback also highlighted that the preparatory support offered to PG representatives by the public involvement team is highly valued.

Conclusions. Patient group participation in committee meetings has been received positively by PG representatives. They report that discussions relating to quality of life impact of medicines on patients and carers better reflect the lived experience, enriching committee’s deliberations. This demonstrates SMCs commitment to openness and transparency and has strengthened patient engagement in our processes.

OP81 Building Technical Capacity To Promote Patient Involvement In Health Technology Assessment

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Introduction. In December 2017, a patient involvement (PI) Interest Group was created in the Spanish Network of Agencies for Assessing National Health System Technologies and Performance (RedETS) Annual conference. It started as a voluntary group of health technology assessment (HTA) methodologists interested in PI. The objective of the Group is to promote and facilitate PI in HTA. With the support of the Spanish Ministry of Health and the RedETS Council the Interest Group grew to at least one member for each of the eight RedETS regional agencies and units. It currently has 22 members. The PI Interest Group works in periodic online meetings and an annual offline meeting to establish a space for experiences exchange and reach