EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Digital, EU4Health and Health systems modernisation
Health technology assessment

Eighth Meeting for Joint Scientific Consultations (JSCs) subgroup

of the Member State Coordination Group on HTA

29 May 2024

Summary Minutes

The eighth meeting of the Subgroup for Joint Scientific Consultations (JSCs) hereafter "the JSC Subgroup" of the Member State Coordination Group on Health Technology Assessment (HTACG) was held on 29 May 2024 in virtual format. Representatives from 22 EU Member States participated, as well as Norway in an observer capacity.

The meeting was chaired by Stephanie Said (Germany) and Sonia Pulido Sanchez (Spain).

The meeting covered the following points:

1) Opening of the meeting

The Chair welcomed the participants. The agenda of the meeting and the summary minutes of the seventh meeting of the JSC Subgroup on 19 April 2024 were approved.

2) Conflict of interest (COI)

The Commission had not identified any relevant Conflict of Interest for this meeting and no updates on the Declarations of Interest relevant to this meeting were received.

3) Action points and updates on interim parallel advice and the implementing act on JSC

An update in terms of the status of the ongoing interim advice procedures as well as upcoming procedures and new requests was presented. The Chair also presented the agenda items related to the JSC Subgroup to be presented at the Stakeholder Network Meeting on 11 June. DG SANTE gave a brief update on the status of the implementing act on JSC that is currently being drafted. Updates were also given on the development of the HTA IT Platform by DG Sante.

4) Procedural Guidance JSC Medicinal Products

A first JSC Subgroup review has been completed for the Procedural Guidance on JSC for Medicinal Products and relevant comments have been collected and reviewed. A discussion was held within the JSC Subgroup regarding a draft of schematic overview of the JSC processes, procedure length and the validation and adoption processes. Plans for further review of the document were shared by the Working Group.

5) Standard Operating Procedure JSC Medicinal Products

A discussion was held on the progress made by the Working Group on Standard Operating Procedure for JSC on Medicinal Products. A draft flowchart of the internal process was presented and discussed within the JSC Subgroup.

6) Submission Request Template JSC Medicinal Products

The Working Group responsible for the Submission Request Template for JSC for medicinal products gave an update on the development. The application form from EUnetHTA21 has been used as a basis and the document is currently being reviewed.

7) Briefing Book Templates JSC Medicinal Products

The Working Group responsible for the Briefing Book Templates for JSC for medicinal products gave an update on the development. The document from EUnetHTA21 has been used as a basis and it is proposed to have two templates depending on the format requested by the health technology developer (HTA-only or parallel joint scientific consultation). The documents are currently being reviewed.

8) Results from survey for JSC workload and assessor/co-assessor capacities in 2025

The Chair presented the results of the JSC workload survey which aimed to investigate the Member States capacity to take on the role as assessor or co-assessor in 2025. The survey also investigated the Member States estimations on Person Days needed to act as Assessor/Co-Assessor in a JSC based on an initial proposal. The results will further inform capacity building activities for assessors and co-assessors in JSC.

9) Guidance on JSC Selection (Medicinal Products/Medical Devices)

The progress made by the Working Group was presented. A discussion followed in the JSC Subgroup, also on the scope regarding Medical Devices. A review of the first draft of this Guidance document by the JSC Subgroup is currently taking place.

10) Procedural Guidance JSC Medical Devices

Progress made by the Working Group was presented. The Working Group shared reflections on the scope of the document and outlined a broad timeline for the development of the Procedural Guidance on JSC Medical Devices.

11) Medical Device pilots on scientific advice for manufacturers

The Co-chair provided updates on the pilot on scientific advice by the medical device expert panels to manufacturers, including a reminder of the main phases of the process. Information on the third phase of the pilot was shared, and it was stated that in the coming weeks, the JSC Subgroup members will be asked to express their interest in participating as observers.

12) Closing of the meeting

The Chair delivered a comprehensive outline of the expected documents to be drafted by the JSC subgroup, including a timeline for the reviews, meetings, and validation of the expected documents. The list of action points was presented. The next meeting is scheduled for 27 June.