



## **11th Meeting of the Member State Coordination Group on HTA (HTACG)**

**28 November 2024, Brussels**

### **Flash report**

The eleventh meeting of the Member State Coordination Group on Health Technology Assessment (HTACG) set up by Regulation (EU) 2021/2282 was held on 28 November 2024 in Brussels.

The meeting was chaired by Roisín Adams (National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics, Ireland), and co-chaired by Marco Marchetti (National Agency for Regional Healthcare Services, Italy) and Niklas Hedberg (Dental and Pharmaceuticals Benefits Agency, Sweden). The Chairs and Co-chairs of the four subgroups attended the meeting. New members of HTACG and its subgroups from Belgium and Croatia were introduced.

Marco Marsella, Director for Digital Transformation, EU4Health, and Health Systems Modernisation at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety provided an update of the implementation of the HTA Regulation.

The agenda was approved with one change, to start with the point on protection of commercially sensitive data and personal data in the joint work.

The summary minutes of the tenth meeting of the HTACG on 19 September 2024 were approved.

The meeting covered the following points:

#### **1) Protection of commercially sensitive data and personal data in joint work**

The Commission presented the applicable legal framework governing the protection of commercially sensitive data and personal data in joint work. Members articulated their perspectives on the information they deem critical to the effective conduct of joint clinical assessments and associated national implementation.

#### **2) Guidance documents and templates**

The HTACG adopted all guidance documents and templates listed in the meeting's agenda by consensus. These guidance documents were subsequently distributed to the HTA Stakeholder Network members in advance of the Stakeholder Network meeting taking place the following day (29 November 2024, 4th meeting of Health Technology Assessment Stakeholder Network). The guidance documents will also be published on the Commission's HTA website on the Europa portal.

### **3) Work Programme 2025 and strategic direction for the work of the Coordination Group and its subgroups**

The Commission presented the key comments of the HTA Stakeholder Network members concerning the HTACG Work Programme 2025 and the proposed changes to the draft Work Programme. The HTACG agreed with these changes and subsequently adopted its Work Programme 2025 and strategic direction by consensus. The document will be published on the Commission's HTA website on the Europa portal.

### **4) Selection of medical devices for JCA**

The discussion on the selection of medical devices for JCA was continued from the previous HTACG meeting. The Commission presented the selection process of medical devices subject to JCA. A discussion took place on which subgroup, EHT SG or JCA SG, shall be responsible for the application of the selection criteria. Members decided that the JCA subgroup should lead this work and submit its analysis to the HTACG which will make final recommendations.

### **5) HTA IT platform – Recommendations by IT users' working group on referencing**

The Commission presented the state of play of the development of the HTA IT Platform and presented the recommendation of the IT users' working group on a referencing tool to be used in the drafting of the scientific reports. Pilot testing of the tool was proposed. The HTACG approved the recommendation. HTACG members enquired about the technical feasibility of additional functionalities and the Commission provided clarifications.

### **6) Information points**

The Chairs of the subgroups updated HTACG members about the latest activities in their respective subgroups.

The Commission informed the HTACG about the result of the supplementary call for membership in the HTA Stakeholder Network. The updated list of the Stakeholder Network members was published on the Commission's HTA website on the Europa portal. The members were also informed about the agenda of the HTA Stakeholder Network meeting which takes place on 29 November in Brussels.

The Commission presented the tasks and composition of the HTA Secretariat for 2025. Further updates included the planned organisation of the HTA Conference to be held in July 2025.

Information was shared with the HTACG in writing about the activities of the Heads of HTA Agencies Group (HAG) and the voluntary work under the HTA Regulation.

### **Next meetings**

The next meeting of the HTACG is planned for 28 February 2025 in Brussels in hybrid format. The next joint meeting of the HTACG and the HTA Stakeholder Network takes place on 29 November 2024 in Brussels in physical only format.