



SANTE meeting with CPME

Date: 24/04/2017

Location: DG SANTE office

Participants

CPME: Annabel Seeböhm, Carole Rouaud

SANTE: D. Schnichels, K. Hanslik, K. Valkova

Purpose of the meeting

The aim of the meeting is to discuss the following topics:

1. CPME views on HTA
2. Professionals' involvement in HTA
3. CPME's involvement in EUnetHTA

The meeting started with a short introduction by all participants.

Discussion

Dominik Schnichels provided a short update on the state of play of the initiative on Strengthening of EU Cooperation on HTA.

1. CPME views on HTA

The Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) reiterated their stance on EU cooperation on HTA after 2020 as set out in their submission for the public consultation. Their preferred policy option is 4.a. – voluntary participation, mandatory uptake. Key aspects for CPME are transparency and independence. Firstly, a sustainable framework on HTA has to be transparent, so that all HTA reports are open to the public in order to give the opportunity to the medical profession to make use of such reports. Secondly, the cooperation has to be sustainable over time. Therefore, it might be more reasonable to start with Relative Effectiveness Assessment (REA), covering the clinical domains and measuring the medical/therapeutic added value of a technology, and only later to include full HTA assessments, incorporating other domains (cost-effectiveness, budget impact, ethical and legal considerations as well as impact on patients and the organisation of health care systems). Nevertheless, these aspects should not be completely left aside. Thirdly, the independency of a HTA EU-wide agency should be ensured, by disconnecting industry fees from the assessment process. In view of CPME a regulatory framework is required to ensure lasting progress.

CPME pointed out that they had not provided extensive answer on the governance structure on strengthening of EU Cooperation on HTA, since they felt this question did not fall under the scope of their organisation.

2. Professionals' involvement in HTA

Due to the variety of the HTA processes across EU, CPME said it is not in a position to indicate the single "best case" example of involvement of medical doctors in HTA processes. But they agreed to consult their members on this specific question and to provide, to the extent possible, examples of different ways to ensure adequate involvement of doctors', including possible preferences. Ideally, they would contribute with their input within the next four to six weeks.

3. CPME's involvement in EUnetHTA Joint Action 3

CPME declared their interest in participating in EUnetHTA Joint Action 3, yet they shared their concern of not finding it fully clear with whom to engage and in which areas. DG SANTE advised them to contact EUnetHTA's Directorate and to seek a meeting with them. At this meeting it could be explored which work packages might be most relevant to the work of the CPME, and thus, most interesting for them to join.

Follow up

CPME thanked DG SANTE for the meeting and expressed their willingness to continue the dialogue with the Commission. In particular, they will remain in contact on the issue of doctors' involvement in HTA processes around Europe.