

First meetings of the subgroups of the Member State Coordination Group on HTA (HTACG)

24-25 April 2023, Brussels

Flash report

The first meetings of the four subgroups of the Member State Coordination Group on Health Technology Assessment (HTACG) set up by Regulation (EU) 2021/2282 were held on 24-25 April 2023 in Brussels.

In all four sub-groups meetings, the Commission presented the developments of the dedicated HTA IT platform and its relevance to the work of the subgroups. The terms of reference for each of the subgroups which had been approved at the third meeting of the Coordination Group, were also presented and discussed. The chairs and co-chairs for each of the sub-groups were elected.

Subgroup for the Development of Methodological and Procedural Guidance

The meeting was chaired by Roisin Adams (National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics, Ireland) as interim chair of the subgroup. Members highlighted the need to agree on its internal procedures and a clear timeline for the work ahead. This included close collaboration with other subgroups and regulators, and involvement of stakeholders. The subgroup elected Beate Wieseler (Institute for Quality and Efficiency in Health Care, Germany) as its Chair, and Sara Couto (National Authority of Medicines and Health Products, Portugal) as Co-chair.

The next meeting of the subgroup is planned for 22 May in virtual format.

Subgroup for Joint Clinical Assessments

The meeting was chaired by Roisin Adams (National Centre for Pharmacoeconomics, Ireland) as interim chair of the subgroup. Members pointed out the need to work closely with the methodology subgroup in developing the procedures for Joint Clinical Assessments. Members highlighted that there was a good basis to start the work and joint exercises can be carried out before 2025 to test the system. The subgroup elected Paul de Boissieu (Haute Autorité de Santé, France) as its Chair and Anne Willemsen (National Health Care Institute, Netherlands) as Co-chair.

The next meeting of the subgroup is planned for 23 May in virtual format.

Subgroup for Joint Scientific Consultations

The meeting was chaired by Niklas Hedberg (Dental and Pharmaceuticals Benefits Agency, Sweden) as interim chair of the subgroup. Members suggested presenting the work of EUnetHTA 21 to inform about the state of art of joint scientific consultations and to support the work on procedures and functions of the subgroup. The importance of cooperation with the European Medicines Agency and the Medical Device Coordination Group as well as the involvement of stakeholders was mentioned. Members underlined that scoping of the future work should consider resource capacities. The subgroup elected Stephanie Said (Federal Joint Committee, Germany) as its Chair and Gergő Merész (National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition, Hungary) as Co-chair.

The next meeting of the subgroup is planned for 24 May in virtual format.

Subgroup for Emerging Health Technologies

The meeting was chaired by Marco Marchetti (National Agency for Regional Healthcare Services, Italy) as interim chair of the subgroup. Members noted that the subgroup could play an important role in

scanning emerging technologies, both in the field of pharmaceuticals and medical devices. It was underlined that collaboration with other subgroups and regulators, as well as stakeholders would be essential. Members suggested that the subgroup should look at existing systems and information in terms of relevance for its work. The subgroup elected Kim Helleberg Madsen (Danish Medicines Agency) as its Chair and Jelena Ivanovic (Italian Medicines Agency) as Co-chair.

The next meeting is planned for May (date tbc) in virtual format.