



Allocating Scarce Healthcare Resources: How Do Value Frameworks Add Value?

Reflections on the HTAi Global Policy Forum Panel Session
held at the HTAi Annual Meeting in Rome, Monday 19 June 2017.



Dr Laura Sampietro-Colom
Chair of the Global Policy Forum, Spain

Welcome to the first newsletter for the HTAi Policy Forum Series. In this issue we will feature key reflections from the speakers of the panel session at the recent HTAi annual meeting that was held in Rome during June 2017. This session delivered an overview of the most recent Global Policy Forum (which was held in January 2017), and began to further explore some of the key themes and messages. The topic was "Allocating Scarce Health Care Resources: How Do Value Frameworks Add Value?"

Wija Oortwijn
Scientific Secretary for the Global Policy Forum, Netherlands

Wija presented an overview of the key messages from the 2017 Global Policy Forum. In HTA it is important to underpin decision-making with conceptualisations of what is considered the value of health technology. Value frameworks should be explicit and transparent, and we do not need to 're-invent the wheel'; i.e., learn from existing frameworks. There should be joint accountability of all stakeholders involved and collaboration need to be built in throughout the technology lifecycle.

These thoughts were then extended and explored further by the esteemed panellists. Below are some key reflections from each.



Meindert Boysen
Programme Director NICE, UK

"Value lies in the eye of the beholder"; that is the relative importance of certain criteria is judged differently by the various stakeholders, countries, contexts involved in HTA and decision-making. Whether 'affordability' should be part of the value framework is subject of active debate; in England 'budget impact' is kept deliberately separate from the consideration of value of a health technology.

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Dell Kingsford Smith

VP, Global Market Access Emerging Markets, Janssen, US

A simple algorithm cannot provide the answers to what is valuable and how it should be taken into account in determining access. There is need for broader, more flexible perspectives (including societal perspectives, productivity) when determining value. Affordability (budget impact) is a policy issue and should not be part of a value framework. Collaborative horizon scanning, that jointly maps the technology landscape, includes broad value beyond the healthcare setting, and highlights future affordability challenges is the only way to systematically ensure sustainable patient access to new technologies.

Neil Bertelsen

Chair HTAi Patient And Citizen Involvement in HTA Interest Group, Germany

There are multiple aspects of patient value (from the individual though to 'population' values); it is therefore difficult to reflect the values of patients in a way that is meaningful without creating too much complexity. There needs to be clarity on what each framework is for; who it is for, the context of decision-making that it is aimed at. Patients may be confused by competing value frameworks and what they do – clear signposting and education is needed to elucidate the value of value frameworks.



Paola Testori Coggi

President of the Pricing and Reimbursement Committee, of AIFA, Italy

"AIFA, the Italian Medicines Agency, reward the development of innovative drugs that offer substantial therapeutic benefits for patients; to this end in the HTA performed by AIFA, an important step is the evaluation of drug innovation based on a multidimensional rating system."

Questions from the Floor

"The concept of value frameworks are not new; for years decisions have been made using the implicit values of decision makers. Value frameworks are simply a more transparent and explicit method in applying these values when making decisions; transparency is key and it is right that value frameworks do force you to be explicit and think hard.

The purpose of value frameworks and who they are for is not always clear, but in a sense we are all the clients. The quality of input data is very challenging; particularly with regards to patient reported outcomes. Medicine is an art with well defined, well documented criteria. Knowing what is working for patients and value frameworks are about reconciling medicine with affordability to ensure the best outcomes for all."

Additional Links

Meeting Report; appearing in the June edition of the IJTAHC journal (Free access to HTAi members)

"Developments in Value Frameworks to inform the allocation of healthcare resources"

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/international-journal-of-technology-assessment-in-health-care/article/developments-in-value-frameworks-to-inform-the-allocation-of-healthcare-resources/1B357B8CAE9BF89773796103ABDB34D8>

Key Themes; appearing in the June edition of the DIA Newsletter (open access)

"Value Frameworks to Assess Health Technologies: Reflections from a recent discussion among HTA Thought Leaders from Around the Globe"

<http://www.globalforum-online.org/June2017/index.html?page=18>

