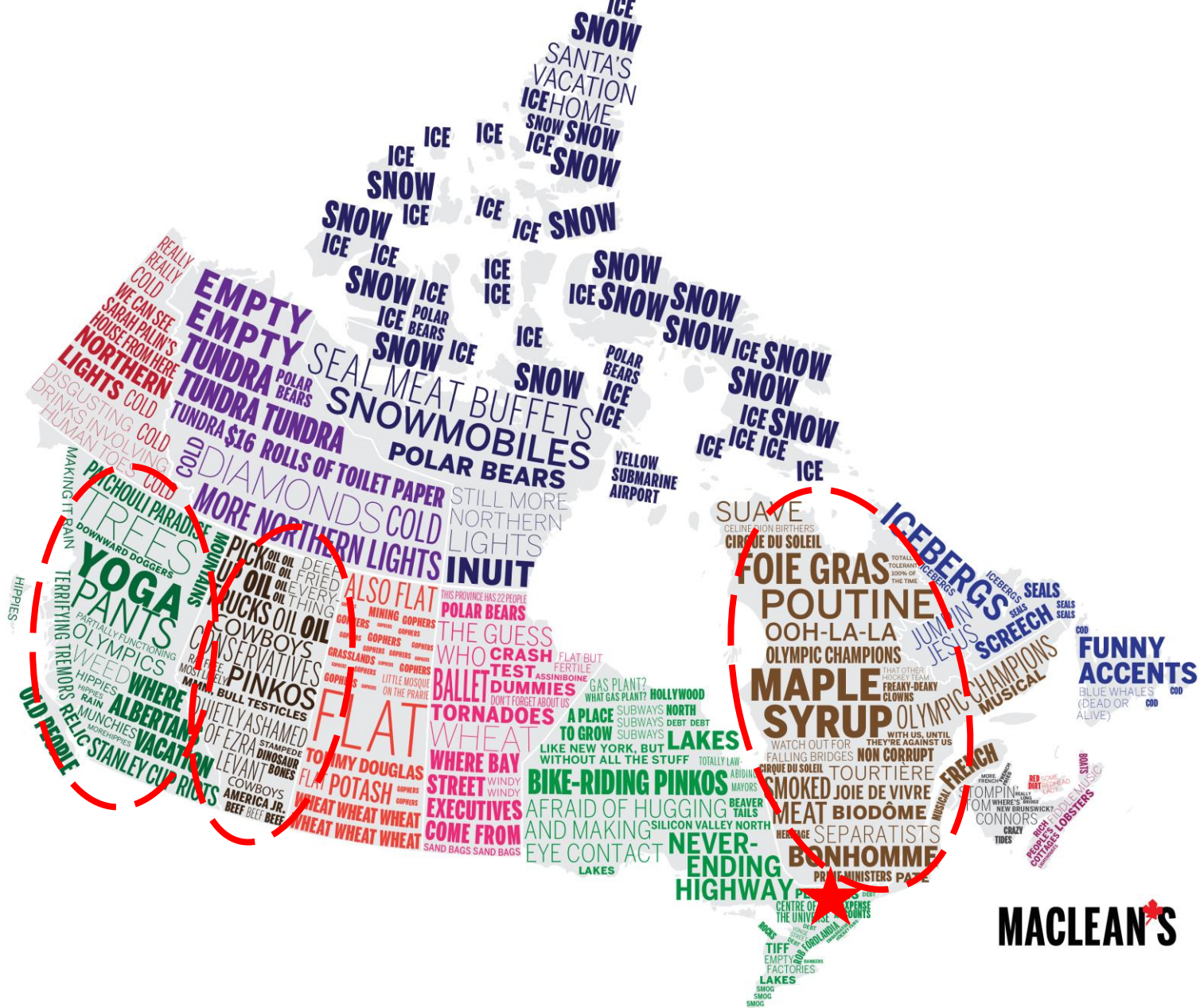


Ethics in HTA: Canadian Activities



INSTITUTE OF
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ALBERTA CANADA

HTAi Ethics IG Meeting
6-7 December 2018
Amsterdam



MACLEAN'S

- 2014-2018: Development of program of including ethics analysis
- Ethicist on recommendation committee (HTERP)
- Increasingly integrated with internal research team
- Four ethics analysis as part of Optimal Use projects conducted between 2015 and 2017
- How do they compare with one another with respect to conduct and impact?

4 HTA reports: dMMR testing for colorectal cancer, Treatments for obstructive sleep apnea, dialysis modalities for end-stage kidney disease, diagnostic strategies for acute pulmonary embolism

- Ethics expertise and analysis
- Reporting and presentation of issues
- Impact of ethics analysis:
 - Presence in HTA reports
 - Contribution to committee deliberation
 - Uptake by end user

Presence in HTA Reports

- The ways in which the ethics analysis is present in the HTA report has changed
- More recent HTAs have more prominent inclusion of ethics content
- Ethics content in these areas has generally been written by the ethicist
- On-going learning process between consulting ethicist and project team
- Ethics should be treated equivalently to other HTA Domains

Contributions to Deliberations

- Not possible to determine the content of the discussion at the HTERP table by reviewing the HTA documents
- HTERP recommendations rarely identify the domains that have informed their rationale
- There is no explicit reference to ethical issues in the HTERP recommendations
- HTERP members have said ethics analysis is helpful

Uptake by End User

Conduct

- Clarifying policy motivations to identify relevant ethical questions
- Settle appropriate use of formal literature search and resources
- Clarify how to handle situations in which ethical analysis covers a broader range of use than rest of HTA

Impact

- Determining methods in ethics that best assist HTERP deliberations
- Gathering input from end users about the utility of ethics analyses for decision making

- Provincial agency INESSS (Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux) developing framework for knowledge integration
- Dr. Mireille Goetghebeur, Principal, Methodological support to deliberative processes
- Adaptation of EVIDEM Framework (MCDA)

Quebec - INESSS

- Held 1.5-day Methodology Forum, June 11-12, 2018
“L’intégration Des Savoirs Pour La Décision Juste Et Raisonnable “
 - Norman Daniels (Harvard): Reflections on A4R
 - Paul Kind (Leeds): Capturing the citizen voice
 - Ken Bond (CADTH): Integrating patient voice in medicine reviews
 - Christian Saout (HAS): Les défis institutionnels de l’engagement patient dans le contexte français

https://www.inesss.qc.ca/fileadmin/doc/INESSSS/Forum_metho_2018/Programme_forum-metho_2018.pdf

Quebec – l'Université de Sherbrooke

- Hospital-based HTA more prevalent in Quebec (CHUM, CHUQ, CHUS) than elsewhere in Canada
- Georges-A. Legault, Johane Patenaude, Hubert Gagnon, Pierre Dagenais (IG members) leading research to address specific problems of integrating ethics in HAT reports as identified by University of Sherbrooke Hospital Research Centre (CHUS)

For more information:

<http://interne3ls.3it.usherbrooke.ca>



Rome 2017

- Systematic review of ethics assessment and integrating ethics into HTA
- Systematic review of diversity of approaches to ethical evaluation in HTA and difficulties in operationalization
- Legal Governance: How Does Law Circumscribe The Social Role Of Health Technology Assessment?

Publication: Bellemare C et ali Ethics in Health Technology Assessment : A systematic review IJHTAC 2018

Vancouver 2018

- Towards a Systemic Approach of Value Judgment in HTA
- Eliciting Implicit Value-Judgments in the HTA Process

Publication: Revisiting the Fact\Value Dichotomy: A Speech Act Approach for Health Technology Assessment (Open Journal of Philosophy)

Cologne 2019

- Results of international survey on the current perception of HTA professionals on the social expectations of HTA
- HTA Governance and on the diversity of approaches for the integration of ethics

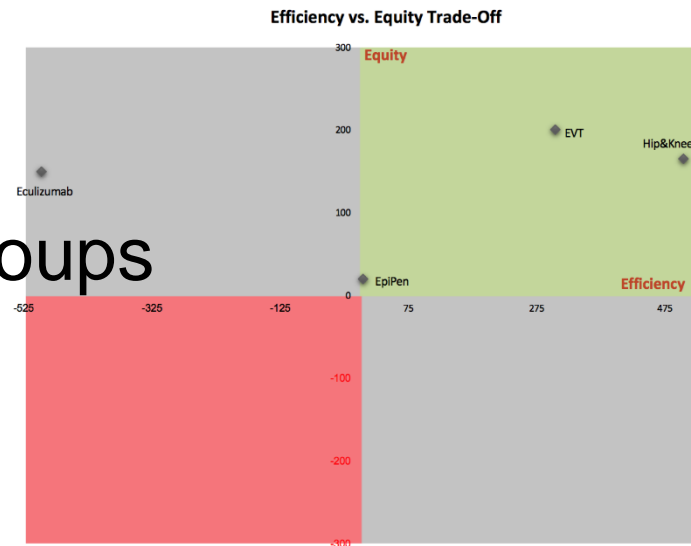
Related publication: Patenaude J et al. Framework for the Analysis of Nanotechnologies' Impacts and Ethical Acceptability: Basis of an Interdisciplinary Approach to Assessing Novel Technologies. Sci Engin Ethic 2014.

Developing a Resource Allocation Framework

- Alberta Health Services: Funded by Ministry and responsible for organizing and delivering health care services
- AHS was required to find significant savings in 2017/18
- The Executive Leadership Team sought support from the Clinical Ethics Service in explicitly incorporating ethical considerations into the decision-making process
- Led by IG member Duncan Steele. Will seek input feedback from core members of IG.

Alberta

- Developed by team of health economists and ethicists
- Tool to assess trade off between value for money and “equity”
- Main ethical considerations:
 - Compassion (or solidarity)
 - Impact on health equity for groups
 - Impact on provider
 - Impact on patient



Alberta

- Incorporation of consultation feedback
- Research Study – DCE to determine value weights
- Further pilot testing
- Workshops & targeted feedback
- Updated proposal to Executive Leadership Team in early 2019
- Adopt as an instrument to assess all significant investment and de-investment?

British Columbia

- BC HTA joint MoH and regional health authority process
- Commissions HTA work from agencies both within and outside the province
- BC HTA committee prioritizes and makes recommendations to senior executive committee
- Dr. Katherine Duthie (IG member) advising and actively involved in developing ethics checklist (“triggering tool”) to identify ethical issues at topic identification/ prioritization
- Working with committee secretariat to develop more detailed ethics analysis (time, resources, etc.)

Ethics Collaborations

- Ethicists contributing to other HTA-related activities
- Ethical issues related to patient engagement in HTA (Dr. Meredith Vanstone, McMaster University):

Themes:

- Recognizing and re-balancing risk and benefit for all participants in an HTA
- Selecting and engaging patient participants in an ethical way
- Decreasing the influence of power and information differentials between patients and other HTA members

Questions?



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