



Health Technology Assessment Policy and Methods Review Reference Committee

Communique – 19 January 2024 meeting

The Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Policy and Methods Review (Review) Reference Committee (Committee) met by video conference on 19 January 2024. Support staff from the Review Secretariat in the Department of Health and Aged Care (Department) attended.

What did the Committee discuss?

Options Paper

The primary purpose of the meeting was to work through the latest draft of the Options Paper to be published in the week starting Monday 22 January 2024 as part of Consultation 2.

The Committee discussed a range of changes to the Options Paper, largely around the following improvements:

- Organising and structuring proposed options to ensure clarity
- Further refining proposed options (e.g. timeframes for certain proposed options) to ensure they are clear and practical, appropriately coordinate with other Department led initiatives, and integrate effectively with each other
- Consistency with the scope of the Review
- Collective agreement on proposed options
- Clarifying the structure of the Options Paper was clear, including how the consultation questions are to be incorporated.

Particular topics within the Options Paper where the Committee had extensive discussions related to:

- Early resolution mechanisms for submissions of significant new therapeutic advances in areas of high unmet clinical need
- Mechanisms to be used when there is an impasse in price negotiations
- Selection of the comparator for submissions claiming non-inferiority
- Changes to the standard base-case discount rate for health interventions.

The Committee also discussed how it would manage the combined impact of various proposed options that impact methods for valuation of health technologies.

The Committee agreed to finalise the Options Paper out-of-session following the meeting.

Consultation 2

The Committee noted key dates for Consultation 2 workshops, the questions for stakeholders, as well as how the online consultation tool would be structured. The

Committee provided feedback on the questions for consultation for the Secretariat to consider and requested that all consultation sessions be scheduled as soon as possible.

Meeting close and next meeting

The Committee noted the next meeting will be held on 31 January 2024.