



Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Consumer Consultative Committee (CCC)

HTA CCC Communique – Wednesday 21st February 2024 25th Meeting of the HTA CCC

Attendees

Consumer representatives from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) and its subcommittees, the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) and its subcommittees, the Life Saving Drugs Program (LSDP) Expert Panel and the Medicare Benefits Schedule Review Advisory Committee (MRAC).

Departmental representatives from the Consumer Evidence and Engagement Unit (CEEU) and the Office of Health Technology Assessment (OHTA).

Outcomes

The HTA Consumer Consultative Committee recognised the significant experience, expertise, and diversity within its membership, providing an important perspective into consumer engagement and participation in the HTA processes.

During the meeting, the Committee discussed the options outlined in the HTA Policy and Methods Review Options Paper with an overarching statement that the role of the consumer is an integral element to the whole HTA process. It was confirmed the HTA-CCC Chair would present the consolidated views of the Committee at an upcoming HTA Policy and Methods Review Reference Committee meeting.

The HTA-CCC will have a dedicated session in March 2024, to provide a consolidated response to the public consultation of the Co-Design of an Enhanced Consumer Engagement Process. It was acknowledged the Co-Design Working Group had met with members of the HTA Policy and Methods Review Reference Committee, where the Reference Committee noted there are synergies between the draft recommendations from the Working Group and the published options under the theme “Transparency, communication and stakeholder involvement in HTA”.

The Chair of the HTA-CCC is a member of the HTA Chair Committee; a committee which provides advice to the Health and Medical Research Office on the strategic priorities for research investment under the HTA stream, which is part of the Preventative and Public Health Research Initiatives funded by the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF). Initial discussions were held on the process and how the HTA-CCC can add value related to consumer evidence generation, noting discussions would continue in a future meeting.

The Consumer Evidence and Engagement Unit continues to strengthen induction material for new consumer representatives on both the principal HTA committees and their sub-committees. The HTA-CCC provided valuable feedback on the material developed with the intent it will be utilised with the appointment of new consumer representatives.

Confirmation there will be no national symposium for 2024. The focus will be on delivering opportunities for education, strengthening capabilities and capacity related to the consumer in the HTA process.

The next CCC meeting is scheduled to be held in May 2024.