



# Health Technology Assessment Review Implementation Advisory Group

## Terms of Reference

### Purpose

The Health Technology Assessment Review (HTA Review) Implementation Advisory Group (the IAG) is established to advise Government on the recommendations in the final report of the HTA Review and related inquiry reports.

### Context

The HTA Review was a commitment under the 2022–27 Strategic Agreement between the Commonwealth and Medicines Australia. Under the agreement, the Australian Government committed to supporting and resourcing the review, overseen by the HTA Review Reference Committee.

The HTA Review started on 27 October 2022 and considered the HTA policy and methods, and funding and approval pathways, for the following health technologies:

- medicines and vaccines
- highly specialised therapies (such as cell and gene therapies)
- other health technologies that are linked to the use of medicines vaccines and highly specialised therapies (such as pathology tests)
- foreseeable changes in health care that may influence the need for, accessibility, effectiveness or cost-effectiveness of new health technologies.

On 10 September 2024 the final report of the HTA Review including 50 Recommendations was published. These recommendations relate to new health technologies, tackling inequity, and making HTA processes streamlined, transparent and easier for consumers and clinicians to participate in.

### Role and function

The IAG is an advisory body comprising of senior leaders and representatives from across the sector. It is established for 12 months to adopt a collaborative and co-design approach in developing implementation options for consideration by the Government in the formulation of its response to the HTA Review. The role of the IAG is to provide advice to Government. This advice is subject to further government consideration and processes including where funding or other government decision is required.

The IAG will:

- be an expert advisory group on reform implementation design
- provide advice on the prioritisation of recommendations
- provide advice on developing a roadmap for sequencing the Government's response to the recommendations of the HTA review.

In performing the above functions, the IAG will also have regard to the recommendations of the inquiry report [The New Frontier – Delivering better health for all Australians](#) and the more recent consumer engagement [Enhance HTA report](#).

The Minister will provide to the IAG an initial list of recommendations from the HTA Review for priority consideration and may direct the IAG on its work plan from time to time.

A range of existing and newly established committees and reviews will inform the work of the IAG.

The following committees and organisations will be forums for information sharing, advice and input:

- Health Technology and Genomics Collaboration (HTGC), a subcommittee of the Health Chief Executives Forum.
- National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
- National Health, Sustainability and Climate Unit.

Members of the IAG will ensure advice provided to the Government:

- is evidence-based
- reflects the views and opinions of the organisations they are representing
- is in the best interests of the health of Australians and the Australian health system
- considers equity of access for Australians
- considers the aims and objectives of the HTA review
- focuses on the delivery of patient centred outcomes.

The IAG members are appointed as expert executive and representative leaders within the sector, with the ability to provide advice consistent with their representative organisation.

Membership will include representatives for consumer, industry, clinician, organisations as well as health economics experts and the Australian Government. Membership will also include a state or territory representative nominated by the HTGC. This member will represent the views of states and territories and liaise through the HTGC. A full list of members is at Appendix 1.

Proxies will be accepted at the discretion of the Chair and Department of Health and Aged Care representative.

The IAG is a non-statutory committee, managed in accordance with the Department of Health and Aged Care's External Committee Framework. Its membership is approved by the Minister for Health and Aged Care (Minister).

The Chair may approve ad hoc participation of additional experts or observers in meetings as required.

## **Deliverables**

The IAG will be responsible for interim reports to the Secretary and Minister, outlining advice, decisions, and activities undertaken by the IAG. The IAG will also be responsible for the delivery of a co-designed draft Government response to the HTA review and a final report on the work of the Group to the Minister.

## **Meeting administration**

The Chair will lead meetings and guide the work of the IAG. input:

Quorum for meetings is half the number of members plus one.

The Department of Health and Aged Care will provide Secretariat support. An agenda and papers will be distributed at least 5 days prior to meetings.

The IAG will be governed consistent with the Remuneration Policy Framework for Non-Statutory Committees.

## **Timeframes**

It is intended that the term of the IAG will be at least 12 months. Members are appointed until January 2026 or until the delivery of the final report to Government.

There are expected to be monthly meetings, for a duration of two hours, either in-person or via videoconference. Changes to meeting frequency may occur if requested by the Chair.

## **Reporting and evaluation**

Throughout the term of appointment, the IAG members will report to the Chair. The Chair will report to the Deputy Secretary, Penny Shakespeare, Health Resourcing Group and updates will be provided to the Minister on a regular basis.

On completion of the specified term of appointment, the IAG will be responsible for the delivery of its final report for Government consideration.