



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

## HTA CCC Communique – 21 and 22 May 2025 29<sup>th</sup> 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, the Medicare Benefits Schedule Review Advisory Committee (MRAC) and the Medical Devices and Human Tissue Advisory Committee (MDHTAC).

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

### Outcomes

The HTA Consumer Consultative Committee (HTA CCC) received updates on activities and items of note as provided by the Chair, HTA CCC members, the CEEU and OHTA. It was agreed that these updates inform and broaden members' awareness of activities across the Australian HTA environment.

The Chair welcomed representatives from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's Genomics Australia Establishment Branch who provided an overview on the work progressing the 1 July 2025 establishment of [Genomics Australia](#). The HTA CCC provided suggestions on approaches to engage consumers in the work of Genomics Australia.

The HTA CCC considered the concepts of artificial intelligence (AI), its current and potential usage in healthcare and, more specifically, within HTA. Discussion focused on the potential practical applications of AI in HTA consumer engagement activities. It was agreed that this matter will require continued consideration as the uptake of AI usage evolves.

The progression of the CEEU's work in consumer engagement enhancement processes was noted. This work builds on concepts identified in the [Conversations for Change Report \(2023\)](#) and includes improvements to content within the CEEU's *HTA Engage* newsletter, to better inform and engage consumers. The HTA CCC Consumer Webinar, *Enhancing HTA – Consumer Inputs for HTA Committees' Considerations*, is scheduled for 23 July 2025, and is also aimed at supporting consumers to engage in HTA processes.

Potential approaches to optimise HTA committees' consumer engagement were also discussed, further to a request from the MSAC Chair. The HTA CCC considered and developed advice on effective approaches to engage with consumers and consumer organisations regarding HTA applications. It was agreed that in addition to providing this advice to MSAC, the principles of and opportunities for consumer engagement in HTA processes will be shared with other HTA committees and their subcommittees.

It was noted that the Department will present on the process and outcomes of the [Co-design of an Enhanced Consumer Engagement Process](#) at the [HTA International \(HTAi\) Annual Meeting](#), 14-18 June 2025.

The next HTA CCC meeting is scheduled to be held in September 2025.