



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

HTA CCC Communique – 14 July 2021

16th meeting of the HTA CCC followed by a combined HTA CCC and HTA satellite group meeting.

Attendees at the HTA CCC meeting

Consumer representatives from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) and its subcommittee, the Drug Utilisation Sub-Committee, the Prostheses List Advisory Committee and the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) and their subcommittees as well as a consumer representative from the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) Advisory Committee on Medicines, and the Advisory Committee on Medical Devices.

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

Attendees at the HTA CCC and satellite group meeting

The satellite group includes consumer committee members from other HTA committees across the Department of Health, in addition to the attendees listed above.

Consumer representatives from the Ophthalmic Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group, Hip Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group, Knee Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group, Cardiothoracic Prostheses Clinical Advisory Group, Life Saving Drugs Program Expert Panel, Stoma Product Assessment Panel, TGA Advisory Committee on Biologicals, TGA Advisory Committee on Vaccines, MSAC Immunoglobulin Review Committee and the TGA Advisory Committee on Medicines Scheduling.

Guest speaker

Professor Kirstin Howard, Chair of the PBAC Economic Sub Committee (PBAC ESC) was invited as guest speaker for the HTA CCC and satellite group meeting.

Outcomes for the HTA CCC meeting

The Chair, Jo Watson, provided an update on activities since the previous HTA CCC meeting held on 14 May 2021. The Chair provided a membership update welcoming Susannah Morris

as the new consumer representative on the PBAC. The Chair also welcomed Janelle Bowden, who had recently started with the CEEU as a part-time project co-ordinator.

The CEEU provided an update on the MSAC Guidelines and changes to the MSAC process, noting there are now two distinct periods for consultation as of 1 July 2021. The first of these periods is prior to the meeting of the PICO Advisory Sub-Committee (PASC) and the second prior to MSAC's consideration of the application. The CEEU also advised that the OHTA consultation hub contract had been finalised and hoped the hub would be live for the publication of the March 2022 PBAC agenda.

Outcomes for the joint HTA CCC and Satellite meeting

The Chair, Jo Watson, opened the joint HTA CCC and satellite meeting welcoming all the members.

Sally Wortley, from the CEEU, presented the draft OHTA consultation hub and asked those attending the meeting for feedback regarding the layout and what information should be provided on the initial pages to help orientate consumer groups to HTA processes. Attendees indicated the importance of lay language and suggested that short video presentations would be helpful on how to use the hub and about HTA processes.

The Chair welcomed Professor Howard who gave an overview of her role as Chair of the PBAC ESC. Professor Howard's invitation to speak at the HTA CCC is part of the mentoring project which aims to connect consumer members with other members of HTA committees. During the open discussion attendees asked about economic approaches to capturing values and preferences, how patient outcomes measures could be used in HTA, as well the need to influence further 'downstream' at the research stage.

Janelle Bowden, from the CEEU led a discussion about the upcoming consumer symposium including suggestions of topics and content. Attendees noted the following topics of interest: clinical registries, the Medical Benefits Schedule Review and gene therapy/genomic technologies. Attendees also noted that a session introducing HTA was needed and this would be best placed as a resource that participants could access prior to the symposium. Further it should be short and engaging rather than trying to introduce too many technical terms.

There was general agreement that a broad range of individual consumer and consumer organisations should be invited including those not traditionally involved in HTA discussions. The following HTA CCC meeting was scheduled for 17 September 2021, with a focus on providing HTA CCC members with an update of activities before the HTA Consumer Symposium on 23 September 2021.