



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

HTA CCC Communique – Wednesday 18th May 2022
20th meeting of the HTA CCC, held via videoconference

Attendees

Consumer representatives from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) and its subcommittee, the Drug Utilisation Sub Committee; the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) and its subcommittees, the PICO Advisory Sub Committee and Evaluation Sub Committee; and the Prostheses List Advisory Committee.

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

Outcomes

The Chair (Jo Watson) provided an overview of her activities since the last HTA CCC meeting held on 17 February 2022. These activities included speaking at the Bristol Myers-Squibb Horizon Scanning forum on 24 May and at a patient group webinar with the Metabolic Dietary Disorders Association.

The Chair also advised she will present virtually at the HTAi 2022 Annual Meeting on 27-28 June 2022.

The CEEU advised that new HTA webpages had recently been launched on the Department's website. These pages provide an overview of HTA processes and how stakeholders can get involved in HTA. Members noted that these pages are simpler and easier to navigate than before and welcomed further improvements to website content.

The CEEU report also included information on internal improvements to tracking and collating consultation input across the OHTA. The CEEU is overseeing and managing consultations with at least two open consultations every month. The MSAC consumer committee members noted there has been a noticeable increase in the quality of public consultation input over the last twelve months and asked if the CEEU could provide a more in-depth report at the next CCC meeting.

The CEEU Project Lead also advised that plans are underway for a second Consumer Symposium (following success of the inaugural Making Connections Consumer Symposium held in September 2021) and sought preliminary input from members on possible objectives and themes, and audience/invitation methodology.

Members suggested a hybrid attendance mode in line with other meetings occurring now, noting that meeting face-to-face when possible is good for networking. Some members suggested keeping the same topics as the previous symposium, to help extend the discussions arising from the 2021 event.

Other items on the CCC agenda included the CCC Terms of Reference (ToR) and consumer role and responsibilities descriptions.

The Chair gave a background on the current ToR to initiate discussion on this item. The existing ToR were developed in 2017 when the CCC was first established and before formation of the CEEU in 2019. The Chair sought input from members on the various components of the ToR.

There was general discussion among members about purpose and membership of the HTA CCC with several suggestions made to better reflect the changes that had occurred over time. The CEEU will prepare a draft updated ToR using input provided and circulate for comment before seeking Chair ratification and Departmental review.

For the consumer role and responsibilities descriptions discussion, the CEEU provided background for new members on why formal roles for consumer committee members had been developed.

Members gave input into the preamble and key responsibilities for MSAC and PBAC role statements, noting that further discussion and development is needed. The CEEU will revise the role descriptions based on feedback.

The next CCC meeting is scheduled for August 2022.