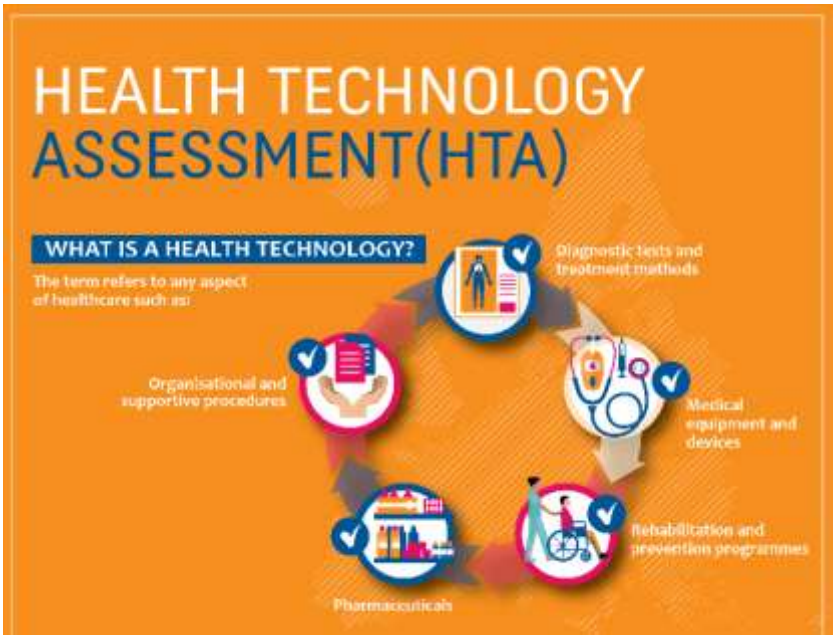
Patient-MedTech Dialogue Workshop: HTA and medical technologies

24 May 2018, 12.30-17.15
Thon Hotel EU, Rue de la Loi 75, Brussels

Background

A **health technology** (HTA) is described by the Joint Action EUnetHTA (European Network for Health Technology Assessment)[1] as "*the application of scientific knowledge in health care and prevention*".



With the term **medical technologies (medtech)** we refer to the large family of medical devices, medical imaging, in vitro diagnostics, health information and communication technologies.[2] Assessment of medical technologies requires a different approach to those applicable to pharmaceutical products due to the impact of the context and user involvement (eg. operating room conditions, skills of the surgeon) on the clinical outcomes.

HTA[3] provides information which can look at the short and long-term implications and consequences of using a health technology and measures the added incremental value of a new health technology compared to an existing one. This information can then be used to inform specific questions on guidance but for medtech it rarely informs coverage and reimbursement decisions. A widely used

[1] A network, established to create an effective and sustainable network for health technology assessment (HTA) across Europe that could develop and implement practical tools to provide reliable, timely, transparent and transferable information to contribute to HTAs in members states. For more information see: http://www.eunethta.eu/
[2] V.Wurcel et al, Medical Technologies: Involving Patients in Development and Assessment, in Patient Involvement in Health Technology Assessment, Springer 2017
[3] https://ec.europa.eu/health/technology_assessment/overview_en

definition of HTA is the one conceived by EUnetHTA which states that: *HTA is a multidisciplinary process that summarises information about the medical, social, economic and ethical issues related to the use of a health technology in a systematic, transparent, unbiased, robust manner. Its aim is to inform the formulation of safe, effective, health policies that are patient focused and seek to achieve best value.* As a multidisciplinary process, HTA should ideally involve patients' perspectives; however, in reality there is still a long way to go in achieving meaningful patient involvement in HTA.

A **legislative proposal on strengthening EU cooperation on HTA** was presented by the European Commission on 31 January 2018. In the next steps, the Proposal will be negotiated in the European Parliament and the Council with the aim of adoption by 2019.[4]

Objectives

The objectives of the workshop are two-fold:

(i) for patients to acquire knowledge about the role of HTA in medtech and the new legislative proposal as well as to have the opportunity to ask questions,

(ii) and for medtech industry to understand patients' perspectives and potential benefits and concerns about HTA and the Commission's legislative proposal.

Short Description of the Workshop

The workshop will explore the relation between access to medical technologies and HTA. This workshop is of an informative nature.

Participants

National and European Patient organizations' representatives, EPF as well as non-EPF members, medical technology companies and national associations.

[4] Factsheet: https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/technology_assessment/docs/2018_factsheet_en.pdf ; Legislative proposal: https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/technology_assessment/docs/com2018_51final_en.pdf

AGENDA

12.30-13.30 **Networking lunch**

- 13.30 – 13.45 **Welcome & Introduction** (Nicola Bedlington, EPF & Tanja Valentin, MedTech Europe)
- 13.45- 14.30 **What is HTA and how does it work? What is the purpose and impact of HTA?**

  Followed by Q&A
- 14.30-15.00 **Patient involvement in HTA** (Valentina Strammiello, Project Manager, EPF)

  Followed by Q&A and comments

15.00-15.15 Coffee break

- 15.15- 16.15 **EU Cooperation on HTA and the EC legislative proposal**
  - The **European Commission** EU HTA Proposal (European Commission TBC)
  - The **Patient perspective**
  - The **Medtech perspective** (Yves Verboven, MedTech Europe)
  - Followed by a discussion
- 16.15-17.00 **How can we facilitate the involvement of patients in the assessment of medical devices and what are the opportunities for meaningful involvement?**
- 17.00 – 17.15 **Conclusions & next steps** (Nicola Bedlington, EPF & Tanja Valentin, MedTech Europe)

19.00 Dinner (Thon Hotel EU)