

**From:** Sara Johansson [<mailto:sara.johansson@gov.se>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2017 12:28 PM  
**To:** SANTE HTA  
**Cc:** SCHNICHELS Dominik (SANTE); Ellen Jones  
**Subject:** Swedish reply on the consultation on HTA

Dear Madam/Sir,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the open consultation regarding EU initiative for strengthening EU cooperation on Health Technology Assessment. Please find a reply from the Swedish Government below. The Swedish Government looks forward to continuing the dialogue with the Commission and to welcoming you in Stockholm in March.

Best regards,  
Sara Johansson  
Counsellor for Health Affairs

#### **Public consultation on HTA**

HTA is now a well-established tool to support decision-makers in several areas of health care, which suggests there are advantages with continued cooperation and joint production within the EU. The Swedish government is therefore in favour of further exploring how cooperation could be enhanced regarding HTA, provided that Member States' competences are respected. We acknowledge the Commission's motives to already at this stage start discussions about the future, despite not yet having seen the results of the ongoing joint action. From a Swedish point of view, we still hope that the current joint action will result in improved production in a timely manner and an uptake of joint reports. In Sweden, several agencies on both national and regional level produce different kinds of HTAs for which the purpose and use of the reports differs widely. It is of course at this stage difficult to foresee how their work would be affected by enhanced cooperation. We therefore believe it is too early to highlight a specific main option for future cooperation. Further analysis is required of the prerequisites and consequences of enhanced cooperation. Such an analysis should also include:

- The legal basis for enhanced cooperation;
- Information on how funding for such cooperation can be solved/secured;
- Information on the added value of enhanced cooperation for the EU and MS, respectively.

From a Swedish perspective, we would also like to highlight the following motives/important topics:

- HTA includes cost considerations but the distinction to pricing (pure national competence) is somewhat unclear;
- The need to agree on methods and tools is fundamental – we do not want to jeopardize the quality of the products. Difficulties caused by language barriers should not be underestimated;
- The prerequisites for Medtech partially differ from those of other health technologies, such as pharmaceuticals. Specific analysis in this area is therefore necessary.