



SANTE meeting with COCIR

Date: 01/03/2017

Location: DG SANTE office

Participants

Nicole Denjoy (**COCIR SG**), Magdalena Machalska (**COCIR Public Affairs Manager**), Aline Topouchian (**Representative of Siemens**), Agnieszka Daval (**Representative of Philips**)

SANTE: D. Schnichels, O. Nagy, K. Hanslik, M. Maddalena

Purpose of the meeting

The aim of the meeting is to discuss the following topics:

1. COCIR introduction and views on HTA
2. EC Consultation – status
3. Industry representation in HTA Network
4. Priority technologies and criteria for HTA

COCIR delivered a basic presentation to support the conversation.

Discussion

COCIR SG informed about two events in March that will touch upon HTA. The first one is a strategic dinner on 22nd of March on "How to enable HTA leveraging new payment model" and the other one is the COCIR Annual General Assembly on 23rd of March. COCIR would welcome an active participation/speech by the Commission.

1. COCIR introduction and views on HTA

COCIR stressed the importance of HPA (Health Process Assessment as part of the "Value Based Healthcare" principles) besides HTA. Referring to previous publications, COCIR further explained that the HPA looks at the whole process pathway (continuum of care) while HTA looks at one technology for a specific clinical outcome. For some devices it's difficult to undertake an HTA (e.g. MRI scanner is used in prevention, early diagnosis, treatment and aftercare). COCIR offered the Commission to organize educational sessions in the future that could be organized in the fringe of HTA Network or EUnetHTA to inform on latest innovations and benefits in some dedicated patient care pathways.

The Commission clarified that there is no contradiction between HTA and HPA as both processes seem to be complementary or even overlapping if one applies a wide understanding of the notion HTA.

COCIR kindly asked for updates about the participation of industry in the EUnetHTA Joint Action 3 and the Commission explained that the call of expression of interest for Multi HTA Early Dialogues -

Pharmaceuticals was published on EUnetHTA website. The cooperation on joint and collaborative assessments is led by the Norwegian partner of EUnetHTA and interested stakeholders that are willing to submit a proposal, are asked to contact the lead partner directly.

2. Survey of the Commission's contractor and results of the public consultation

On the interactions between the Commission's contractor and individual companies for the ongoing survey, COCIR stressed that it is important the surveys are sent to the company representative, which has the competence to reply and ensure headquarters are kept in the loop. The Commission clarified that the data collection for the EC surveys is now largely concluded and that the results of the survey will be discussed with an Expert Group to ascertain plausibility. The Commission asked COCIR for an explanation why the majority of medtech companies had reported that they would have significantly lower costs if option 2 (voluntary cooperation on "HTA tools") is endorsed whilst industry reported a significant increase in costs for option 3 (legal framework for "HTA tools"). COCIR stated that it had assisted the companies to prepare the responses to the questionnaires, which might have led to a certain alignment. It promised to discuss and investigate internally and report back to the Commission.

The Commission also informed about the results of the public consultation (participation, main outcomes) and explained that it intends to publish the consultation reports in Q2. The results of the studies prepared by the contractor are typically published together with the initiative.

The Commission reassured that the dialogue with all stakeholders will be continuing also when the initiative will be published.

3. Industry representation in HTA Network

COCIR stressed the importance of the representatives of medical devices industry as Observer to the HTA Network which should be in balance with the representation of the pharma industry, especially while observing that medical devices are in the agenda of the forthcoming HTA Network on 29 March. The Commission underlined that the selection of the nominations needs to be done by each of the group represented in the HTA Network and that it expects appropriate ex ante and ex post coordination.

4. Priority technologies and criteria for HTAs

COCIR is highly interested to know more on Member States' opinions on what are the technologies they would like to prioritize (e.g. based on public health goals) and explain which criteria they would be using. COCIR is still reflecting on the prioritisation criteria. The Commission stressed that every good idea is welcome.

Follow up

COCIR thanked DG SANTE for the meeting and expressed the willingness to continue the dialogue with the Commission. It promised to respond to the question on the costs (option 2 and 3) and to share its ideas on prioritisation of technologies for HTA assessments.