



EARLY ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGIES ENSURING SAFETY AND QUALITY: *THE GALICIAN EXPERIENCE*

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galicia



avalia-t
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Summary

Background: The requirement for early access to new techniques, technologies, and procedures insufficiently assessed need new tools and procedures that allow for coverage whilst collecting information keys for informing decision making regarding final approval. The “special-follow up” procedure is a legal tool designed to the introduction of new technologies that present evidence gaps in the Galician Health Care Service (Spain). Canaloplasty in open-angle glaucoma, that has been reimbursed under this procedure.

Objectives: Using canaloplasty as an example, we aim to present the framework and steps for incorporating new technologies with evidence uncertainties in the Galician Health Service

Methods: NA

Results: In accordance to binding law, a proposal for incorporation of canaloplasty was submitted from a health care centre, accompanied by a report memory with key information (indications, proposed benefits, technical, personnel requirements, etc). Once the proposal was validated and it was confirmed to be a truly new technology, a report was requested from the Galician Agency for Health Technology Assessment (avalia-t). Avalia-t carried out the systematic review and delivered the conclusions and recommendations for additional data requirements to the Advisory Commission, responsible for the appraisal. The Commission reinforced the recommendation to carry a follow-up study to assess the learning curve. The Advisory Commission’s proposal was approved by the General Technical Secretariat and ratified by the Healthcare Assistance Division. Avalia-t, in collaboration with the authorized centres, has the responsibility of developing the protocol for data collection, designing the database, analysing the results and delivering a final report to the Advisory Committee. Canaloplasty is currently in the data collection phase.

Conclusions: The framework used in Galician Health Service can serve as a reference for other institutions that aim to effectively implement strategies for additional data collection.