



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

CONSUMERS, HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND FOOD EXECUTIVE AGENCY
Health Unit



Red Española de Agencias de Evaluación de
Tecnologías Sanitarias y Prestaciones del Sistema
Nacional de Salud

10th anniversary of the Spanish Network of Health Technology Assessment Agencies. Insights for collaborative networking

Hot topic: Towards Patient and public engagement in HTA

Date: 27-28 April, 2017

Location: Zaragoza (Spain)

Justification: In 2016 the Spanish HTA network (REDETS <http://www.redets.msssi.gob.es/>) reached its 10th year of life. This milestone calls for reflection on the achievements accomplished and the steps ahead to enhance this collaborative work in better serving the Spanish National Health System. It is also a great opportunity to share lessons learnt and contribute to the discussion about the best way to build a European collaborative framework for HTA. To this end, this program is conceived to:

First, offer the opportunity **to learn from functioning HTA network models** beyond the Spanish, in particular in the **Latin-American** (shared language) and **European** (shared framework) contexts. In both cases there are EU funded projects at the origin of the initiatives; The *Advance_HTA project* (<http://www.advance-hta.eu/wp6.php>), funded under the 7FP, focused on strengthening and implementing HTA in emerging settings, including the region of the Americas. RedETSA, under the PAHO umbrella, was the case of study then and continues to be a necessary reference.

On the European side, the 3 Joint Actions EUnetHTA (<http://www.eunethta.eu/>), funded under the Health Programme, have taken the mandate from the HTA Authorities network to develop and implement the necessary steps to design a collaborative framework in this matter at European level. We will be updated on progress hitherto and next steps.

Then we will turn to the **Spanish** HTA network, taking inventory of the organization and main tools that have contributed to build up and strengthen HTA capacity in Spain over its 10 years of existence. The goal of this multiple approach is to **reflect on the lessons learnt in developing those network models that might be of use for our common European HTA framework**.

Second, we would like to touch base on one of the current key issues in the field: **how to go about to achieve effective public and patient engagement in HTA**. Such involvement at the different stages of the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) process is increasingly demanded (principle of quality). Clearly, one of the tractors of this felt need is that the number of technologies requiring an assessment exceeds available resources and turns the identification and prioritization of HTA needs into a permanent challenge for HTA bodies. Public and patient involvement could help to increase HTA relevance and acceptability, optimizing the impact of HTA research and output.

Keeping the international perspective, we will gather experiences from around Europe and overseas. To enrich the discussion we will meet three different perspectives: HTA bodies',



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patients' and regulators' involved in those experiences will help us to **elicit the common grounds for good practices fostering effective public and patient engagement.**

Potential participants: Health professionals, academia, health policy makers, patients' organizations, NGOs, scientific societies, media, health technology assessment agencies.