European Health Technology Institute on Socio-Economic Research

Background, Research Topics, Concept, Framework

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Background

Medical technology industry in terms of employment and turnover similar to pharmaceuticals but less “visible” in policy and academia

-> scarcity of European data on cost-benefit (“value”) of medical technologies

-> might lead to application of evaluation and regulatory instruments derived from pharmaceuticals (e.g. Health Technology Assessment)
Currently ...

policy objectives

Economic policy: innovation, jobs, ...
Public health policy: safety
Social policy: access

affordability and (financial) sustainability

research & development
market authorization
reimbursement (inclusion in benefit basket)
market (with price/ expenditure controls)

way of medical devices into and through the health care system
Soon?

- innovation, jobs, ...
- extended rules for market authorization
- safety, effectiveness
- cost-effectiveness
- “fourth hurdle”
- reimbursement (inclusion in benefit basket)
- access
- market (with price/expenditure controls)
- affordability and (financial) sustainability
- research & development
- costs-effectiveness
- effectiveness
- innovation, jobs, …
Addressing gaps and challenges – Research on Medical Technology

• Aims and objectives
  – Conduct high level research on the economic and health implications of medical technologies, in particular, medical devices
  – Bridge the gap between medical technology industry, academia and health policy
  – Provide decision-makers with robust evidence on the social & economic value of medical technology
  – Contribute to the debate on access, availability, diffusion and optimal use of medical technologies in Europe
Addressing gaps and challenges – The (initial) research agenda

• Bringing health technologies onto academic (-> publications) and policy agendas
• Understanding market access, coverage, financing, utilisation and actual/ potential benefit of selected technologies
• Comparing regulatory policies across countries and technologies in respect to current (and future) economic, health and social policy objectives and overall „value for society“
• Identifying „good“ and „bad“ regulatory policies in order to help shaping future policy
Structure of medical device technologies

Chosen technologies
- incontinence pads
- wound care for diabetes patients
- knee (endo-)prosthesis
- ICD
- coronary stents
- endoscope (for e.g. gastroscopy)
- [operating room equipment]
- [imaging devices: X-ray, CT, MRI]

Note: underlined technologies are part of the first part of the project
First research questions

1 General structure of Health Basket (whole health care system of one country)
   1.1 Level of regulation
   1.2 Numbers and types of regulatory regimes
   1.3 Role of central government

2 Definitions of entitlements and benefits for sectors relevant for medical devices
   (HC 1.1 (Inpatient), HC 1.3 (Outpatient), HC 5.2 (goods in outpatient care))
   2.1 Responsible actors
   2.2 Definition of benefits
   2.3 Classification of benefits
   2.4 Involved actors and decision criteria

3 Actual coverage status of selected technologies
   (I: incontinence pads, II: knee endoprostheses, IDCs)

4 Financing aspects concerning “price”
   (goods manufacturer / service provider -> manufacturer)

5 Financing aspects concerning reimbursement
   (including cost-sharing): third-party payer/ patient -> service provider/ goods distributor)

6 Access to technology
   6.1 patient getting technology from …
   6.2 decision makers
Note: the numbers I, II, IIIa and IIIb refer to the technology categories in figure 1
# Bridging research objectives, issues, technologies, countries …

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technology Assessment &amp; Coverage Decisions</th>
<th>Technology A</th>
<th>Technology B</th>
<th>Technology ..</th>
<th>Technology Z</th>
<th>“Medical technologies”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prioritisation: who decides what should be assessed?</td>
<td>Country I, II, III …</td>
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<th>Financing</th>
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<td>Budget-setting &amp; allocation to regions ..., medical technologies</td>
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