

Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Consumer Consultative Committee Communiqué

The HTA Consumer Consultative Committee (the Committee) met on 14 May 2018 in Melbourne. The committee met previously in April, June, August and October, November 2017 and February 2018.

Attendees

Chair: Jo Watson, Deputy Chair: Jan Donovan, consumer representatives from Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC), Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC), Prostheses Listing Advisory Committee (PLAC) and their Sub committees. Department of Health representatives were also in attendance.

Outcomes

The 2018-19 work plan was discussed in detail and developed future consumer outreach projects aiming to engage and educate consumers about how to make meaningful input to health technology assessments for the PBAC, MSAC and PLAC.

The Committee agreed to focus on two key projects in the work plan including:

1. Developing consumer mentoring in HTA; and
2. Developing a HTA Consumer Input Tool with a clear explanation of the process.

The meeting included a follow-up session with IPSOS research about an important project focused on understanding the information needs and the consumer issues in relation to out-of-pocket costs.

The committee held a HTA training workshop the following day for consumer/ patient organisations based in Melbourne. The purpose of the training was to explain how consumer/ patient groups and individuals currently make input into the HTA process. The workshop was designed to be participatory in order to hear from the consumer/patient groups their suggestions on how to improve the process and engage effectively with HTA assessments by PBAC, MSAC and PLAC. This was the third training workshop with consumer /patient groups since the Committee was established.

Next steps

The next meeting is scheduled for 13 August 2018 in Canberra.