

Overview of the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC)

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Chair

MSAC Guidelines Review Technical Reference Group

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Australian Government
Department of Health

www.health.gov.au

Australia's Health System

- Australia's universal health system was introduced in 1984 to provide eligible Australian residents with affordable, accessible and high quality health care.

Medicare comprises:

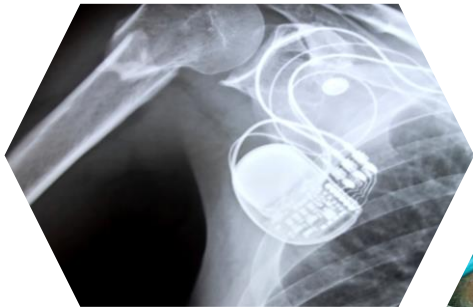
- The Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS)
 - The Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS)
 - The National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA)
- All Australians are entitled to:
 - Benefits for health professional services listed on the MBS
 - Subsidised drugs listed on the PBS
 - Public hospital services jointly funded by the Commonwealth and States/Territories

Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC)

- MSAC was established in 1998
- MSAC provides advice to the Minister for Health on whether a medical services/device or health technology should be publicly funded on the MBS and the conditions of the listing (clinical condition and target population)
- MSAC also appraises health programs (e.g. community pharmacy programs) and other health technologies funded through other public funding sources (e.g. blood products and blood-related products through the National Blood Authority)

Role of MSAC

- Medical services assessed can be therapeutic, investigative or consultative
- Health technologies assessed are broad; genetically engineered cells (e.g. CAR-T cells) and cancer screening



Role of MSAC

- MSAC is a key part of the Australian Health System and is an internationally recognised expert body.
- MSAC works with the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) and the Prostheses List Advisory Committee (PLAC) to consider applications that are co-dependent i.e. health products/technologies that also require these committees to provide their advice to the Minister.
- PBAC recommends new medicines for listing on the PBS, and PLAC advises on the listing of devices on the Prostheses List (and benefits)
- The evaluation of evidence associated with medical services and health technologies are an integral part of the process for the Australian public funding of new medical technologies and services.

Role of MSAC

- Meets regularly 3 times a year – March, July & November – generally 1-2 day meeting
- MSAC's size and composition is determined by the Minister for Health
- MSAC advice is made available publicly on the MSAC website, in the form of Public Summary Documents
- Application information is available on the MSAC website <http://www.msac.gov.au/internet/msac/publishing.nsf/Content/application-page>

Membership of MSAC & Sub-Committees

- MSAC Executive - MSAC may delegate some of its functions to its Executive sub-committee
 - MSAC Chair - Professor Robyn Ward
 - MSAC Deputy Chairs - Professor Tim Davis and Professor Kwun Fong
 - PASC Chair - Professor Andrew Wilson
 - ESC Chair – Professor Kwun Fong
- MSAC and its sub-committees (PASC and ESC) have diverse membership and include experts in pathology, molecular genetics, cardiology, cardiothoracic surgery, general surgery, medical oncology, endocrinology, nuclear medicine, health economics, pharmacy, general practice, public health, epidemiology, and consumer representatives
- The Chairs of PASC and ESC should be a member of MSAC and the MSAC Executive, and members are appointed by the MSAC Executive

MSAC Sub-Committees - PASC

PICO (Population, Intervention, Comparator, Outcome) Advisory Sub-Committee

- PASC oversees the development of the questions for public funding, using the PICO framework
- Specifically PASC looks to:
 - capture current clinical practice and reasonably reflect likely future practice with the proposed new service/technology
 - identify all potentially impacted health outcomes and healthcare resources
 - present and justify the framework for evidence collection during the assessment phase of the MSAC process

MSAC Sub-Committees - ESC

ESC – Evaluation Sub-Committee

- The ESC reviews the clinical evidence and economic assessment presented in an assessment report in detail, and
- Provide advice to MSAC on the quality, validity and relevance of the assessment, highlighting issues that MSAC will need to consider

Further information on MSAC webpage



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Medical Services Advisory Committee

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- Forms Templates & Guidelines
- MSAC Applications
- Utilisation Monitoring Process

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About MSAC Apply for Public Funding Application Status

The Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) is an independent non-statutory committee established by the Australian Government Minister for Health in 1998.

MSAC appraises new medical services proposed for public funding, and provides advice to Government on whether a medical service should be publicly funded.



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Medical Services Advisory Committee

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Medical Services Advisory Committee / MSAC Applications / Application Page

Application Page

Page last updated: 26 March 2020 (this page is generated automatically and reflects updates to other content within the website)

[Application pages in development](#)

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MSAC Applications

ID/Title

[1001 - Advanced breast biopsy instrumentation \(ABBI\)](#)

[1002 - Oto-acoustic emission audiometry](#)

[1003 - OctreoScan® scintigraphy for gastroentero-pancreatic neuroendocrine tumours](#)

[1004 - Transmyocardial laser revascularisation \(TMR\)](#)

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MSAC APPLICATIONS

Application Page

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Basis of MSAC's advice

- MSAC's advice is based on health technology assessment (HTA); using the best available evidence to consider the comparative safety, clinical effectiveness, cost-effectiveness and financial impact of the service or technology
 - Does the service/health technology work? Who is it for?
 - Are there risks/harms?
 - How much does it cost? Is it value for money?
 - Are there any other social, legal ethical impacts?

What is Health Technology Assessment?

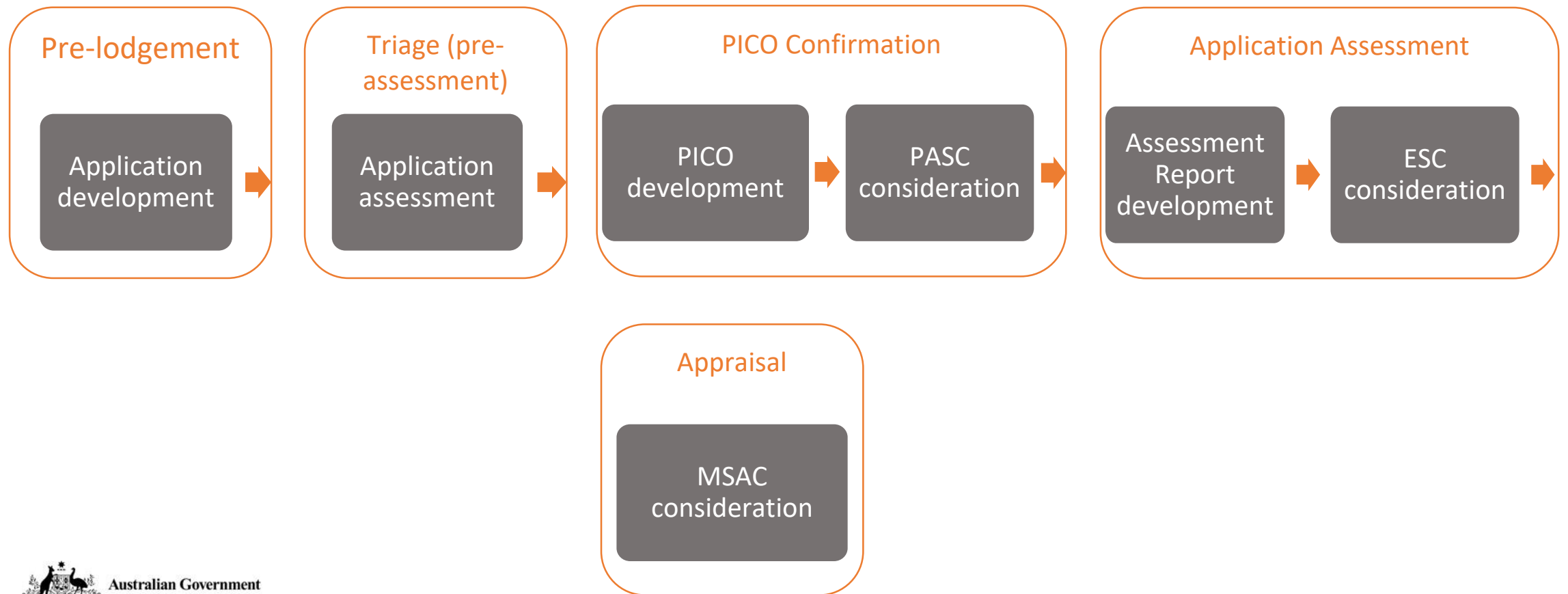
- A process of systematically evaluating the quality, safety, efficacy, effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of health services or technologies using scientifically based evidence and methods to assess
- A **multidisciplinary** process that uses **explicit and scientifically robust methods** to assess the value of using a health technology at different points in its **lifecycle**. The process **is comparative, systematic, transparent** and involves **multiple stakeholders**¹

¹<https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/hta/publishing.nsf/Content/about-1>

Why is Health Technology Assessment important?

- Not every new health technology that comes onto the market, can be supported by the Government.
- HTA informs policy, funding and clinical decisions, and assist with consumer decision-making
- Ultimately HTA aims to direct government funding, in the form of subsidies, to health technologies that are clinically relevant, cost effective and safe

MSAC HTA Process



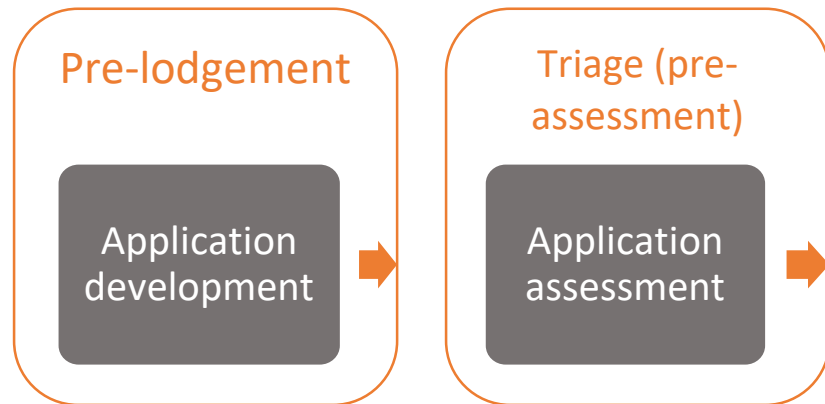
MSAC HTA Process

Pre-lodgement

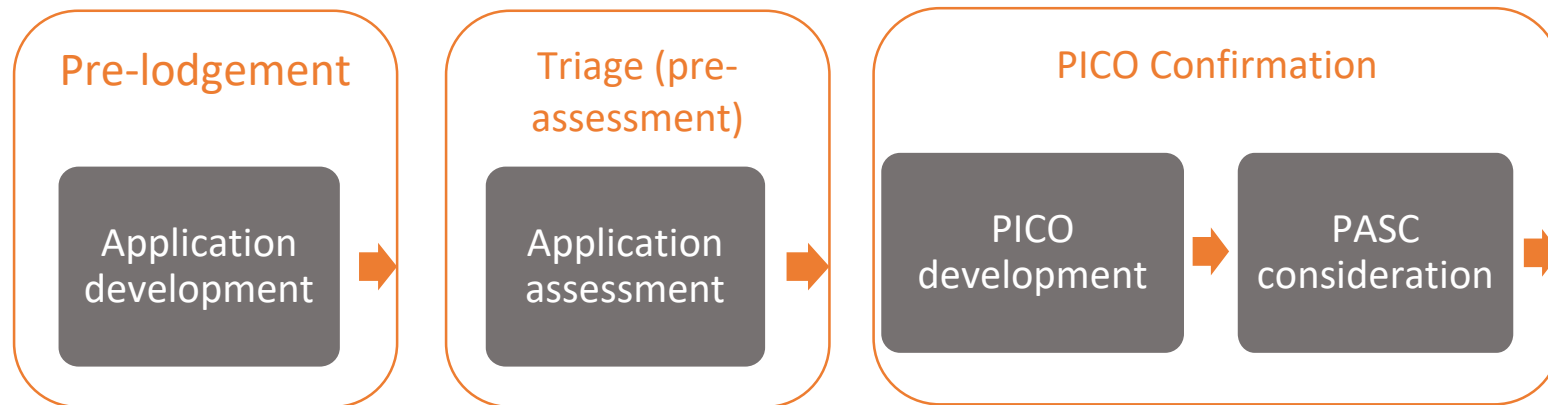
Application
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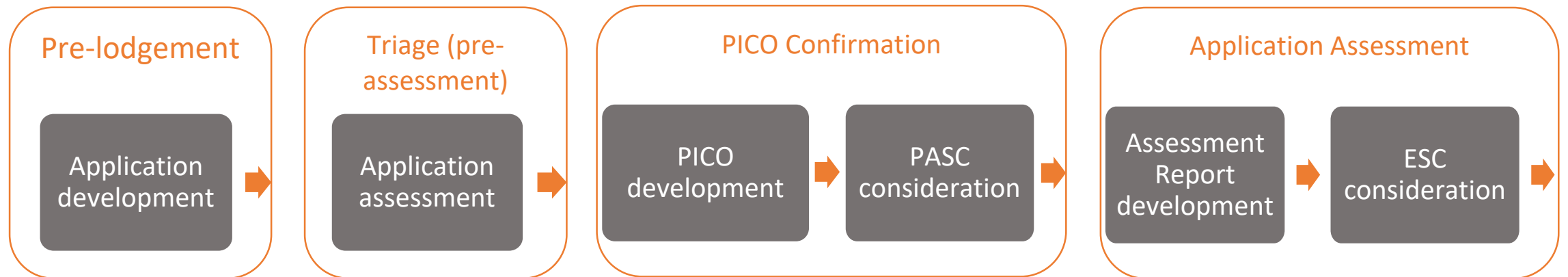
MSAC HTA Process



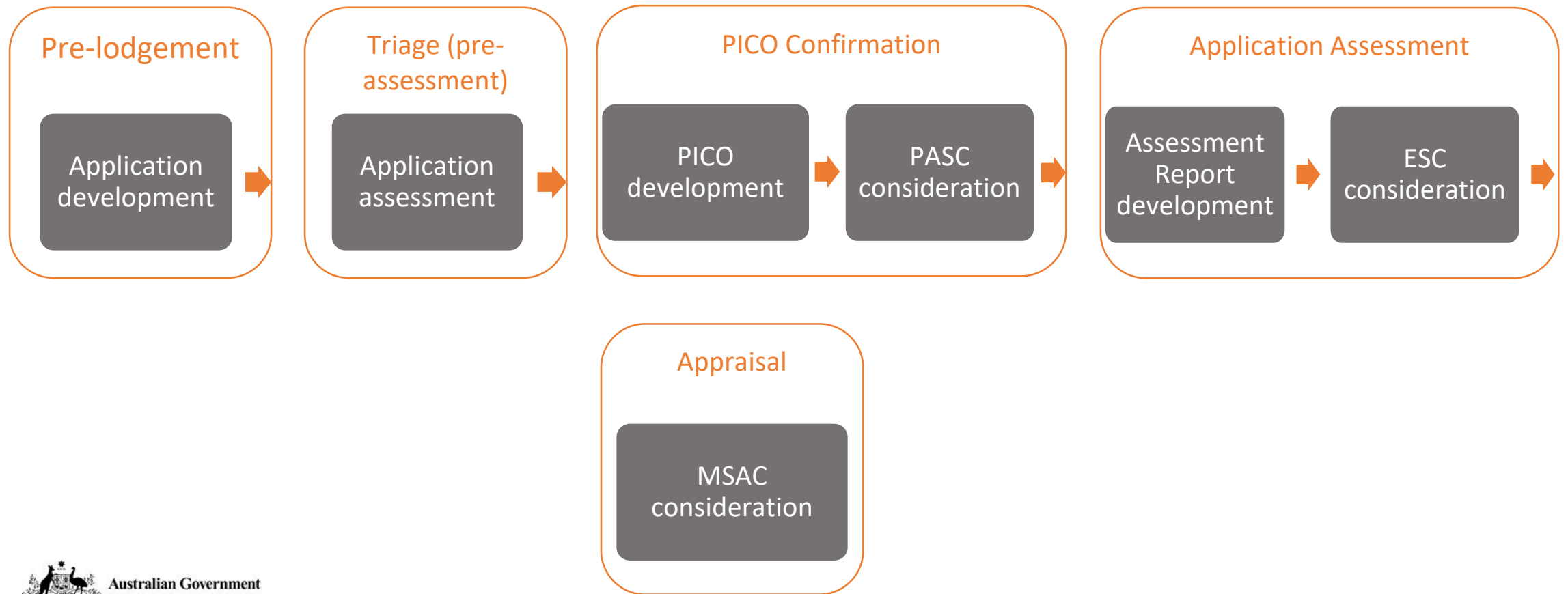
MSAC HTA Process



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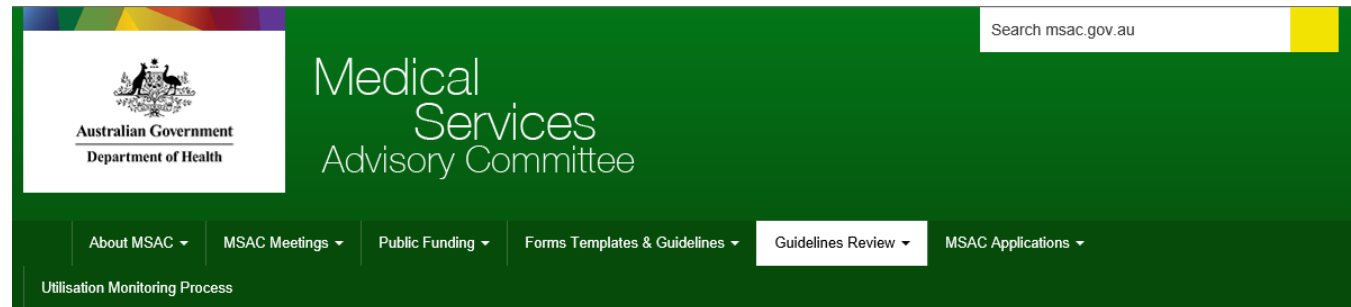
MSAC Guidelines Review

- The MSAC Guidelines provide practical information on how to present evidence to the MSAC and its sub-committees
- Used by applicants and health technology evaluation groups and other interested parties
- A review of the Guidelines has commenced to ensure that the MSAC assessment processes are aligned with best practice
- Invitations for public comment on the draft revised Guidelines and to register for future MSAC Guidelines review webinars will also be issued in the near future

MSAC Guidelines Review

- More information about the Guidelines review can be found:

<http://www.msac.gov.au/internet/msac/publishing.nsf/Content/guidelines-review>



The screenshot shows the top section of the MSAC website. On the left is the Australian Government Department of Health logo. To its right is the text 'Medical Services Advisory Committee'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the header is a dark green navigation bar with several menu items: 'About MSAC', 'MSAC Meetings', 'Public Funding', 'Forms Templates & Guidelines', 'Guidelines Review', and 'MSAC Applications'. Below the navigation bar, the text 'Utilisation Monitoring Process' is visible.

Medical Services Advisory Committee / Guidelines Review /

MSAC Guidelines Review

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Background

The Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) is an independent committee that was established by the Minister for Health in 1998. The committee comprises individuals with expertise in clinical medicine, health economics and consumer matters.

MSAC evaluates medical services, health technologies and health programs proposed for public funding to advise the Minister for Health on whether a medical service, health technology or program should be publically funded, and the circumstances in which it should be funded. Supported by the Evaluation (ESC) and the PICO Advisory (PASC) Sub-committees, MSAC assesses applications based on comparative safety, clinical effectiveness and cost effectiveness and financial impact using best available evidence

The MSAC Guidelines (Therapeutic Guidelines (TG) and Investigative Guidelines (IG)) for preparing Assessment Reports for MSAC and associated

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MSAC's Role and Guidelines Review



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