



ANNUAL REPORT 2018 (September 2017 – August 2018)

EUPHA HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT section (EUPHA-HTA)

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1. Section members

The HTA section currently accounts for 713 members.

The aim of the section is to bring together academicians, researchers, health care professionals and decision makers in order to share knowledge and developing new ideas and projects in the field of HTA applied to Public Health.

2. Participation at the EPH conference 2017 in Stockholm

The HTA section has organized two workshops at the EPH conference in Stockholm. The first regular workshop was titled “The cutting edge of Health Technology Assessment: Information and Communication Technologies” and involved the EUPHA sections on Health service research and Ethics in public health. The second regular workshop was a skill building seminar supported by EUPHANxt titled “Skills building in HTA: how to address the economic impact of public health interventions” and involved the EUPHA section on Public health economics. Both the workshops were highly successful.

3. Participation at the EPH conference 2018 in Ljubljana

The HTA section has submitted two proposals at the upcoming EPH conference in Ljubljana. The first one, submitted as regular workshop, was titled “Prioritization in Public Health: new insights in the frame of Health Technology Assessment” and was accepted for a 90-minute session. The proposal involved also the EUPHA sections on Health service research and Ethics in public health. The second proposal, submitted as a skill building seminar, was titled “The role of qualitative research in the application of HTA to public health interventions” and involved EUPHANxt but was not selected.

Currently the section is working on the proposal of a joined preconference of European collaboration projects.

4. Other activities

The HTA Section has supported EUPHA to release an official statement on the EU Commissions’ Legislative Proposal on HTA in February 2018. The Section has also represented EUPHA at the EUnetHTA Forum 2018, held in Cologne on May 25, 2018.

Furthermore, the Section has provided its feedback to the consultation on the draft background paper about horizon scanning of the HTAi Global Policy Forum 2018. In particular, the Section has highlighted that:

- horizon scanning should involve people who will be the end-user of the technology as the latter is a socio-technical configuration/entity.
- as well as HTA, also horizon scanning should become a iterative process in order to better address obstacles or impediments during the implementation process.
- horizon scanning process and steps could be adopted and adapted for the evaluation of public health interventions because, in most cases, the latter miss “robust” evidence for a definite HTA.

5. Partnerships and collaborations

The HTA section is currently part of the European Committee on Infection Control (EUCIC) Stakeholders board.

The HTA section is also representing EUPHA within the EUnetHTA HTA Stakeholder Pool.

6. Planning and communication

The section has used the EUPHA mailman system for sharing information among members. In particular:

- October 2017 (HTA Section News#15): announcement of the activities being held at the EPH Conference in Stockholm
- November 2017 (HTA Section News#16): sharing of the presentations of the regular workshop on HTA and ICT held at EPH Conference in Stockholm
- November 2017 (HTA Section News#17): sharing of the minutes of the Join the Network of HTA meeting held in Stockholm on November 3rd
- December 2017: forwarding of EUPHA reaction on the Roadmap to strengthen cooperation against vaccine preventable diseases
- January 2018 (HTA Section News#18): launch of the survey on topics of interest for the next EPH conference and sharing of the annual report 2017
- February 2018: forwarding of the announcement about the lunch-to-lunch meeting 'Bringing public health, social care and urbanity back in – health governance beyond policy subsystems'
- February 2018: forwarding of the announcement of the symposium “Towards a Harmonised Health Technology Assessment Framework: Exploring the Potential Impact on Quality of Care in the EU”
- April 2018: reminder of the deadline for the submission of abstracts and workshops at the EPH Conference in Ljubljana
- June 2018: launch of the TO-REACH online consultation
- June 2018 (HTA Section News#19): announcement of the workshop titled “Prioritization in Public Health: new insights in the frame of Health Technology Assessment” at the EPH Conference in Ljubljana and request of interest in chairing sessions