



## Minutes Join the network meeting 16 October 2020, 13:15-14:15

### EUPHA section on HTA (EUPHA-HTA)

#### Welcome and participants

The President of the section, Carlo Favaretti, welcomed everybody and introduced the agenda of the meeting. Fourteen people joined the meeting, in addition to the President and the incoming President and Vice-President (VP).

#### Agenda

- Annual report 2020
- New strategic plan
- Proposals/ideas
- AOB

#### Minutes of the meeting

The President opened the work providing the updated number of members – 1177 - and reminding attendees the mission of the Section.

He then informed attendees that his term to office was coming to its conclusion and that, following the election process conducted during the past summer, two candidates were identified: Chiara de Waure, the current VP, and Elena Petelos, currently a member of the Steering Committee (SC) of the Section. He explained that after an internal consultation an agreement was reached between the two candidates for Chiara de Waure to assume the role of the President and Elena Petelos that of the VP. He congratulated them and handed over to Elena Petelos for the nominations for the new SC. Elena Petelos introduced each member of the SC (and extended the apologies of Sarah Garner).

- **Chiara Cadeddu (CC)** - from the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Rome, Italy
- **Silvia Evers (SE)** - from the Creating Value-Based Health Care/Health Services Research, CAPHRI Care and Public Health Research Institute, FHML, Maastricht University, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- **Carlo Favaretti (CF)** - from the Centre for Leadership in Medicine, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Rome and Past President of the EUPHA-HTA Section, Italy
- **Sarah Garner (SG)** - from the Health Products and Pharmaceuticals, WHO EURO, Denmark
- **Iñaki Gutiérrez-Ibarluzea (IGI)** - from the Basque Foundation for Health Innovation and Research and President HTAi, and former VP of EUPHA-HTA Section, Spain
- **Panos Kanavos (PK)** - from the Department of Health Policy, London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom
- **Dimitra Panteli (DP)** - from the European Observatory Health Systems and Policies, Belgium
- **Sophie Söderholm Werkö (SSW)** – from the Swedish Council on HTA, Sweden



Carlo Favaretti briefly mentioned panel and workshop activities over the two previous years, i.e.: those (co)organized by the Section at the EPH conference 2019 in Marseille (two workshops entitled *"It is time for timeliness in Health Technology Assessment"* and *"Real world data: are we ready to take up the challenge?"*) and at the WCPH 2020 (one round table organized by EUPHA HTA and HTAi entitled *"Fair processes and fair pricing: examining deliberative processes and the role of HTA for UHC"* and two workshops entitled *"Bringing evidence during Public Health Emergencies: addressing the challenge through HTA"* (organized by EUPHA-IDC and EUPHA-HTA) and *"Assessment, regulation and use of apps for health management: where we are and where we are going"* (organized by EUPHA-HTA and EUPHA-DH)).

He briefly highlighted policy activities of the Section over the previous year:

- Stakeholder consultation on recommendations for 'Health Care Professional Involvement in Relative Effectiveness Assessments' prepared by the members of the EUnetHTA Task Group for Patient & Consumer/Health Care Professional Involvement;
- EU Consultation Statements on Cancer Plan and Pharmaceutical Policy;
- Contribution to the 2020 European Public Health Week key messages on the topics "Primary health care in the digital age" and "Grow old, grow healthy";
- Survey on conditions and actions to foster the application of HTA in Public Health for the development of a roadmap on the topic by the EUPHA-HTA section;
- Participation in the main panel of the EUnetHTA meeting on Unmet Medical Need (representation by Elena Petelos) in the 2019 resulting in a Paper capturing the activities of EUnetHTA: Tafuri et al. The fourth edition of the European Network for Health Technology Assessment Forum: highlights and outcomes *Int J Technol Assess Health Care*. 2020 Jun;36(3):191-196. doi: 10.1017/S0266462320000185. Epub 2020 Apr 22. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32317039/>.

He also reminded attendees that the Section is part of the European Committee on Infection Control (EUCIC) Stakeholders Board and represents EUPHA in the EUnetHTA HTA Stakeholder Pool. The Section also represents EUPHA in the European Commission's HTA Network Stakeholder Pool HCP Pillar.

He handed over to Chiara de Waure to show the new strategic plan of the Section.

Chiara de Waure spoke about envisioned new activities of the Section in the framework of the three A, namely analysis, advocacy and action, of the 2020-2025 EUPHA strategy and she specifically proposed to pursue the following goals within each A:

- **Analysis**
  - Translation of evidence into policy
  - Actions on gaps in data and information
- **Advocacy**
  - Monitoring the policy process
  - Actively informing policy agendas



- Skills-building in communication with policymakers and politicians
- **Action**
  - Support public health and health professionals ‘on the ground’
  - Connection with members
  - Partnership

Chiara de Waure then opened the debate asking attendees to make their contribution with ideas and proposals also in respect to possible topics for workshops and pre-conference for the next EPH conference. A brief discussion followed with Elena Petelos and Carlo Favaretti asking the new SC members to briefly describe also their expertise and interests.

The following interesting topics/possibilities were discussed: promotion of activities on information and communication technologies, incl. the role of apps (mentioning the recent workshop with the contribution of DP), highlighted by IGI. The VP Elect highlighted the first workshop with the European Federation of Medical Informatics during the WCPH2020. The evaluation of the impact of HTA assessment on policy and practice was common ground of interest for all, whereas the establishment of sound governance and methodology to promote citizen and patient engagement in the HTA process was highlighted by SSW, incl. the element of public consultations, and the importance of representativeness. PK emphasised the methodological perspective, incl. for public health technologies. The VP Elect highlighted the fact the EUPHA-HTA Section had brought for the first time a patient representative in round table discussions at the WCPH2020, and the willingness of European Cancer Patient Coalition and European Patient Forum to collaborate. Furthermore, the assessment of the role of HTA in the COVID-19 pandemic was discussed as suggested by CC; IGI highlighted the intention of reinforcing the already established link between EUPHA and HTAi, potentially focusing on high-priority topics such as vaccines, public health interventions and medical devices, from the regulation perspective.

The President Elect and the VP Elect proposed to have a meeting with the SC within two months of the WCPH2020 to establish goals and activities for the next year.

Carlo Favaretti closed the meeting thanking all attendees and extending his well wishes to the incoming President and VP.