

Fact Sheet: Qualitative Values Framework



The Review recommends development of an explicit qualitative values framework. This will increase visibility and transparency of factors involved in HTA Committee decision making.

The HTA Review acknowledges that more explicit guidance is needed on how elements beyond clinical effectiveness, cost effectiveness and financial impact are being considered by HTA advisory committees and what impact they have on decision-making.

These broader elements include patient and consumer input, equity, clinical need, severity, value of knowing prognosis or diagnosis, public health issues and other relevant considerations.

Absence of guidance to HTA Committees has created uncertainty about the influence that wider elements have on decision-making.

The use of an explicit value framework will embed a patient-centric approach and provide greater confidence that committees are considering factors that are of value to both patients and society.

The HTA Review recommends development of a values framework in consultation with stakeholders (Recommendation 26).

The framework should:

- Provide explicit guidance about the elements (beyond clinical and cost effectiveness and financial impact) that the committee will consider, how they will consider them and what impact they have on decision making.
- Ensure consideration of the value elements is explicit and transparently communicated in Public Summary Documents
- Include documentation on how the framework will be considered and guidance explaining how sponsors can provide data, and how patients can provide submissions to respond to additional value elements.
- Include a checklist to assist HTA decision makers integrate equity considerations into their deliberations in a more comprehensive and systematic way.

The values framework is crucial in ensuring that Australia's HTA system delivers on society's needs and preferences for medicines. Non-health benefits such as productivity, caregiver benefits, and equity of access are clearly valued by patients and society. Appropriate value recognition of medicines can only be achieved by accounting for a broader and more holistic range of value elements.

Medicines Australia will strongly advocate for co-design of the framework and that work can start immediately.