Integrated health technology assessment for evaluating complex technologies

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Background

Global increases in life limiting illnesses have led to an increasing commitment to complex technologies such as palliative care. Contemporary HTA is not yet adequately equipped to assess complex technologies.

Project aim

To bridge the existing gaps in HTA methodology by developing concepts and methods for a comprehensive, patient-centred and integrated assessment of complex technologies.

Overview of the project

Methods development

- Integrating the different issues
  - Assess different issues of complex technologies
  - Method to include context & organisational issues
  - Method to stratify patients into groups

Testing methods

- Case study Palliative Care

Translation into broader application

Planning final outputs (end of 2015)

- Methodological guidances for HTA of complex technologies that enable the assessment and integration of:
  - Effectiveness, social-cultural, ethical, economic, and legal issues;
  - patient preferences and patient-specific moderators of treatment; and
  - context, setting, and implementation.

- A ‘Demonstration Integrated HTA’ on palliative care to report on the findings from testing the new HTA methods developed in the project.

Interim results

- Draft guidances for assessing the effectiveness, social-cultural, ethical, economic and legal issues regarding complex technologies are currently being developed and tested.

- Logic models templates are developed to provide a concise graphical overview of the complex components of palliative care.

- Stakeholder advisory panels (SAPs) involving e.g. patients, carers, researchers and health professionals have been established in all partner countries (England, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands and Norway) as well as in Poland and Lithuania.

- The SAPs have contributed to the scope diagram and their advice will be integrated into the assessment of palliative care.

- Search filters to retrieve studies on moderators of treatment outcome and patient preferences for treatment outcome have been developed.

- Guidance on the critical appraisal of studies on moderators of treatment outcome and the retrieval of patient preferences for treatment outcome was drafted.

- A systematic review about integrative methods in HTA is currently being conducted.

- An INTEGRATE-HTA process model that links the inputs and outputs of the developed methodologies is currently being tested and iteratively improved in the case study on palliative care.

- An external expert panel involving international methodological experts and potential users has been established to test the applicability and relevance of the tools and methodologies for broader application.

For more information / project outputs please contact kati.mozygemba@uni-bremen.de or visit www.integrate-HTA.eu