Health Technology Assessment of innovative medical devices

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What is technology?

«the systematic application of scientific and other organized knowledge to practical tasks»

When we talk about technology, we do not only refer to devices or machines, but the way we address and resolve problems.

“It is the knowledge of how to combine resources to produce desired products, to solve problems, fulfill needs, or satisfy wants; it includes technical methods, skills, processes, techniques, tools and raw materials.”
Health Technology Assessment

- [HTA] is a multidisciplinary field of policy analysis. It studies the medical, social, ethical, and economic implications of development, diffusion, and use of health technology.

(International Network of Agencies for Health Technology Assessment 2002).
HTA and how it is seen
Daddy which was first...?
The problem or the solution?
In real life...?
Efficiency and practicality depend on...
In real life...?

- Who drives the car
- How the roads are
- When we drive the car (timetable)
- How much money we have
- Infrastructure of energy suppliers
- Ethical issues (climate change,...)
- Legal issues
But...technology fascination

• By color
• By design
• By affordability
• Fashion
• Brand
• ..
Should we admit this for health care systems?

- We are doing
- We introduce oversofisticated technologies
- Not required technologies
- Fashion technologies
- Not adapted to our problems
In the case of medical devices

- Egg is first
- Technology (possible solutions go before problems)
- What is more, ... many problems don’t know there are solutions
- Most technologies have been designed for other sectors and they are applied on health
Differences to drugs

**Drugs**
- They are person dependent
- They are society dependent
- They are benefits dependent
  - On health
  - Economic
- They aim to treat or manage
- Most of the outcomes theoretically achieved are final

**Medical Devices**
- They are person dependent
- They are society, health care system, health professionals, managers, engineers, physicists,...
- They are progress dependent
- They aim to treat, diagnose, prevent, prognose,...
- In many cases outcomes are intermediate
How are decisions taken on medical devices?

- Relevance. Utility
- Reliability. Internal Validity
- Transferability. External validity
- Affordability. Capacity
- EBM- Eminence Based Medicine
- FBM- Fascination Based Medicine
- IBM- Insistence Based Medicine
- MBM- Mass Media Based Medicine
- LBM- Last to arrive, first to serve Based Medicine
What to do?

- Inform, inform, inform
- Everyone should be aware of the available information at any stage of the process
- On understandable words for anyone
- On time...
Buxton’s law

“It’s always too early until, unfortunately, it’s suddenly too late!”

Martin Buxton, 1987

• Too early and it can happen that there is no information to take a decision
• Too late and the decision is already taken
How to inform?

• Early advice (anticipating the problem)
• Information for prioritisation of technologies to assess
• Information for decisions on technologies to cover health needs (problems)

• Does make sense?
• Could the technology provide a value and deserves analysis?
• Is that value of sufficient magnitude to provide
Early advice

• Does it address a real problem or need?
• Is that problem or need in our context or in other contexts?
• Will that change the patient management paradigm and in which context?
• Which are the requirements for market authorisation?
• Which will be the evidence needs for prescription or provision?
Information for prioritisation
Information for decisions

Resección Mucosa Endoscópica (RME) y Disección Submucosa Endoscópica (DSE) en cánnceres gastrointestinales superficiales

Informes de Evaluación de Tecnologías Sanitarias.

Horizon Scanning Research & Intelligence Centre

New and emerging technologies for hearing loss

March 2017
The international information network on new and emerging health technologies

“A collaborative network of member agencies for the exchange of information on important emerging new drugs, devices, procedures, processes, and settings in health care”
More...

You have Questions  We have Answers

Q&A