

Selection Of Non-Drug Medical Technologies For Evaluation In Singapore

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INTRODUCTION

- The demand for health technology assessment (HTA) generally far exceeds resources available
- Topic selection are often applied to prioritise topics for evaluation

OBJECTIVE

- To outline ACE's approach to select non-drug medical technology topics for HTA to inform subsidy decisions

METHOD

- Topic selection process
 - Step 1: Annual applications received from public healthcare institutions (PHIs)
 - Step 2: Eligibility check (Table 1)
 - Step 3: A checklist to generate need score
 - Step 4: Need score plotted against budget impact
 - Step 5: Medical Technology Advisory Committee (MTAC) selects final topics
- The checklist covers the following criteria:
 - ✓ Overall disease burden
 - ✓ Clinical benefits
 - ✓ Organisational feasibility
 - ✓ International subsidy status
- Technologies with a high need and significant budget impact to the system are prioritized
- MTAC selects final topics where HTA is likely to have significant impacts on its subsidy decision

RESULTS

- Forty-six applications were received in 2017
- After filtering, 38 topics remained (Figure 1)
- After MTAC's deliberation, 17 topics were selected to inform ACE's non-drug medical technology HTA work plan in 2018 (Figure 2)

Table 1. Medical technology application eligibility criteria

Eligibility	Detail
Inclusion criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any medical technology seeking subsidy which has been registered or licensed with regulatory bodies
Exclusion criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technologies that are still in the research stage of development ▪ Models of care (i.e. the way health services are delivered, which outlines best practice of care and services for the patient cohort as they progress through the stages of a condition) ▪ IT systems (e.g. Automated systems to reduce waiting time at outpatient pharmacy) ▪ Vaccines ▪ Screening tests ▪ Implants that are currently considered by their specialised subcommittees

Annual Application Cycle

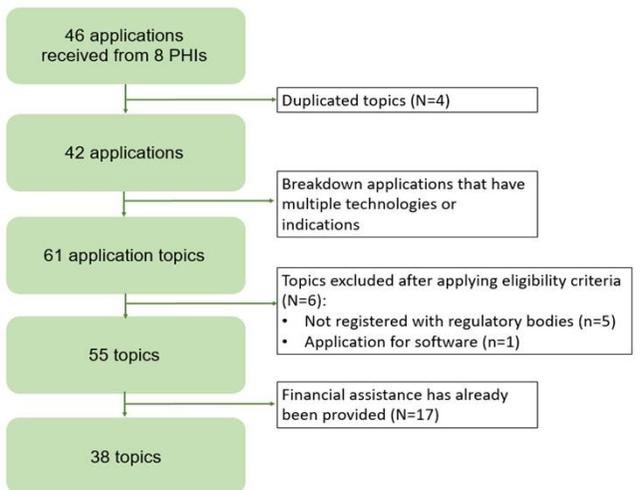


Figure 1. Flowchart depicting topics filtering process

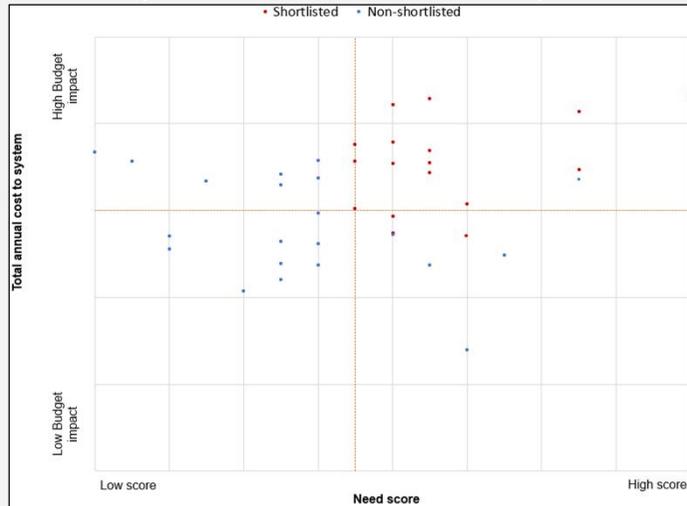


Figure 2. Scatterplot of total annual cost to system versus need scores for the 38 topics

CONCLUSION

- A topic selection process for non-drug medical technologies has been developed in Singapore
- This process is important to better direct limited resources to evaluate medical technologies that truly need HTA to assist policy decision-making
- This process will be modified overtime as stakeholder needs change