

The Reality of Market Access in Europe: the role of Health Technology Assessment

<https://marketpublishers.com/r/R7CB03DE610EN.html>

Date: March 2014

Pages: 82

Price: US\$ 595.00 (Single User License)

ID: R7CB03DE610EN

Abstracts

Faced with slipping or negligible GDP growth and an economic crisis, Eurozone countries are drilling down into healthcare budgets as a means of controlling expenditure.

From price cuts, tighter reimbursement criteria and greater patient co-payments to the wider use of generics and manufacturer risk-sharing agreements, the largest markets are examining ways to balance the public good with fiscal goals.

Set against that background is Health Technology Assessment (HTA). Widely used as part of the pricing and reimbursement process in Europe, HTA is nevertheless still in the early stages of being coordinated into a system across Europe.

In *The Reality of Market Access in Europe: the role of Health Technology Assessment*, FirstWord skilfully addresses the issues surrounding HTA, both for its potential to rationalise treatment on economic grounds and as a means to assess the cost effectiveness of new products. Focused on the agencies, procedures and approaches of HTA in the six largest EU markets, the report provides a coherent and current overview of pricing and reimbursement, controversies over issues like rule-making and individual product cases, and what the future of HTA will look like.

Key Benefits

Attitudes to drug reimbursement have been shaped by economics. In *The Reality of Market Access in Europe: the role of Health Technology Assessment*, you will:

Understand how economic uncertainties are affecting pharmaceutical

reimbursement spending

Gain insight into how HTA has become more formalised and transparent in recent years

Know which countries have the most advanced HTA systems and why

Understand how HTA can provide a more certain route to market, and raise the bar for new drugs entering the market

Filled with compelling and important insights into an evolving market, the report offers:

Up-to-date charts and figures, translated European sources and insights into the HTA process

A look at different approaches—and outcomes—in the top six EU markets

Insight on how HTA affects market access for new drugs, and the additional information HTA agencies demand

Insight into moves to co-ordinate HTA approaches across the EU

Discussion of how health budgets are affected by the EU's current economic reality

Key Questions Answered

How have national attitudes towards drug reimbursement been shaped by economic realities?

Which countries have the most advanced HTA systems and which countries are following the lead?

How have HTA reforms created market hurdles?

What changes in information provision now affect manufacturers?

How can HTA increase access to new drugs?

How have coordinating moves at EU level affected the conduct of the HTA process?

Key facts

Despite worsening economic circumstances, health spending accounts for a greater proportion of the GDP in France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom than in 2009.

Expensive medicines are more widely distributed in European countries, along with specific high-cost therapy areas such as cancer.

Although established in 2006, the EUnetHTA is still in the early stages of harmonising HTA approaches across the Eurozone.

Content Highlights

Pharmaceutical manufacturers are increasingly faced with changing rules and practices on reimbursement. In this report, you will discover:

The role of the key governing agencies and how they operate in six key European markets

How the downward pressure of cost containment is being met with the upward push from patient groups for the latest products

The most up-to-date and expertly translated charts and data

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