

Lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic and future of HTA collaboration at EU level

9 September 2020, 15:00-17:00,
Online Event

AGENDA	
15:00-15:10	<p>Welcome address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Dimitrios Athanasiou</i>, EPF – European Patients’ Forum
15:10-15:40	<p>Status of legislative proposal on HTA collaboration at EU level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Valentina Strammiello</i>, EPF - European Patients’ Forum <p>EUnetHTA response to COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Marcus Guardian</i>, EUnetHTA Chief Operating Officer <p>Overcoming technical challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Matteo Scarabelli</i>, EURORDIS - Rare Disease Europe
15:40-16:40	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Flora Giorgio</i>, DG SANTE, European Commission <i>Tiemo Wölken MEP</i>, HTA rapporteur, European Parliament <i>Ortwin Schulte</i>, German Health Attaché (EU Presidency) <i>Russell Wheeler</i>, patient representative, LHON Society <p>Q&A</p>
16:40-17:00	<p>Concluding remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Dimitrios Athanasiou</i>, EPF <i>Valentina Strammiello</i>, EPF

Background information

On 7 April 2014, at the second meeting of the HTA Network, Paola Testori Coggi, Director General DG SANCO, presented the European Commission strategic vision for a sustainable European cooperation in health technology assessment, inviting Member States to propose a long-term approach, stressing “the importance of turning the European cooperation between HTA Agencies from a project-based initiative into a permanent mechanism of cooperation”.

Since then, the Commission consulted Member States and all stakeholders on possible future scenarios, and as a result, a proposal for a Regulation on HTA Cooperation was proposed to the European Parliament (largely adopted in October 2018).

As we are approaching a new phase in the **COVID-19 crisis**, twenty-one months since the adoption by the European Parliament, and after the Council and its working group met on several occasions, the European Union is considering a more ambitious health policy than previously foreseen for the upcoming MFF, through the EU4Health programme and other initiatives. In this context, the Proposal for a Regulation on **European Cooperation in Health Technology Assessment** is very timely: European patients and citizens count on and national policy makers to make significant progress towards discussions with the Commission and the Parliament, for a rapid adoption.

However, discussions on the proposal seem to face **technical barriers**.

Patients understand the concerns expressed by some Member States, but also considers that **such barriers can now be overcome**.

European citizens realise their health relies on a **transparent, high quality and effective EU cooperation**. In that sense, we consider that an agreement on the HTA regulation is not just only urgent, but also possible.

On **9 September, 15:00-17:00**, the European Patients’ Forum (EPF), EURORDIS and MEP Tiemo Wölken are co-hosting an online event to relaunch a constructive debate and boost HTA cooperation at European level to effectively respond to the needs of national health systems and patients across Europe, in the context of COVID-19 response and beyond. Participation will be open to the public upon [registration](#) by **September 8th**.