



# HTA PROGRESS IN UKRAINE 2019 – 2021



## OVERVIEW

Establishing a Health Technology Assessment (HTA) function in Ukraine has been a top priority to ensure evidence-based health care policy making and to help decision makers select health technologies that provide the best value for the health care system. The HTA Department was established under the State Expert Center in January 2019, and the CMU decree on HTA, which mandates HTA for all medicines under public coverage, was approved in December 2020. To celebrate the third anniversary of the integration of HTA into the Ukrainian health care system, the USAID Safe, Affordable, and Effective Medicines (SAFEMed) for Ukrainians Activity conducted interviews with a diverse group of stakeholders, and the analysis was shared in a roundtable on December 13, 2021. The highlights of findings from this analysis, which shows HTA progress in Ukraine in its first three years, are presented below.

## OBJECTIVES

*This study aimed to:*

- Receive feedback and opinions from a diverse group of stakeholders on how HTA evolved in Ukraine, steps taken, stakeholders involved, methodologies used, legislation developed, and impact observed.
- Provide evidence on stakeholder perceptions of HTA progress in Ukraine.
- Identify what is working well, what could be improved, and the way forward.

## METHODOLOGY

- In November and December 2021, SAFEMed conducted qualitative research on the progress of HTA implementation in Ukraine through interviews with key HTA stakeholders.
- Based on stakeholder mapping, we identified 21 respondents from both the public and private sectors, 18 of whom were able to participate in interviews ranging from 40 to 90 minutes. Each interview comprised 18 questions on the general, legal, and technical aspects of HTA.
- SAFEMed analyzed the results of the interviews and presented the main findings in a report.

## RESULTS

- HTA implementation in Ukraine has exceeded expectations in terms of both time and quality.
- There is overall satisfaction with the technical capacity, methods, processes, legal framework, and stakeholder engagement.

# 100%

HTA IMPLEMENTATION IN UKRAINE OVERALL SATISFACTION RATE

*(but with some suggestions to improve)*

However, there are still key steps that require further attention to enhance the use of HTA as the basis for evidence-based decision making:

- Further emphasis should be given to the ecosystem to connect HTA to decision making and close the gaps in overall processes
- Independency and transparency should be assured
- Connected topics such as pricing policy and priority setting have to be considered as critical priorities
- Ukraine's HTA capacity should be further strengthened by high-level experts within HTA as well as local trainers

## DEVELOPMENT OF THE HTA FUNCTION IN UKRAINE

### January – June 2019

- HTA Department established at the State Expert Center
- Director of HTA Department appointed and 29 experts employed at the HTA Department
- First national HTA forum conducted
- HTA roadmap developed

### January – June 2020

- Evidence summaries developed
- HTA webinar series HTA Around the Globe launched

### January – June 2021

- HTA roadmap V2.0 developed, and implementation started
- Capacity-building activities (two HTA roundtables and HTA webinar series 2.0) conducted
- Options analysis for pricing strategy in Ukraine developed HTA guideline for medicines approved by Ministry of Health order
- Seven medicines included in the benefit packages by NHSU through expansion of the national essential medicines list following the new HTA decree
- Positive list concept approved

### What may be in the Ukrainian HTA agenda: 2022 and beyond

- Independent HTA agency concept and HTA roadmap for nonmedicines
- HTA for non medicines
- Clarification of the appraisal and decisionmaking processes
- HTA-Decision Making-MEA connections clarified
- More capacity building for doers, users, and trainers
- More attention to engagement of stakeholders, including patients
- Piloting of HB HTA
- More focus on the whole ecosystem

### July – December 2019

- HTA communication strategy developed
- HTA approach used to select medicines for four benefits packages (stroke, myocardial infarction, childbirth and neonatal care)
- HTA used for 2020 nomenclature

### July – December 2020

- Second national HTA forum conducted
- HTAi regional meeting held in Ukraine
- Positive list concept developed
- Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine decree on state HTA procedure drafted and approved

### July – December 2021

- Third national HTA forum conducted
- Webinar on Hospital Based (HB) HTA conducted
- HTA progress assessed/roundtable conducted
- HTA orders drafts were submitted for approval
- Essential medicines list expanded
- HTA conclusions released
- Managed Entry Agreements (MEA) process initiated
- Positive list template developed

Learn more at [msh.org/projects/safe-affordable-and-effective-medicines-for-ukrainians/](https://msh.org/projects/safe-affordable-and-effective-medicines-for-ukrainians/)

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