



Introduction

Health Technology Assessment (HTA) bodies evaluate the clinical and economic impact of new healthcare interventions to inform decisions on their pricing and reimbursement.

The 2020 global pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has produced unprecedented challenges to the normal pricing and reimbursement activities of HTA bodies.

This research evaluates the impact of COVID-19 across several major HTA bodies.

Results

HTA	1 st HTA	Total HTAs	Average HTAs per year			
			All years	Since 2010	Since 2015	In 2020
NICE (England)	2006 (STA)	506	33.8	42.5	58.6	35
SMC (Scotland)	2002	1604	84.4	90.7	99.0	65
IQWiG (Germany)	2011	424	42.4	42.4	52.0	76
CADTH (Canada)	2004	528	31.1	35.5	41.0	26

Research aims and methodology

Methods

Publicly-available HTA reports were identified, and key information extracted

Scope

For the HTA bodies in Germany (IQWiG), England (NICE), Scotland (SMC), & Canada (CADTH)

Dates

From 01-JAN-2000
To 29-DEC-2020
(inclusive)

Conclusion

Unsurprisingly, many HTA bodies have reduced the number of drug recommendations in 2020 compared to recent years, as they have had to reprioritize resource and deal with other COVID-related challenges.

How HTA bodies respond to deal with the inevitable backlog will prove interesting.

COVID-19 will also have impacted many clinical trials and delayed their completion thus extending timelines to launch, which may alleviate some of this pressure.