

JESF 2017 (Marseille) – résumé

JESF4: Most important barriers and facilitators of HTA usage in decision-making in Europe

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Background: To enhance usage of health technology assessment in decision-making, it is important to identify and prioritise important barriers and facilitators to the uptake of HTA. This study aims to quantify and compare the relative importance of barriers and facilitators regarding the use of HTA in several European countries.

Methods: A survey containing two BWS object case studies (i.e. barriers and facilitators) were conducted among 136 policy makers and HTA experts from the Netherlands, Germany, France, and United Kingdom. 22 barriers and 19 facilitators were included in the survey. Hierarchical Bayes estimation was used to generate the mean relative importance score (RIS) for each factor and subgroup analyses were conducted to assess differences between countries.

Findings: Six barriers (RIS \geq 5) and five facilitators (RIS \geq 6) were deemed highly important. Subgroup analyses revealed that nine barriers and 11 facilitators differed in their importance between countries. Policy characteristics, research and researcher characteristics, and organisation and resources were found to be particularly important to facilitate uptake of HTA.

Discussion: For all countries it is crucial to create an explicit framework for the decision-making context to include HTA evidence. Country differences in the quality of research emphasize the need for enhanced international collaboration in HTA, which in turn may increase e.g. high-quality HTA information.