

CONCLUSIONS:

Stakeholders supported the need for peer review in evaluating funding applications. Our results suggest that four to six peer reviews per application is optimum, depending on the expertise needed to complement that of advisory boards.

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OP123 Translating Evidence To Action – The Role Of Health Research Funders

AUTHORS:

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INTRODUCTION:

National health research funders are accountable to the public with regard to the societal impact of the research, including health technology assessment (HTA), that they fund. Failing to do so can not only negatively affect public trust in the allocation of resources to funding agencies, but can also lead to public mistrust in science.

METHODS:

We present the results of reducing research waste to ensure societal responsible research, both at an international and national level. In the Netherlands, the National Organization for Health Research and Development (ZonMw) developed an analytical framework to assess its research programs, including the national HTA program.

RESULTS:

An evaluation of 12 national funding agencies in Australia, Europe and North America demonstrated that certain processes (e.g. how research questions are prioritized or decided) are not transparent. At the international level, health funders believe that they have a joint responsibility not just to seek to advance knowledge, but also to advance the practices of health-related research and research funding. In the Netherlands, ZonMw (HTA) research programs perform well regarding addressing societal relevance (e.g. stakeholder participation) and reasonably well on scientific quality (e.g. international cooperation and knowledge sharing). Efficiency (e.g. encouraging use of existing data and systematic reviews) appears to be less well developed, while integrity (e.g. preventing publication bias) is underexposed.

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CONCLUSIONS:

Although ZonMw is doing reasonably well in terms of reducing research waste, it was concluded that more focus on societal impact assessment is needed. To do so funding agencies need to collaborate with all relevant stakeholders. This is especially relevant in the field of HTA where the ambition is to move from evidence to impact.

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OP124 Research Gaps In Health Technology Assessment In Brazil

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INTRODUCTION:

In 2017 the Brazilian Ministry of Health (BMH), through the Department of Science and Technology (DECIT) and in partnership with the Hospital Alemão Oswaldo Cruz (HAOC), financially supported research activities focused on health technology assessment (HTA) on topics deemed important by the BMH. The aim was to help resolve the priority health problems of the Brazilian population and to strengthen the management of the Unified Health System, within the scope of HTA.

METHODS:

A survey of HTA research needs was carried out in all BMH sectors through internal meetings conducted by representatives from each of the sectors. The problems and needs were then discussed, prioritized, and transformed into research lines in a workshop sponsored jointly by DECIT and the HAOC. Following this, a specific public call was made to the HTA community to comment on the prioritized research lines. The submitted research projects were then judged and selected by a committee of experts in the field. The approved projects were contracted, and when the projects were completed the results were presented and discussed by the researchers in a final seminar for representatives of the BMH technical areas.

RESULTS:

A total of 135 research gaps were identified, of which forty-two lines of research were included in the research

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