



सत्यमेव जयते
Department of Health Research
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Government of India



International Symposium on Health Technology Assessment: ISHTA 2025

*Bridging Evidence to Policy: Health Technology Assessment for
Affordable Healthcare*

**Department of Health Research
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
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Date: 8th-9th March, 2025

Venue - Bharat Mandapam- Multipurpose Hall

Introduction

(a) India being a signatory and participating state of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has started taking measures to attain the targets laid out within the SDG framework and achieving the Universal Health Coverage (UHC). National Health Policy (NHP) has been laid in India and one of the objectives and commitments of the NHP -2017 is the development of institutional framework and capacity for Health Technology Assessment (HTA) and adoption. Department of Health Research, MoHFW initiated a pilot programme on Health technology Assessment (HTA) in April 2017 for evaluation of appropriateness and cost effectiveness of both existing and new health technologies in the country as part of “Research Governance” mandate of the Department. In June 2021, the HTA was approved as a sub scheme under the umbrella Scheme of Human Resource and Capacity Development. In 2023, Health Technology Assessment in India has been approved as an attached office under the Department of Health Research.

(b) HTA is a multidisciplinary process that assess health technologies i.e. drugs, devices, healthcare programmes etc. for their safety, efficacy, cost-effectiveness and equity issues. It analyzes the medical, social, ethical, and economic implications of development, diffusion, and use of health technology in a robust and transparent manner. HTA methods are evolving and their applications are increasingly diverse such as priority setting in healthcare, efficient resource allocation across

different health schemes, designing health benefit packages, strategic purchasing during procurements, informing the standard treatment guidelines etc. Altogether, HTA helps the policymakers for evidence-informed health decision-making and policy formulations in healthcare.

(c) Health Technology Assessment in India have been conducting International Symposium since 2021. The International Symposium on Health Technology Assessment (HTA) is an annual multidisciplinary conference that brings together experts from various fields to discuss the latest research and developments in health technology assessment. The symposium provides a forum for researchers, policymakers, healthcare professionals, and industry representatives to exchange ideas, share experiences, and collaborate on innovative approaches to strengthen HTA.

AIM

ISHTA 2021 was conducted with an aim of discussing global best practices in HTA, for development of a sustainable model of evidence based decision making through HTA institutionalisation in the country for Universal Health Coverage. International HTA organisations such as Centre for Global Development and iDSI, The NICE, UK, The George Institute, Australia, HITAP, Thailand and WHO International shared the lessons through their journey of establishing an HTA system in their respective countries. These international HTA systems shared examples on how HTA is used for healthcare priority setting. The work conducted by HTAIn was also showcased in the symposium.

ISHTA 2023 was organised with the theme of *“Availability, Affordability and Accessibility of healthcare technologies through HTA for Universal Health Coverage”* by including HTA various stakeholders, such as Academia, Researchers, Policy Makers, Industry, and International HTA agencies to share their views on importance of HTA for accessibility, availability and affordability of health technologies as a step towards Universal Health Coverage. It also hosted the first ever HTA marketplace in the country, providing knowledge/product sharing platform.

The International Symposium on Health Technology Assessment (HTA) is a biannual multidisciplinary conference that brings together experts from various fields to discuss the latest research and developments in health technology assessment. The symposium provides a forum for researchers, policymakers, healthcare professionals, and industry representatives to exchange ideas, share experiences, and collaborate on innovative approaches to strengthen HTA.

Continuing from the theme of ISHTA 2021, and 2023 HTAIn, DHR is organising

ISHTA 2025

“Bridging Evidence to Policy: Health Technology Assessment for Affordable Healthcare”

The objective of the International Symposium on Health Technology Assessment (HTA) with the theme "Bridging Evidence to Policy: Health Technology Assessment for Affordable Healthcare" is to showcase the significant impact of Health Technology Evidence in facilitating affordable healthcare in India.

- To elucidate the impact of Health Technology Assessment (HTA) in India in
 - a) promoting evidence-based policymaking
 - b) supporting innovative technologies and
 - c) encouraging value-based pricing for efficient resource allocation towards achieving affordable healthcare systems.
- To facilitate dialogue on the adoption of HTA recommendations and capacity building to strengthen healthcare decision-making in countries of the Global South.
- To enable a knowledge forum for strengthening the methodological advancements in HTA for encompassing comprehensive and robust practices.
- To provide a collaborative platform for national stakeholders to build strategic partnerships, and catalyze joint initiatives aimed at enhancing cost-effectiveness in healthcare.

The Symposium be a 2-day event featuring keynote presentations, panel discussions, workshops, poster sessions, and networking opportunities. Participants will have the chance to engage in interdisciplinary discussions, share insights, and collaborate on innovative solutions to enhance the safety, equity, and quality aspects of HTA.

Oral and poster presentations will be invited from National and International researchers on the themes of the objectives of the symposium, which are given as follows:

Role of Health Technology Assessment in bridging Evidence to Policy for

1. Implementing Affordable Health care for Health System Strengthening
2. Value based Pricing and procurement of drugs and devices
3. Introduction of new innovative Health Technologies in different Health Sectors
4. Revision and Rationalization of Health Benefit packages for insurance reimbursement programs

**** Abstract submission closed****

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DRAFT AGENDA:

Day 1

Session 1: 10.00am - 11.00am: *Inaugural Session: Inauguration of the Symposium and marketplace*

Session 2: 11.30am - 01.00pm: *Impact of Health Technology Assessment on Affordable Healthcare in India*

Session 3: 02.00pm - 3.30pm: *Supporting Value based pricing and procurement of drugs and devices through Health Technology Assessment*

Session 4a: 04.00 - 05.30pm: *Integration of Cutting-Edge Innovative Healthcare Technologies into Health Systems with HTA*

Session 4b: 04.00 - 05.30pm: *High- level round table discussion on Strengthening of Health Systems in LMICs through Adoption of Health Technology Assessment recommendations*

Market place visit: 05.30pm to 06:00pm

Day 2

Session 5: 09.30am - 10.30am: *Advanced Methodologies for Health Technology Assessment*

Session 6a: 11.00am - 12.00noon: *Round table discussion with Industry and Innovators for Implementation of HTA recommendations*

Session 6b: 11.00am - 12.00noon: Oral Presentations

Session 7: 12.00 - 01.00pm *Way forward for strengthening collaboration with state/central government/LMIC/Industry/Innovators/Researchers for providing affordable health care with Health Technology Assessment*

Market Place: display of 50 HTA recommended Technologies

Target Audience of ISHTA-2025:

National Audience:

- i. Scientists, Researchers, Academicians
- ii. Central Government Officials
- iii. State Government Officials
- iv. Industry representatives
- v. National Researchers and wider Health Communities
- vi. Patient advocacy groups

International Audience:

- i. Representatives from LMICs, EU, SEARO, NICE (UK), African Union, USA, Latin America, WHO etc.
- ii. International Researchers, Policy Makers and Wider health communities

