



PANEL SESSION 5 – Wednesday June 10, 2026 | 10am – 11am

[PN04 – Highlights From IJTAHC On Patient And Stakeholder Engagement As A Drive For Shaping Health Systems](#)

Contributors: Tracy Merlin, Ramiro Gilardino, Rosiane Simeon, Clifford Goodman

Summary: Three recently published articles in the International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care (IJTAHC) explore how patient and stakeholder engagement can shape more equitable and transparent HTA processes. Practical strategies for strengthening patient engagement are presented, including developing equity-focused recommendations, and fostering inclusive decision-making. An HTAi Legacy Council and IJTAHC Editorial Board member will provide commentary.

[PN33 – Dialogues On AI In Health Technology Assessment: Opportunities For Innovation And Collaboration](#)

Contributors: Alexander Lemgruber, Rebecca Owens, Rebecca Trowman, Augusto Guerra Jr.

Summary: This panel will explore the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in HTA, with a focus on regional collaboration, capacity building, ethical governance, and practical applications. Panelists will discuss key advances and challenges in applying AI to HTA, including insights from the “AI for HTA” initiative and ongoing cooperation with international networks such as HTAi, INAHTA, NICE, and RedETSA.

[PN34 – From Evaluation To Stewardship: The Role Of HTA In Advancing Environmentally Sustainable Digital Health Systems](#)

Contributors: Rossella Di Bidino, Abhirup Dutta Majumdar, Stuart Mealing

Summary: AI-driven and digital health technologies (DHTs) pose significant, largely unexamined environmental impacts. As health systems pursue net-zero goals, integrating sustainability into HTA is vital. This panel explores the environmental impact of DHTs, frameworks, methods, and stakeholder perspectives, identifying opportunities, challenges, and strategies to embed environmental sustainability in DHT assessment and position HTA as a system shaper, safeguarding planetary systems.

[PN35 –Health Technology Assessment In China: Enabling Patient Access Through Evolving Reimbursement And Policy Processes](#)

Contributors: Tina Wang, Huajie Jin, Wudong Guo, Thomas Butt

Summary: China’s accelerated regulatory approvals and annual drug negotiations highlight its growing goal in enabling faster patient access. This panel brings together experts from policy, academia, and



industry to discuss evolving HTA methods, stakeholder perspectives, and opportunities to enhance evidence-based reimbursement in China and other emerging systems.

[PN36 – Horizon Scanning \(HS\) To Aid System Shaping: Perspectives From Asia-Pacific Region \(Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong\)](#)

Contributors: Brendon Kearney, Syaquirah Akmal, Li Xue

Summary: Horizon scanning (HS) has been practiced in different countries with mixed success. This session shares real-world experiences from jurisdictions at different stages of development in the Asia-Pacific region to highlight success, as well as lessons learned. The objective is to enable the audience to identify opportunities for a more fit-for-purpose HS system to serve the needs of the stakeholders.

[PN38 – Operationalizing Patient Involvement In HTA In Low-Resource Settings: Challenges And Strategies](#)

Contributors: Veronica Lopez Gousset, Manuel Donato, Amal Yassine, Khairil Idham Ismail

Summary: Internationally, the importance of including patients, caregivers, and their representatives in health technology assessments (HTA) is well recognized. Although national HTA bodies understand good practices, putting them into operation in low-resource settings is a challenge. This panel will examine how HTA bodies manage resource constraints in such settings and discuss ongoing challenges in delivering patient involvement.

[PN39 – Promoting Health Technology Assessment As Driver For Sustainable Access To Healthcare In Low Resource And Volatile Policy Settings](#)

Contributors: David Palacios, Rabia Sucu, Adriana Robayo Garcia, Lauren Pretorius

Summary: Promoting Health Technology Assessment (HTA) as a driver for building sustainable health systems in lower resource settings is frequently hampered by various conflicting interests and external initiatives. Multilateral organizations, non-governmental organizations, and industry continue offering different services and products meant to support unmet needs. This panel focuses on how HTA can help to prioritize what matters most in low-resource settings.

[PN40 – Strengthening Deliberative Processes For Rare Disease Health Technology Assessment In Data-Limited Contexts](#)

Contributors: Martina Garau, Mouna Jameleddine, Wija Oortwijn, Deniz Yilmaz Atakay

Summary: This panel explores how deliberative processes can strengthen rare disease HTA in data-limited settings. Drawing on experiences from Tunisia, the Netherlands, and patient advocacy in Türkiye, it highlights strategies for managing uncertainty, embedding patient perspectives, and building resilient systems. Participants will gain practical insights into capacity building and improving trust in HTA for rare diseases across diverse health system contexts.