**Supplementary Table 1**

**Selection of current definitions of HTA**

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| WHO | Health technology assessment (HTA) refers to the systematic evaluation of properties, effects, and/or impacts of health technology. It is a multidisciplinary process to evaluate the social, economic, organizational and ethical issues of a health intervention or health technology. The main purpose of conducting an assessment is to inform a policy decision making (http://www.who.int/medical\_devices/assessment/en/).  The HTA approach is used to inform policy and decision-making in health care, especially on how best to allocate limited funds to health interventions and technologies. The assessment is conducted by interdisciplinary groups using explicit analytical frameworks, drawing on clinical, epidemiological, health economic and other information and methodologies (http://www.who.int/health-technology-assessment/about/en/). |
| Banta, 2009; Banta and Luce, 1993 | Technology assessment is a form of policy research that examines short- and long-term consequences (for example, societal, economic, ethical, legal) of the application of technology with the goal to provide policy makers with information on policy alternatives (https://doi.org/10.1017/S0266462309090333).  Health technology assessment (HTA) is a form of policy research that systematically examines short- and long-term consequences of the application of a health technology, a set of related technologies, or an issue related to technology. The goal of HTA is to provide input to decision making in policy and practice. The essential properties of HTA are this orientation to decision making and its multidisciplinary and comprehensive nature (https://doi.org/10.1017/S0266462309090345). |
| HTAi | HTA is the systematic evaluation of the properties and effects of a health technology, addressing the direct and intended effects of this technology, as well as its indirect and unintended consequences, and aimed mainly at informing decision making regarding health technologies. It is conducted by interdisciplinary groups that use explicit analytical frameworks drawing on a variety of methods (http://htaglossary.net/health+technology+assessment+%28HTA%29). |
| Bailar and Mosteller, 1992. | Assessment of medical technology combines information about safety and efficacy with social values, costs, side-effects, acceptability, and legal issues to reach conclusions about the value of the technology under study. The methods used to get such information include randomized controlled trials, epidemiologic studies, post-marketing surveillance, cost-benefit or cost-effectiveness analysis, modeling, and decision analyses (Bailar JC, Mosteller F, Medical technology assessment. In: Bailar JC, Mosteller F, Medical uses of statistics. NEJM Books, Boston, 1992). |