**Supplemental Material 2**

**Barriers and facilitators to improving the link between HTA and decisions**

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| **Barriers** |
| * Lack of an adequate legal framework for the institutionalization of HTA
* HTA agencies and units with insufficient resources
* Shortage of technically trained human resources
* Lack of “assessment culture” and training of stakeholders to participate adequately (patients, scientific societies, industry, payers, others)
* Lack of adequate governance
* Insufficient monitoring of decisions
* Judicialization
* Lack of continuity in policies (e.g., before changes in government)
* Poor communication and knowledge on the part of the general public and various stakeholders about the HTA process and the principles of resource prioritization
* Shortage of basic local data such as epidemiological data on incidence or prevalence of health conditions, data on costs or on the real-world performance of technologies
* Lack of sufficient time for the assessment process and the urgency of decision making
* Limited transparency in the processes related to the production of HTA
* Heterogeneous regions with distinct realities and difficulty in defining certain decisions
* “Politization” of health (party politics versus long-term policies)
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| **Facilitators** |
| * Right political moment – a window of opportunity as many actors in society consider this a priority
* A wide-range of international experiences to learn form. No need to reinvent the wheel.
* Well-established mechanisms of regional cooperation that could facilitate the development of common solutions.
* Better understanding by all stakeholders that HTA goes beyond the simple technical assessments of health technologies.
* Important advances in the region to include stakeholders (however there is much still to do)
* Pressure from various stakeholders and the public for a clearer, more transparent and inclusive HTA process.
* HTA processes that are scientifically and intellectually independent
* Countries that have made progress in defining health system priorities that can be aligned with the HTA process.
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