

Supplement 7: Focus Group Discussion Guide

Views on a Deliberative Approach Using a Multi-criteria Ethics Framework

1. From your perspective, what is good or bad about this approach using an ethical framework to generate recommendations for NHI coverage decisions?
 - Effects on the *quality* of the recommendations?
 - Effects on the *relevance* of the recommendations?
 - Effects on the *fairness* of the recommendations?
 - Effects on the *justifiability* of the recommendations?
2. How do you think an approach using ethics considerations compares to other common approaches for health coverage decisions?
 - How does this compare to what you understand as the current approach in South Africa? Advantages or disadvantages?
 - How does this compare to decisions made on the basis of cost-effectiveness/value-for-money alone? Are there advantages or disadvantages?
3. In what ways, if any, did your thinking about the coverage decision(s) change as you worked through the framework and discussed the considerations?
4. How do you think other types of people who are not directly involved in the process might react to policy recommendations coming out of this type of deliberative ethics appraisal? (Such as policymakers, people with the health condition, providers, and the public)
 - What do you think different audiences might see as the strengths and weaknesses or advantages and disadvantages of this approach?
5. What implementation considerations would you advise if the government were to introduce the use of such a framework?
 - Related to composition and size of committees
 - Related to structure of deliberations
 - Related to types and strength of evidence provided

Feedback on the SAVE-UHC Ethics Framework and Case Materials

6. Please let us know any feedback you have on the **content** of the **SAVE-UHC Framework**
 - Were the considerations the right ones to highlight what's important for the decision?
 - Are there any considerations included in the framework that you felt did ***not*** belong?
 - Are there any important considerations you think are missing?
 - What did you like about the framework? What did you dislike about the framework?
7. Based on the three cases you appraised, in what ways do you think that the framework worked differently for different types of health interventions? What, if any, changes would you propose to make the framework broadly applicable to different types of health interventions?

8. Please let us know any feedback you have on the *format/presentation* of the **SAVE-UHC Framework**
9. Please let us know any feedback you have on the *Case Dossiers* synthesizing the evidence for each domain of the framework. What, if any, changes you would suggest to make these more useful for the ethical aspects of health technology appraisal?

Additional Reflections

10. Please share any additional thoughts or reflections about this exercise that we have not yet touched on.