
Health Economics Methods Advisory: *Introduction & Overview*

Dan Ollendorf, PhD

Chief Scientific Officer and Director of HTA Methods and Engagement

Institute for Clinical and Economic Review



Disclosures

- Employee of Institute for Clinical and Economic Review (ICER)
 - One of 3 supporting institutions of HEMA
 - Home of HEMA Secretariat

HEMA: Why?

The Rationale for HEMA

- Novel methods and elements of value subject of much discussion and publication
 - Often driven by academic, financial, and other interests
- Need for an independent advisory group to make sense of proposals and provide practical guidance to HTA and health systems
- Inspired by the work of the NICE Decision Support Unit

What is (and isn't) HEMA?

HEMA *is...*

- Independent working group of health economists and health services researchers
- Academic and research interest in methods for decision-making
- Diversity of viewpoint, experience, location, and affiliation
- Charged with developing research and guidance to inform HTA and payer decisions
 - Equal focus on appropriate methods AND feasibility/practicality

HEMA is *not*...

- A shill for HTA bodies
- A “cookbook” producer
- A recommendation-maker for changes in governance, policy, or normative frameworks

Core Working Group Principles

- Focus on suitability of methods for HTA decision-making
- Recommendations may need to recognize differences in HTA bodies' mandates and policy positions
- Interest is in informing various policy and value positions, not redefining them
- Consensus is the aim, but if not achieved dissenting viewpoints will be represented

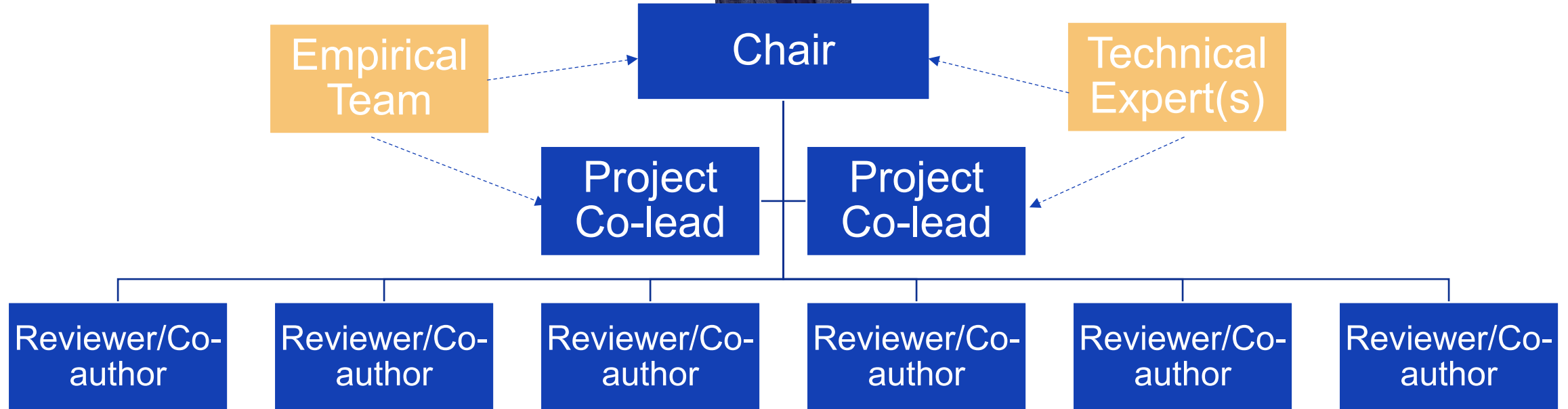
Working Group Principles: https://hemamethods.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/HEMA-Working-Group-Principles_Final_030625.pdf

HEMA's Logistical Framework

Funding & Logistical Support



Organizational Chart: Working Group



HEMA Steering Committee

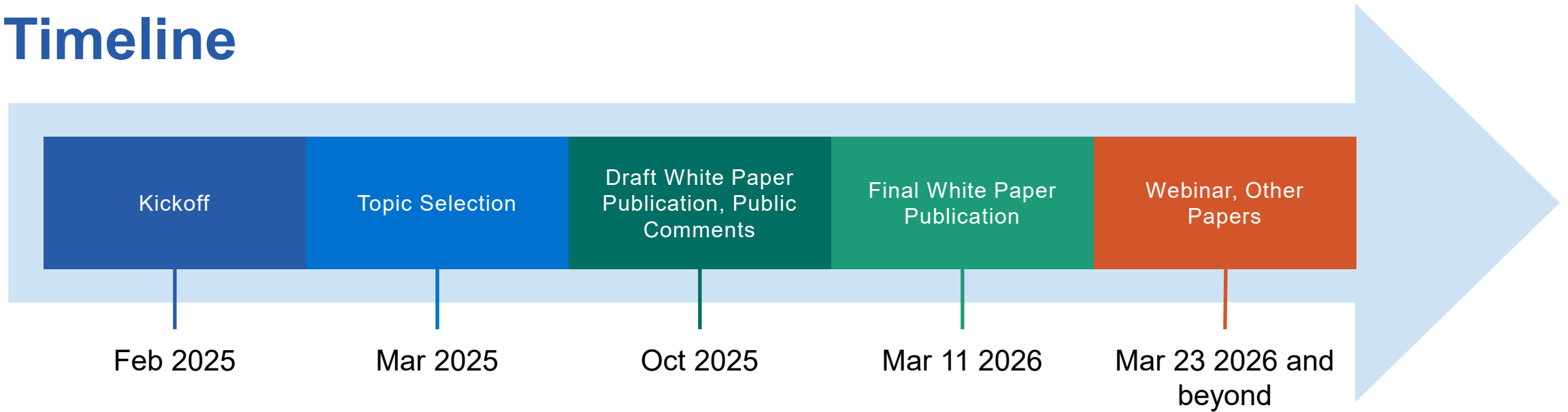
- Multi-stakeholder group (patient, payer/health system, industry), also structured for diversity in geography and interests
- Advisory to the commissioning HTA bodies
- Focus on topic prioritization/selection and topic-specific considerations
- Meets twice per year

First Topic

Topic Details

- Assessing potential additional treatment benefits for HTA consideration
- Consideration used a tripartite set of “tests”:
 - *Relevance*
 - *Measurability*
 - *Reflection in opportunity costs*
- Document implementation and measurement challenges

Timeline



Registration for Webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/8017703253755/WN_Qz3t_rsBSGSoUdPlxp4cdA#/registration

Work Products

- Final white paper
- Plain language summary
- Response to public comments
- Letter of dissent

Reflections/Changes for Next Topic

Reflections

- Limited interactions between project leads, working group, and steering committee
 - Additional feedback and interaction opportunities added
- Extension of original timeline necessary
 - Move from 9- to 12-month timeline from start to finish
 - Work to finalize next topic will necessarily overlap

Thank You!

- dollendorf@icer.org
- HEMA Landing Page (incl. WG and SC membership):
<https://hemamethods.org/>