



Canada's Drug Agency
L'Agence des médicaments du Canada
Drugs, Health Technologies and Systems. Médicaments, technologies de la santé et systèmes.

Health Economics Methods Advisory (HEMA)

NICE Conference 2026

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Disclosures



Dr. Nicole Mittmann

- Full-time employee of Canada's Drug Agency; no relevant disclosures.

Canada's Drug Agency

- Canada's Drug Agency is funded by contributions from the Canadian federal, provincial, and territorial ministries of health.
- We receive application fees from the pharmaceutical industry for:
 - Our Reimbursement Review processes, including those used for: oncology drugs, non-oncology drugs, plasma protein and related products reviewed through the interim process.
 - Scientific Advice.

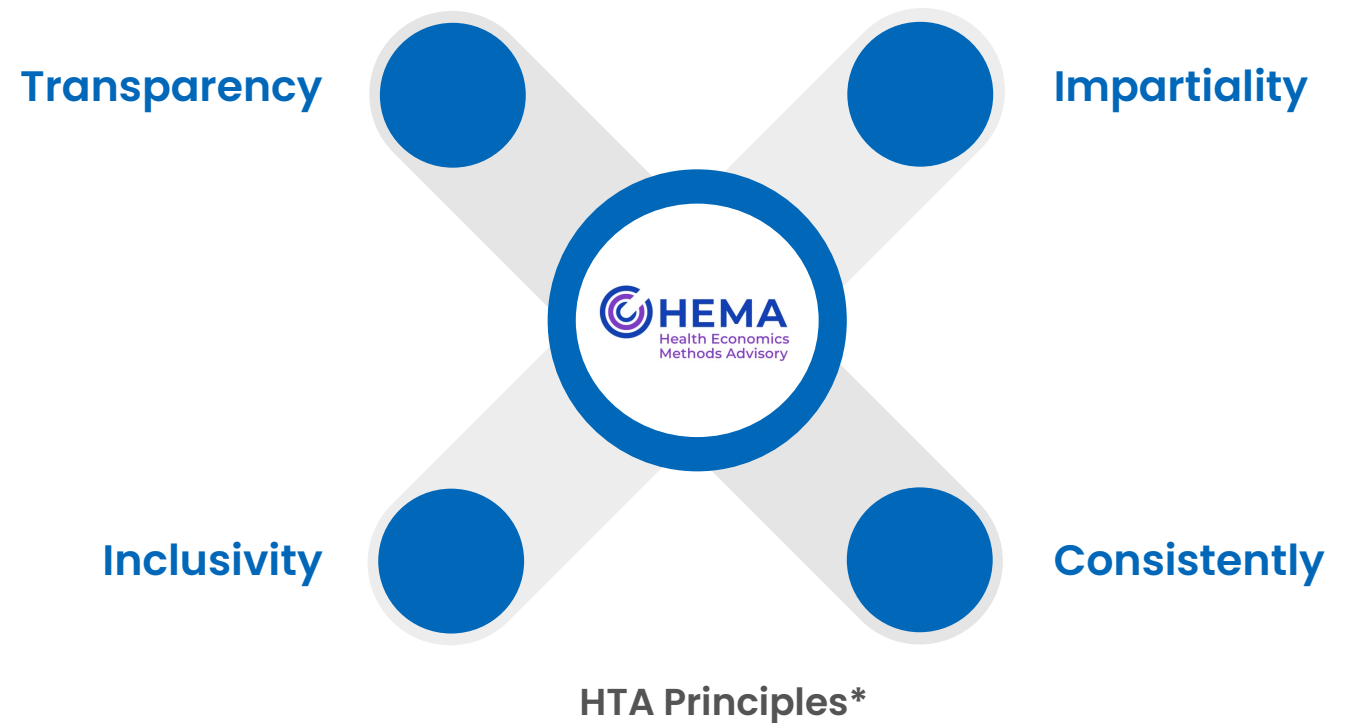
Academic

- Affiliation with the University of Toronto and Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.
- Academic Funding and Peer-Review Publications.

Reflections on HEMA



- Uniting three HTA agencies and a diverse, multi-jurisdiction team to address shared challenges in value assessment and methods.
- HEMA's guiding principles directly reflect the principles that underpin good HTA.
- Better methods mean more informed decisions, better guidance and better access for patients, all while balancing the sustainability of our health system.



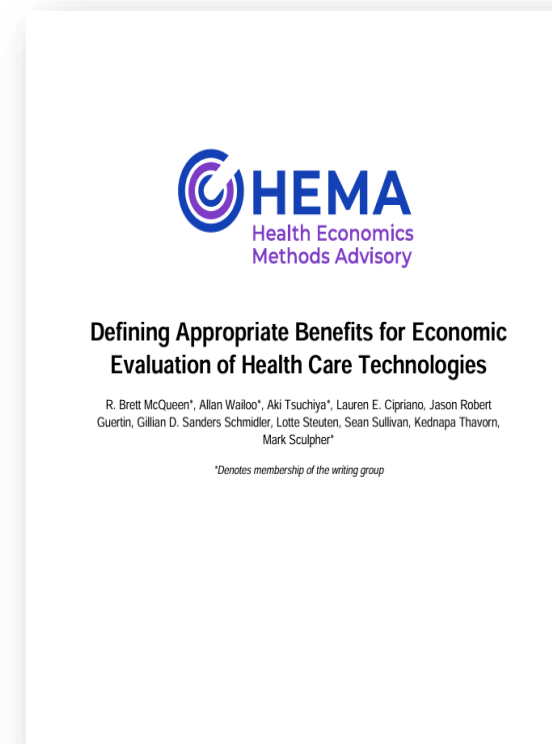
*(1) Bond, K; Stiffell, R; Ollendorf, D. 2020. Principles for deliberative processes in health technology assessment. DOI: [10.1017/S0266462320000550](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0266462320000550)

How the first report is supporting our work at Canada's Drug Agency



HEMA recommendations are not binding — context always matters. But the findings are useful for to our work at Canada's Drug Agency, for instance:

- This is directly informing our work on societal perspective, currently under public consultation. Before adopting any new benefit measure such as caregiver impact, the report provide us with a screening tool to test for measurability, consistency, and that trade-offs are fully understood.
- It is going to support the strengthening of our deliberative framework, ensuring our processes remain methodologically robust and coherent, while identifying research gaps that need to be addressed before moving forward.
- Providing long-awaited guidance on questions that have been debated for years and areas where uncertainty has made consistent decision-making challenging in Canada.



Canada's Drug Agency New Guidance on Expanding Economic Evaluations to Reflect Impacts on Informal Caregivers:
<https://www.cda-amc.ca/news/new-guidance-expanding-economic-evaluations-reflect-impacts-informal-caregivers>

One Year in!

What we've learned and where we needed to improve



Joint international collaborations work

Coalitions work when built on common challenges, shared principles, and a commitment to advance HTA practice for informed decision making.

Communication and Accessibility

Developed plain language summaries and a comprehensive HEMA FAQ to make the work accessible and address the questions received from interested parties.

Context considerations

Not all findings apply equally across jurisdictions; for example, opportunity cost frameworks central to some systems are not yet embedded in others such as the US.

Constructive feedback matters

Public consultation views did not just inform us, they helped us improve, incorporate new perspectives, and move the work forward.

Other Important Considerations



Expectations

Process

Collaboration Model

Operationalize



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Thank you