HTA Review Consultation Options Paper MTAA Response – Additional Statement

This HTA review is deficient because its terms of reference excluded medical technology (MedTech) including digital health technology despite these being the subject of current HTA assessments that this review purports to improve. Unfortunately, because MedTech was explicitly excluded, despite the impact of recommendations on MedTech evaluation, it is difficult for MTAA to comment on some aspects. However, given the great importance of a number of recommendations for MedTech HTA, MTAA has sought to provide comment and apply it to MedTech where possible.

It remains of general concern to the MedTech industry that approaches to assessment of biopharmaceuticals are still the benchmark inappropriately applied to all other technologies regardless of risk or ability to generate evidence especially with short product cycle times. While the proposal for the 'single front door' and the creation of a unified HTA pathway may have benefits, and the need to proportion assessment has been acknowledged, the risk of using onerous approaches that are not fit-for-purpose remains a strong concern for MTAA and its members. This could have significant consequences for patient access. As with many of these proposals, further detail on this is required.