

# Efforts on National Strategy Development and Institutionalization

EDITH GAVOR

GHANA NATIONAL DRUGS PROGRAMME

# Introducing HTA to Ghana - Background

- ▶ Ghana committed to provide access to health services through universal health coverage
- ▶ Need to ensure the long term sustainability of the National Health Insurance Scheme
- ▶ Improving quality of care, through the implementation of standard treatment guidelines
- ▶ Recognises that the key issue is not whether priority setting is necessary, but rather, how it should be achieved
- ▶ The NMP provides a framework linking the policy functions with the regulatory environment to better support and facilitate the introduction of new health technologies in Ghana.

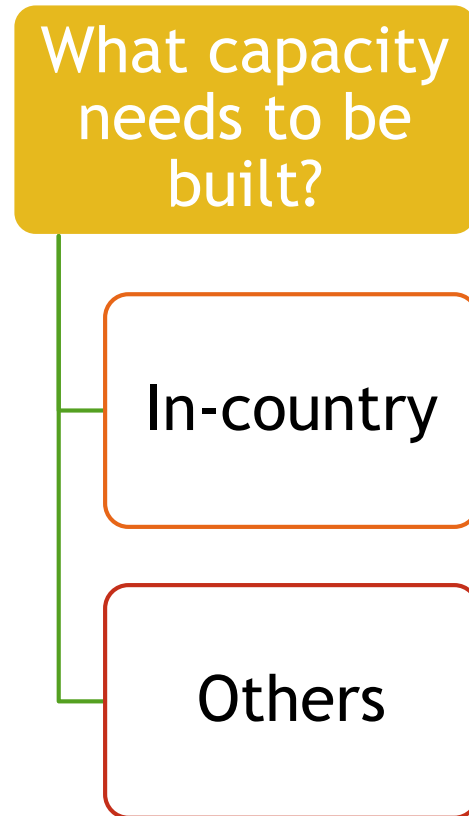
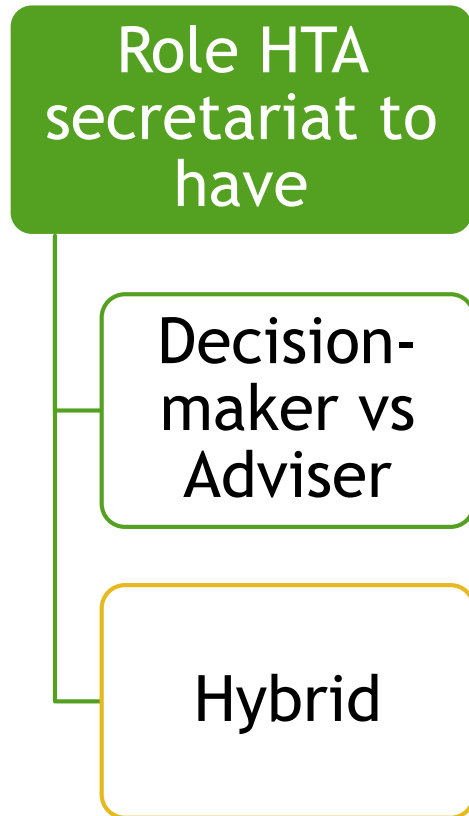
# The National Medicines Policy 2017

- ▶ Recognises the potential of HTA
- ▶ Prescribes standing technical committee
- ▶ Recommends guidelines for HTA to be developed
- ▶ A secretariat to collaborate with other HTA groups
- ▶ Institutionalisation of HTA to align with any institution already in place
- ▶ Gives guidance on the selection of medicines for the EML and STG

# Ghana STG/EML

Year	
1988	Essential Drugs List & National Formulary with Therapeutic Guidelines, 1 <sup>st</sup> Edition
1993	Essential Drugs List & National Formulary with Therapeutic Guidelines, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition
1996	Essential Drugs List & National Formulary with Therapeutic Guidelines, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition
2000	Standard Treatment Guidelines & Essential Drugs List, 4 <sup>th</sup> Edition
2004	Standard Treatment Guidelines & Essential Medicines List, 5 <sup>th</sup> Edition : 1st Insurance List derived from EML 2004 with yearly updates
2010	Standard Treatment Guidelines & Essential Medicines List, 6 <sup>th</sup> Edition
2017	Standard Treatment Guidelines & Essential Medicines List, 7 <sup>th</sup> Edition

# What are our needs?



# So what have we done?

- ▶ Oct - Nov 2013 NICE International scoping visit to Accra
- ▶ In partnership with Thai Health Intervention and Technology Assessment Programme (HITAP)
- ▶ To gain an understanding of the key stakeholders within the Ghanaian health system
- ▶ The current situation and the challenges they face in transitioning towards Universal Healthcare Coverage

# NICE International study tour

- ▶ August 2014
- ▶ To get political buy-in, team included high level political figures
- ▶ The aim was to learn about the institutional, procedural and technical aspects of priority setting in the British National Health System (NHS) and the role of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and its partners.
- ▶ To explore the methods and processes of health technology assessment (HTA), clinical guidelines and quality standards development and implementation, and to focus on applicability to the Ghana setting.
- ▶ There was the opportunity for part of the delegation to observe a NICE Technology Assessment Committee meeting
- ▶ Draft roadmap initiated and discussed

# Pilot study

- ▶ Hypertension Model & Case Study, to optimise the selection of medicines in accordance with the 2017 STG for Hypertension
- ▶ An identified priority issue. Successfully promoted skill and confidence building, and provided a clear demonstration of the potential of HTA to inform concrete policy decision-making
- ▶ Highlighted some of the data collection gaps inherent in the health system—epidemiology, resource costs and utilisation patterns



## Others - like iDSI

- ▶ A number of stakeholder engagements
- ▶ Ghana to learn from other countries undertaking HTA
- ▶ Includes
  - ▶ Meteos Groundwork Oct 2014, London
  - ▶ iDSI workshop Sept 2015 Beijing
  - ▶ iDSI/PRICELESS Nov 2016 South Africa

## Where are we now?

- ▶ ADP/PATH supporting Ghana's HTA Technical Working Group in the development of a four-year HTA strategic plan.
- ▶ Objective is to design and institutionalise a framework for HTA that
  - ▶ Embraces best international practice
  - ▶ Is transparent, inclusive, fair, rigorous, evidence-based, financially sustainable
  - ▶ Is able to support rationale decision-making regarding the diffusion and use of health intervention technologies.

# Where do we need to go?

Design an effective institutional framework and guidelines

Secretariat

Legal backing for policy

Skills development and capacity building.

Create a critical mass of skills within the Ministry of Health

Capacity to develop and apply sound HTA methodologies

Establish robust processes

Application of HTA to support evidence-informed policy decision-making across the healthcare sector

Extend to non-medicines

**Thank you**