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# How independent academics engage in HTA in the UK

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# Overview

- Sheffield and HTA
- HTA in the UK...it's more than NICE
- The 7 roles of academic units
- Conclusions



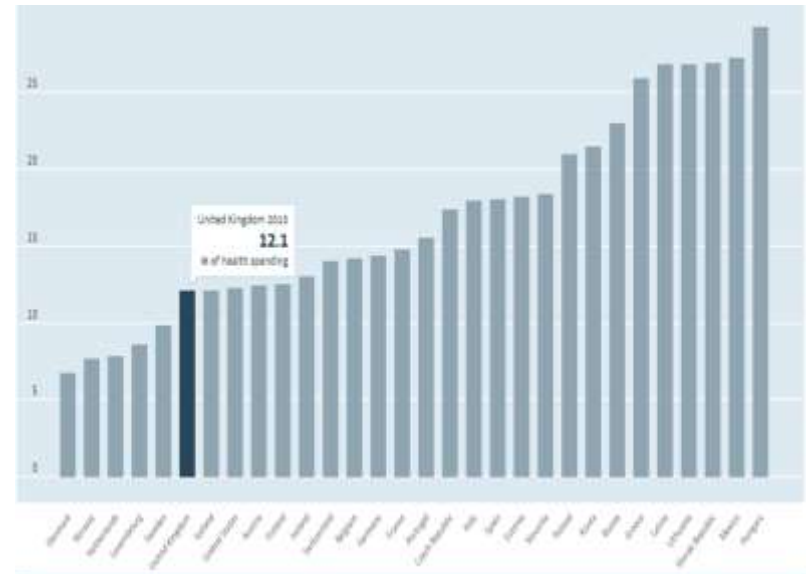
# HTA at Sheffield

- Sheffield has undertaken  $\approx 110$  technology appraisals for National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) since 1999
- At least 11 staff have served on NICE committees across at least six different NICE programmes
- Sheffield has led the NICE Decision Support Unit (DSU) since 2003
  - Provides training, methods development and specialist support for appraisals



# HTA in the UK

- NICE Technology Appraisal Programme has very little direct influence on the total expenditure of the NHS
  - Most drugs are not appraised by NICE
  - Uptake of guidance is a lot less than 100%
- But, there are other programmes and organisations undertaking HTA, with different methods



# Other programmes...

- NICE Diagnostic Appraisal Programme
- NICE Highly Specialised Technologies
- NICE Medical Technologies Evaluation Programme
- NICE Clinical Guidelines
- NICE Public Health Appraisal Programme
- Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation
- National Screening Committee
- NHS England Specialised Commissioning

# 7 roles of academic units

- Independent appraisal
- Methods development
- Training
- Capacity building
- Evidence generation
- Independent advice
- Company submissions!



# Independent appraisal

- NICE requires appraisals to be undertaken either from first principles or reviews of submissions
- Organisations doing this work are:
  - Universities
  - NICE
  - Public and private sector contract research organisations
- Issues.....?
  - Quality assurance, ability to publish, contracting, methods of appraisal



# Methods development

- NICE DSU has undertaken various types
  - Reference case
  - Technical standards
  - Other issues as they arise (eg., Managed Entry Agreements)
- Other programmes
  - Department of Health (eg., Value Based Pricing)
  - NHS England (eg., Specialist Commissioning)
- Independent methods development
  - NICE Threshold (York)
  - EQ-5D-5L (Sheffield)





# Training & capacity development

- Training
  - Committee members
  - Assessment groups
- Capacity development
  - Masters Programmes
- Issues...?
  - Wider training, including health system decision makers?
  - Different Masters programmes are required for different parts of the HTA system
  - Masters curriculum development? Accreditation?



# Evidence generation, advice and submissions

- Evidence generation
  - Study design for evidence gaps
  - Approval with research
- Advice
  - Source of Committee members
  - Informal discussions
- Company submissions
  - Advisory boards and informal advice
  - Research...systematic reviews, meta-analyses, modelling



# Conclusions

- Different methods are needed for different decision making contexts
  - Factors include social, political and academic traditions, objectives of the service, nature of the technology and its evidence base and the role of manufacturers
- Academic units have more than one role to play
  - Appraisal, methods development, training, capacity building, evidence generation, advice and company submissions
- Learn from other countries
  - All of my examples have come from just one country...other potential roles for academic units will exist



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