

January 19, 2007

ONTARIO HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Ontario Health Technology Advisory Committee (OHTAC) is the single portal for providing advice to the health care system, including the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), regarding the use and distribution of new health technologies and the removal of obsolete health technologies.

OHTAC's mandate includes:

- Examining proposed health technologies in the context of existing clinical practice.
- Providing advice and recommendations to MOHLTC, practitioners and the broader health care system based on a systematic, objective, evidence-based technology assessment and taking into account economic, human resource, regulatory and ethical considerations
- Creating a forum to maximize opportunities and prioritize the uptake and diffusion of new / emerging health technologies deemed to significantly improve patient outcomes and/or systems efficiencies relative to other existing or competing interventions.
- Outlining implications for implementing its recommendations including the impact on the public, society, health care sectors and professions
- Providing advice regarding the field evaluation of technologies deemed to be potentially useful but for which there is inadequate existing quality evidence to support multi-million dollar, multi-year investments.
- Providing transparency regarding its recommendations and the analyses upon which these recommendations are made to Ontario's health care system

OHTAC does not:

- Examine or provide recommendations for pharmaceutical products or information systems
- Engage in general disease management reviews but rather the integration of technologies related to specific diseases and conditions
- Infringe upon the important role of innovation through health research

OHTAC produces E-Bulletins to provide updates on the latest committee recommendations. They are available at: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/mas/bulletins/bul_mn.html

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