

Working together to build up HTA capacity: the case of Thailand

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Aims of this presentation

How did we establish HITAP?

How important are international HTA agencies on HITAP's development?

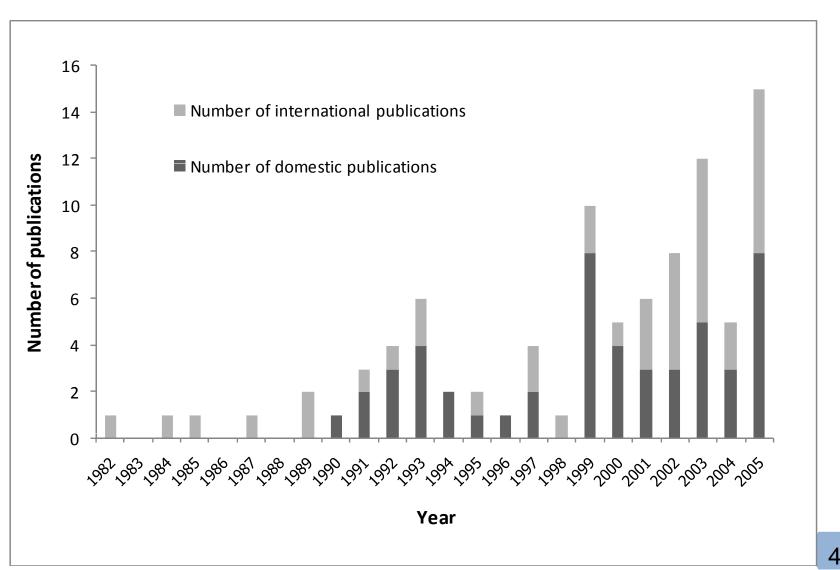


Context



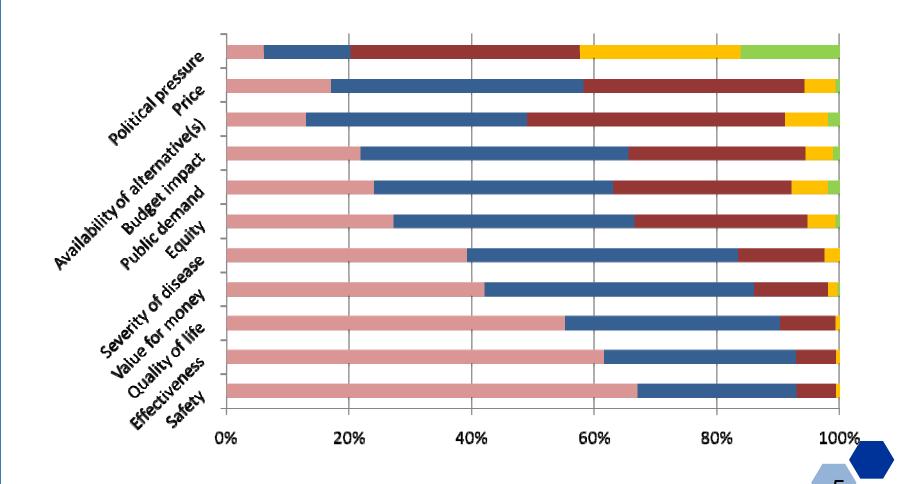
- Population: 65 millions
- Universal health insurance coverage established in 2002
- Health expenditure: 5% of GDP (Public 70%)
- Increased demand for covering high-cost health interventions
- Awareness of HTA tools among decision makers and academics

Numbers of Thai economic evaluation publications, international and domestic, 1982-2005



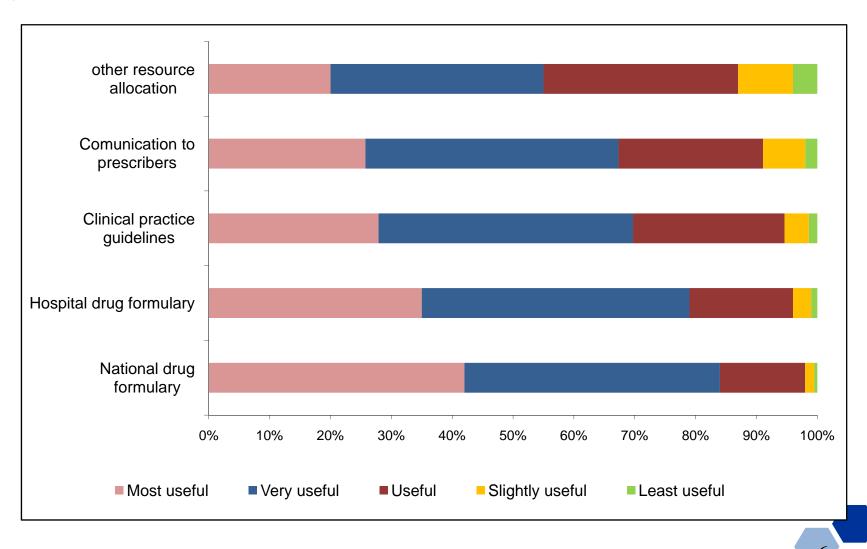
Factors influencing decision making about health technology adoption by Thai decision makers (N=450)





Chaikledkaew et al. A national survey on human capacity for health technology assessment in Thailand (a draft manuscript for submission to international journal)

A 2007 survey amongst decision makers on the potential use of economic evaluation in Thailand



" (HTA) is introduced worldwide and being used in many countries. Therefore, there is no reason Thailand doesn't use it"

Senior decision maker, Thai MoPH



Kick off

- In 2006 a significant fund was made available by the Thai Health Promotion Foundation, the Health Systems Research Institute, the Thai Ministry of Public Health
- Senior decision makers appointed a group of researchers to have a leading role!!!

How to make a start?





What did we do?

- Assessing the country's problems and needs
- Learning strengths and weaknesses of other HTA agencies
- Learning by doing
- Seeking support from and collaborations with others

Assessing the country's problems and needs

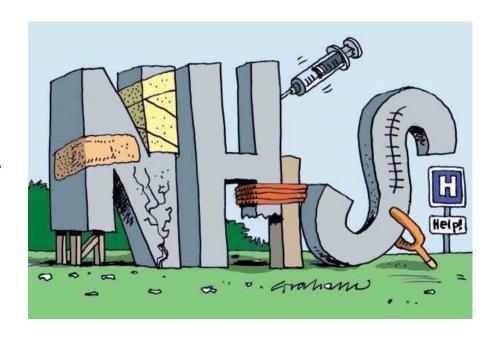
- Inadequate knowledge and understanding
- Inadequate human capacity
- Inadequate information and tools
- Lack of HTA structure and disintegration regulatory bodies and policy making authorities

Learning strengths and weaknesses of other HTA agencies

Countries	Organizations' Names	A b b r e v i a t i o n s	Year of
			E stablish m e n t
N e the rlands	Health Council of the Netherlands	G e z o n d h e id s ra a d	1902
G erm any	German Agency for Health Technology	DAHTA@ DIM DI	1969
	Assessment @ German Institute for Medical		
	Documentation and Information		
S w e d e n	Swedish Council on Technology Assessment	SBU	1987
	in Health Care		
Canada	Canadian Agency for Drugs and	CADTH	1989
	Technologies in Health		
United States	Veteran Administration's Technology	VATAP	1994
	Assessm ent Program		
D e n m a r k	Danish Institute for Health Technology	DACEHTA	1997
	Assessm ent		
A u s tra lia	Medical Service Advisory Committee	MSAC	1998
United Kingdom	National Institute for Health and Clinical	N IC E	1999
	Excellence		
South Korea	Health Insurance Review Agency	HIRA	2000
South Africa	Interim National Steering Committee on	MRC	2004
	Health Technology Assessment, Medical		
	Research Council		

Learning strengths and weaknesses of other HTA agencies

- Transparency
- Participatory
- Academic integrity
- Social credit
- Politics



We needed to do many things at the same time!

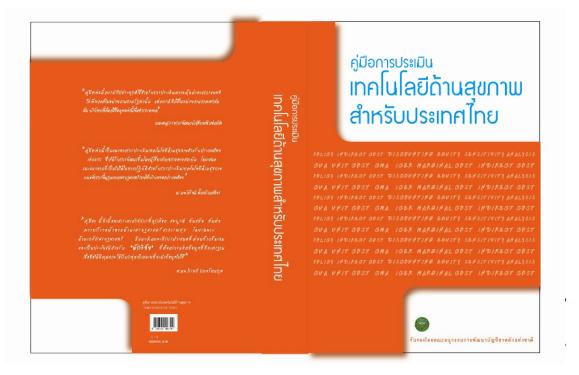
- Setting up standard for HTA in Thailand
- Capacity building
- Demonstrating the usefulness of HTA in making policy decisions
- Developing management mechanisms for HTA

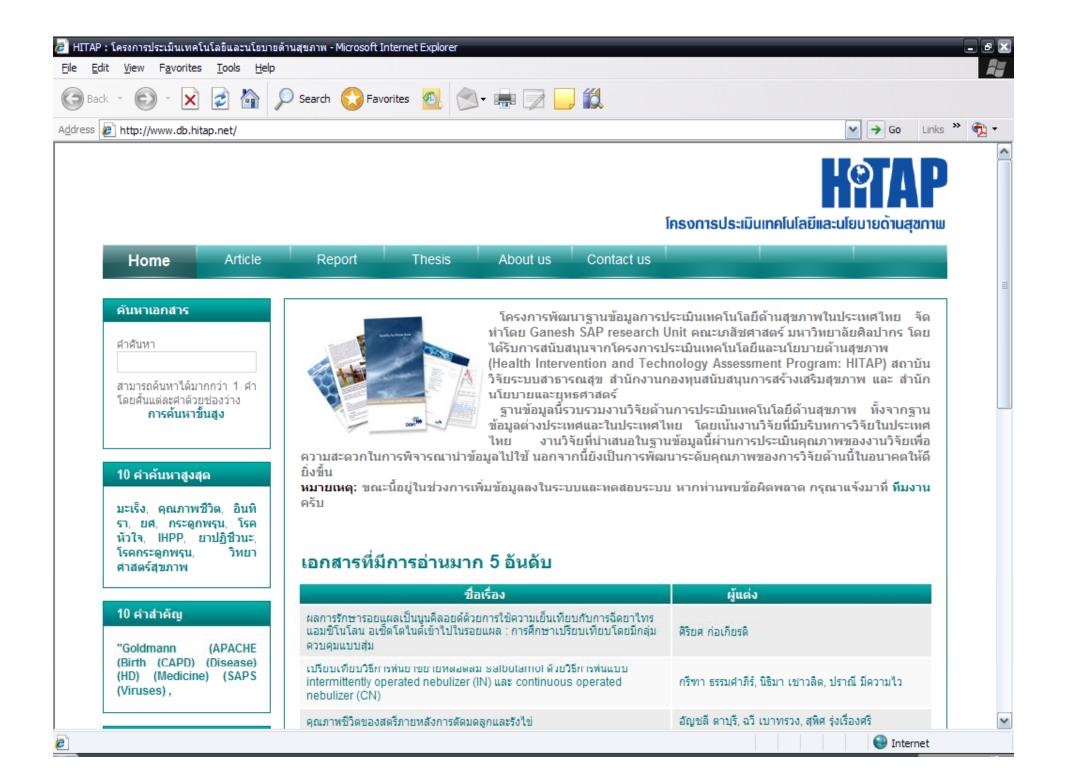


Development of the first national guidelines for HTA in Thailand

 The guidelines were eventually endorsed by the subcommittee for development of NLED and the committee for health benefit package and service provision of the NHSO







Annual training and workshop on "introduction to health economic evaluation" & "advance economic modeling methods"





Annual HTA conference













HTA management strategies at HITAP

HTA phase	Approaches	Participants	
I. Topic selection	Consultation	HITAP, policymakers, health care providers, consumer groups, professional associations, etc.	
II. Conducting HTA research	 Consultation (to identify research questions) Technical collaboration 	HITAP, experts and relevant stakeholders	
III. Appraisal of results	Peer reviewSubmission of commentsDiscussion	HITAP, experts, private business/industry, policymakers, consumers/beneficiaries	
IV. Dissemination of results and recommendations	PublicationsPresentationsDialogues	HITAP, funding agencies, the media, consumer groups and other NGOs	

Transparency & participatory



Annual meeting for HTA topic selection



Expert consultation for fine tuning the research questions and scope of the work

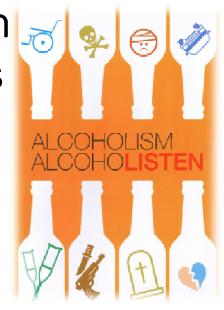
Presenting the results to stakeholders

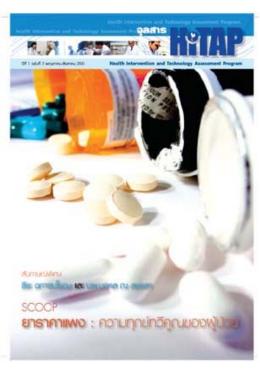


HTA management

- Code of conduct
- Public communication
- Making connection with policy makers









Cost-effectiveness league table of selected interventions in Thailand

Health Interventions	Baht/QALY (2008)	Coverage
Antiretroviral treatment vs. palliative care	26,000	Yes
Prevention of vertical HIV transmission (AZT + NVP) vs. null	25,000	Yes
Statin (generic) in men >30% CVD risk vs. null	82,000	Yes
Cytomegalovirus retinitis: Gancyclovir vs. palliative	185,000	Yes
Antidiabetic: Pioglitazone vs. Rosiglitazone	211,000	No
HPV vaccine at age 15 vs. Pap smear, 35-60 years old, q 5 years	247,000	No
Osteoporosis: Alendronate vs. calcium + vitamin D	296,000	No
Osteoporosis: Residronate vs. calcium + vitamin D	328,000	No
Peritoneal dialysis vs. palliative care	435,000	Yes
Hemodialysis vs. palliative care	449,000	Yes
Osteoporosis: Raloxifene vs. calcium + vitamin D	634,000	No
Osteoporosis: Calcitonin vs. calcium + vitamin D	1,024,000	No
HPV vaccine at age > 25 vs. Pap smear, 35-60 years old, q 5 years	2,500,000	No
Anemia in cancer patients: Erythropoitin vs. blood transfusion	2,700,000	No
Transtuzumab in breast cancer	5,051,000	No

Seeking support from and collaborations with others











International supports

- Individual level
 - Formal and informal trainings, study visits and staff exchanges
- Organizational level
 - Sharing experience
 - Sharing information and tools
 - Sharing capacity
- Environmental level
 - Enabling stakeholders' understanding on HTA
 - Enhancing political will

Pay it forward: HITAP contribution to others

- Universities
- NGOs
- Government agencies
- WHO SEARO



How to make a start?





Final messages

- It is difficult to explain how to make a start of HTA
- It is possible to establish HTA in developing countries
- Certainly, they will get benefits from international experiences and support
- What HITAP can do: facilitating learning within the network
- Crucial needs for political will and commitment

