surrounding the key issues to occur, such us any difference between valuing technologies in the Latin America Region with the approaches made in the European Union and North America.

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OP11 Findings From The 2017 Health Technology Assessment International Asia Policy Forum Survey

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INTRODUCTION:

Health systems in the Asia region seek to achieve universal health care (UHC) by increasing access to essential healthcare services, while reducing health inequalities and out-of-pocket expenditure. With this in mind, the discussion for the 2017 Health Technology Assessment International (HTAi) Asia Policy Forum (APF) centered around the topic of 'Universal Healthcare in the Asia Region: Overcoming the Barriers using HTA and Real World Data'.

METHODS:

As part of the background paper prepared to inform discussions at the APF, attendees from public sector HTA agencies from nine countries, and industry attendees from eight companies, were surveyed to explore issues on the barriers and challenges of establishing UHC in the region and use of real world data (RWD).

RESULTS:

Most countries used evidence-based decision-making when considering which technologies to add to healthcare benefit packages; however, this was at times inconsistently applied. Prioritization criteria included burden of disease, unmet clinical need, clinical effectiveness, cost effectiveness and affordability. The political agenda and deference to expert opinion also played a role. Although all countries reported using RWD to inform decision-making, they also reported issues including lack of capacity, poor quality data and lack of collaboration between private and public sectors, as well as a conservative approach to data-linkage. It became apparent that a disconnect had been

identified, as industry overwhelmingly identified access to RWD in the region as a major issue.

CONCLUSIONS:

Discussing the differences in opinion between HTA agencies and industry led to a greater understanding of issues in the Asia region, and will lead to increased dialogue and opportunities to collaborate in the future. Building capacity in the region will assist countries to deliver on their goal of achieving UHC.

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OP12 2017 Health Technology Assessment International Asia Policy Forum: The Importance Of Universal Health Care

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INTRODUCTION:

The fifth Health Technology Assessment International (HTAi) Asia Policy Forum (APF) was held in Beijing, November 2017. The topic of the meeting was 'Universal Health Care in the Asia Region: Overcoming the Barriers using HTA and Real World Data'. This presentation will focus on the goal of achieving universal health care (UHC) in the Asia region, and specifically the perspective of the World Health Organization (WHO).

METHODS:

The 2017 HTAi APF had senior representatives from HTA agencies, academia, industry active in the region plus representatives from the WHO Geneva office and the Western Pacific Regional Office. A keynote presentation was delivered by the WHO representative and there were guided breakout group discussions.

RESULTS:

UHC is a key component of the overall aims and objectives of the WHO; universal access to safe, effective, quality and affordable medicines and vaccines for all is at the heart of this. Pharmaceutical spending varies widely across the Asia region and all countries in the region share common problems in attaining UHC. These include inadequate financing, inefficiencies in