



Editorial Welcome Message

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Received 2017 April 01; **Accepted** 2017 April 23.

Health technologies have played a substantial role in averting diseases and promoting a total health state of the human kind. Vaccinations, antibiotics, and X - rays are identified as some health technologies that make it impossible to explain the new area of medicine without them. However, in recent decades, rapid developments of new health technologies play a role such as two - edge sword. On one hand, dissemination of emerging technologies deliver better prognoses in fighting sophisticated diseases such as cancer, Multiple Sclerosis, and cardiovascular diseases. On the other hand, rapid dissemination of health technologies has exposed governments to challenges in the delivery of high quality and effective care. Therefore, governments are increasingly obliged to manage limited resources through investing in services that have the best health outcomes. Thus, the impacts of such technologies on the health state of patients and, in a higher level, on the health system performance, in an evidence - based way, need to be studied.

Health technology assessment (HTA) is a multidisciplinary process that examines safety, clinical effectiveness, and economical, managerial, legal, ethical, and social consequences of emerging technologies on different players in the health system. In fact, the goal of conducting HTA studies is to efficiently and effectively use healthcare service resources to safeguard the public health systems financial resources.

Despite the fact that health technology assessment plays a crucial role in micro and macro decision making and policy - making, there are still difficulties in linking the results of these reports to health policy making process. One of the primarily steps is establishing a framework to disseminate high quality of HTA reports. In this regard, the National Institutes of Health Research, based on its mission, has sought to launch Health Technology Assessment in Action with the aim of disseminating Health Technology Assessment reports and thus, improving the access of stakeholders and audiences to them. Making a specific space to publish HTA evidence has some advan-

tages such as sharing produced evidence and experiences, which are conducted internationally and among all those interested in these issues, preventing parallel work (re - doing research that has already been done), increasing efficiency, and avoiding waste of limited research funds.

The Health Technology Assessment in Action journal has been launched in collaboration with Tehran University of Medical Science and Ministry of Health and Medical Education. The Editorial Board of Journal is composed of both national and international professors. The multidimensional nature of Health Technology Assessment makes the journal a virtual space to discuss various issues associated with new and in - use health technologies. Therefore, the journal will accept articles in multiple formats (letter to editor, main article, review, etc.).

Considering the important activities that have been carried out in this field in Iran since 2007 and the fact that this journal is the first published journal on health technology assessment in action in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMRO), the vision of the journal is to be known as the one of main hubs in the field of dissemination of HTA reports.

We expect to receive your manuscript in response to this call and hope to have a series of valuable debates to be published in the next issues of the HTA in Action.