

**Markus Siebert,**  
Chair of the MedTech Europe Evidence & Payers WG;  
Senior Director Health Economics & Reimbursement, OUS - Abbott

# Some Thoughts about Funding MedTech Innovation in Europe

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# Innovation Funding Schemes in Europe

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Med Tech  
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# Innovative payment schemes for medical devices and in-vitro diagnostic tests in Europe

Presentation of the results of the analysis

Prepared for



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## High-level summary

- Out of 13 studied countries, 7 countries (54%) had innovative payment schemes in place
- On average, there are 2 innovative payment schemes per country. The largest number was available in France (n=4) and England (n=3); Austria, Belgium and Switzerland had one program in place
- In total, 14 schemes were identified
- Most of the schemes (n=11, 79%) are focused on coverage with evidence development
- Three schemes (21%) are innovative funding programs with no requirements to generate evidence during coverage period
- All, but one program are focused primarily on medical technologies. One program (RIHN) is focused exclusively on in-vitro diagnostic tests

## List of identified schemes



### Austria

- Provisional procedure codes for new diagnostic or therapeutic methods (NUB)



### Belgium

- Restricted Clinical Application for invasive medical devices and implants (Application Clinique Limité)



### England

- Innovation Technology Payment (ITP)
- Innovation and Technology Tariff
- Commissioning through Evaluation



### France

- Hospital Program of Clinical Research (PHRC)
- Health Economic Research Program (PRME)
- Innovation Package (forfait innovation)
- List of biological and anatomocytology innovative acts outside the nomenclature (RIHN)



### Germany

- New diagnostic or therapeutic methods (Neue Untersuchungs- und Behandlungsmethoden, NUB)
- Government-co-sponsored studies according to the §137e of the German Social Code Book V



### Netherlands

- Conditional funding of medical technologies within Basic Health Insurance (Voorwaardelijke toelating tot het basispakket)
- Small scale experiments for introduction of innovations (Innovatie voor kleinschalige experimenten)



### Switzerland

- Provisional reimbursement of medical procedures (Leistungen in Evaluation)

# Snapshot of schemes

## THE NETHERLANDS: CONDITIONAL FUNDING OF MEDICAL PROCEDURES

- Innovation needs to meet criteria of conformity with “science and practice”
- Initiated by Dutch Healthcare Institute
- Co-funding between manufacturer and gvt
- 19 medtech innovations selected since 2014

## FRANCE: INNOVATION FUNDING

- Early support for breakthrough innovation
- Manufacturer can apply
- Fast review process (105 days)
- Co-funding
- 3 technologies since 2015

## GERMANY: INNOVATION FUNDING FOR NEW DIAGNOSTIC OR THERAPEUTIC METHODS (NUB)

- Innovative technologies, whose costs are not covered (fully) by DRGs
- Only hospitals apply
- Two-tier process: INEK clearance, then price negotiations between hosp and payer
- About 9% of all applications are “cleared” for funding negotiations since 2012 (337 out of 3866)
- Out of these, 34 NUB funding agreements were made

## ENGLAND: COMMISSIONING THROUGH EVALUATION (CTE)

- Good, but insufficient evidence to justify routine commissioning
- No application process, but activated by NHS England
- Fully funded by NHS England
- 7 technologies since 2014.

## AUSTRIA: PROVISIONAL CODES FOR NEW DIAGNOSTIC OR THERAPEUTIC METHODS

- Provisional code for rare, innovative procedures with insufficient clinical data
- Insufficient reimbursement in the meantime
- No clinical study activated
- Hospital apply
- 50 provisional codes since 2012

# Assessment from industry perspective

- **Poor Predictability:** Out of 14 schemes 10 were evaluated as having 'limited value in the planning of market access for innovation' (no manufacturer application; no involvement in study design; no possibility to initiate any other market access activities in the meantime, lack of transparency)
- Innovation and Technology Tariff (England) was evaluated as **highly relevant** (e.g. simple application process) but clinical areas are clearly defined and only **technology with proven value are allowed**
- Innovation Funding (France) was evaluated as **highly relevant** (quick process, solid option from companies good but not enough evidence to establish the procedure) but only **very limited amount of technologies** was selected (2016=1, 2017=2)
- RIHN (France) **only innovation funding** option for **IVD tests** in Europe.
- Government co-funded clinical studies in Germany **real opportunity for outpatient sector** as it is the only way for manufacturer to introduce new procedure code into the outpatient benefit catalog



■ Limited potential ■ Valuable for certain category

# Conclusions so far

## Background

1. Healthcare systems need to encourage the introduction and development of innovative technologies:
2. The **European Commission** considers innovation as one of the **major instruments** for **improving patient outcomes** and guaranteeing value for **money in healthcare**.
3. There is **empirical evidence** that political support and availability of **dedicated funding** and resources may increase the likelihood of implementing innovations in healthcare.\*

## Current Limitations

- Dedicated funding schemes to reward innovation have only been implemented **in a few countries**, often in the form of coverage with evidence development programs.
- These schemes are typically inconsistent, non-transparent, **unpredictable** and limited in scope and time.
- There is also often no link to permanent F&R decisions causing **uncertainty** for payers, healthcare providers and industry alike.

## What We Recommend

- **Specific budgets** need to be allocated to support and reward value-based innovation as a bridge to a permanent F&R decision.
- **Processes** need to be transparent and **predictable**, with manufacturers being a respected, **trusted partner**

\*Mylotte et al; Journal of the American College of Cardiology, 2013

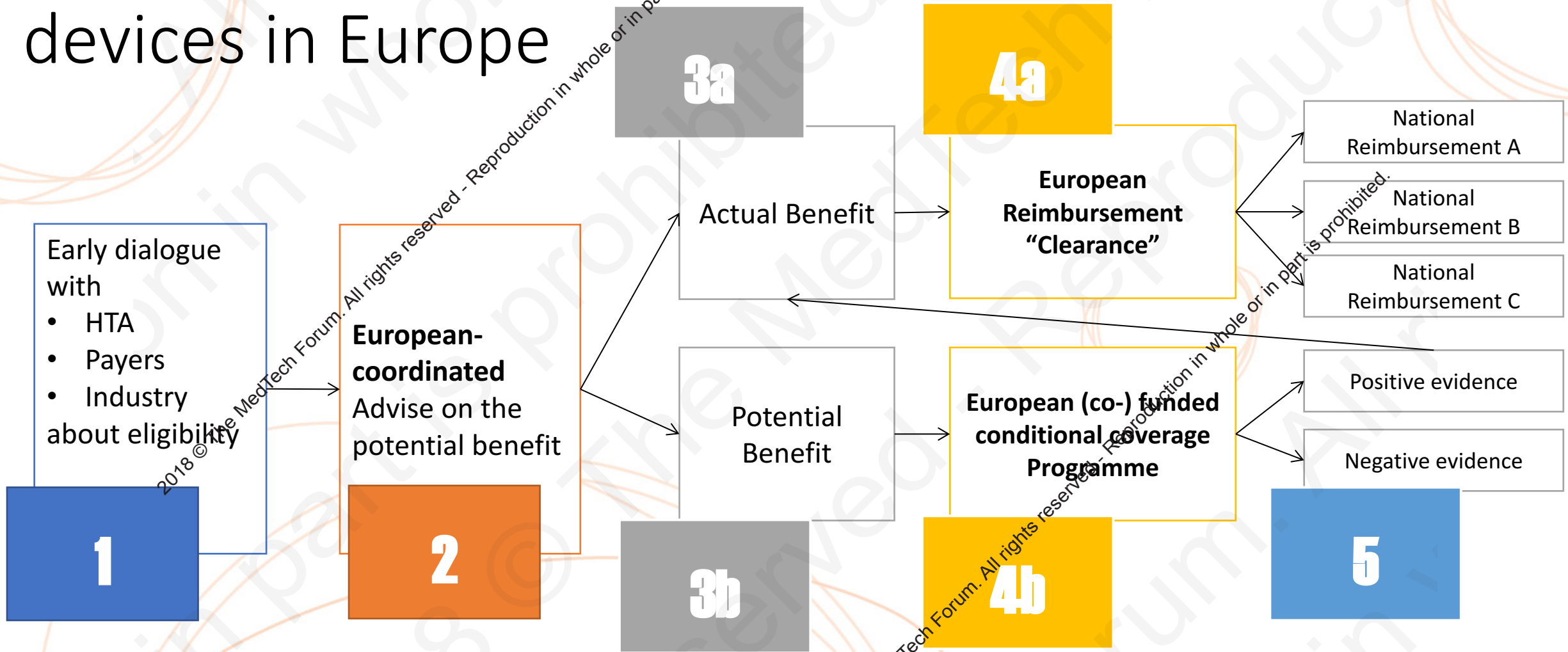


# My personal proposal

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# Market access proposal for Innovative medical devices in Europe



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# Advantages

- Provide opportunity for Early Dialogue and Guidance for manufacturers
- Establish a coherent and predictable process on innovation funding
- Use the power of a European-level assessment of the (potential) benefit and avoid national duplication
- Speed up national decision-making processes through a European “reimbursement clearance”
- Improve capacity and speed through (co-)funding from EU research funds
- Show clear commitment from Europe to MedTech Innovation

# Key Principles of Payer Engagement

- ✧ Thinking and communicating across silos and beyond hierarchies of healthcare systems
- ✧ Articulating key messages to payers that align all stakeholders around outcomes, costs, and the differing perspectives of 'value'.
- ✧ Ensure there is an aligned message from industry towards payers
- ✧ Ensure that medical devices are kept as one of the most innovative sectors in Europe.
- ✧ Foster a community of trust between payers and the MedTech industry