



Association of
British Healthcare Industries

ABHI welcomes the Accelerated Access Review Interim Report

28 October 2015, UK – ABHI (the UK's medical technology industry association) welcomes the publication of the Accelerated Access Review (AAR) Interim Report.

ABHI strongly agrees that the current situation for the introduction of innovations into the NHS needs urgent system-wide reform. ABHI has proactively engaged with the AAR process and we look forward to working with Government and other stakeholders, to address the elements of system reform to enable rapid patient access to health technologies.

Key issues relevant to the medtech industry that must be addressed in the final report include:

- creating a responsive and flexible tariff system that:
 - eliminates existing perverse incentives and supports long term investment and planning by removing in-year budget constraints
 - functions with a single office to oversee both currencies and national pricing
 - reforms the High Cost Devices Group with a remit to support adoption of innovation
- developing systematic medtech horizon scanning to identify and accelerate adoption of promising innovations, with direct links into NICE programs, adoption initiatives and coding processes, as appropriate.

We propose the Innovation Partnership should include industry representation to provide input on emerging technology trends and current issues on adoption and diffusion.

ABHI has strong concerns that the move to “re-focussing local Drugs and Therapeutics Committees...on supporting...wider health technologies” will result in the medical technology agenda being diluted. ABHI recommends that specific medtech committees be established and be supported by the Innovation Partnership with a remit including new tariffs & financial mechanisms to support introduction, adoption and long term investment decisions.

ABHI Director, Market Access, Andrew Davies said: *“ABHI welcomes the analysis within the Interim Report and we are committed to continued engagement with the AAR team, NHS England, NHS Improvement, NICE and others to deliver the solutions to the issues identified. A robust implementation plan is key and we strongly recommend that this be explicitly addressed during the next phase of engagement.”*

ENDS

About ABHI

The Association of British Healthcare Industries (ABHI) is the industry association for the medical technology sector in the UK. ABHI’s mission is to champion the benefits and use of safe and effective medical technologies to deliver high quality patient outcomes. With over 250 members, ABHI leads the advocacy of the industry in order to advance access to medical technology. Our membership includes some of the leading multinational businesses in the sector in the UK right the way through to small and medium sized enterprises. For further information, visit the ABHI website (www.abhi.org.uk).

For further information contact:

Gavin Dallas, Communications Manager
Association of British Healthcare Industries (ABHI)
107 Gray’s Inn Road, London, WC1X 8TZ
Mobile: +44 (0)7736 877 203, Direct: +44 (0)20 7960 4377
E-mail: gavin.dallas@abhi.org.uk, Web: www.abhi.org.uk, Twitter: @UK_ABHI