

Establishing Horizon Scanning Activities in the Brazilian Network of Health Technology Assessment

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Definition – Horizon Scanning

- Horizon Scanning (HS) is an integral process of any Health Technology Assessment system, comprising the steps of identification, prioritization and evaluation of new and emerging technologies.

EuroScan (2009)

Objective

- To describe the process of establishing Horizon Scanning activities in the Brazilian Network of Health Technology Assessment (REBRATS).

Tasks

- The first stage in this process was to establish a work group (WG) to coordinate Horizon Scanning activities in the scope of REBRATS.
- The WG defined four tasks to be fulfilled in a period of two years.

Tasks

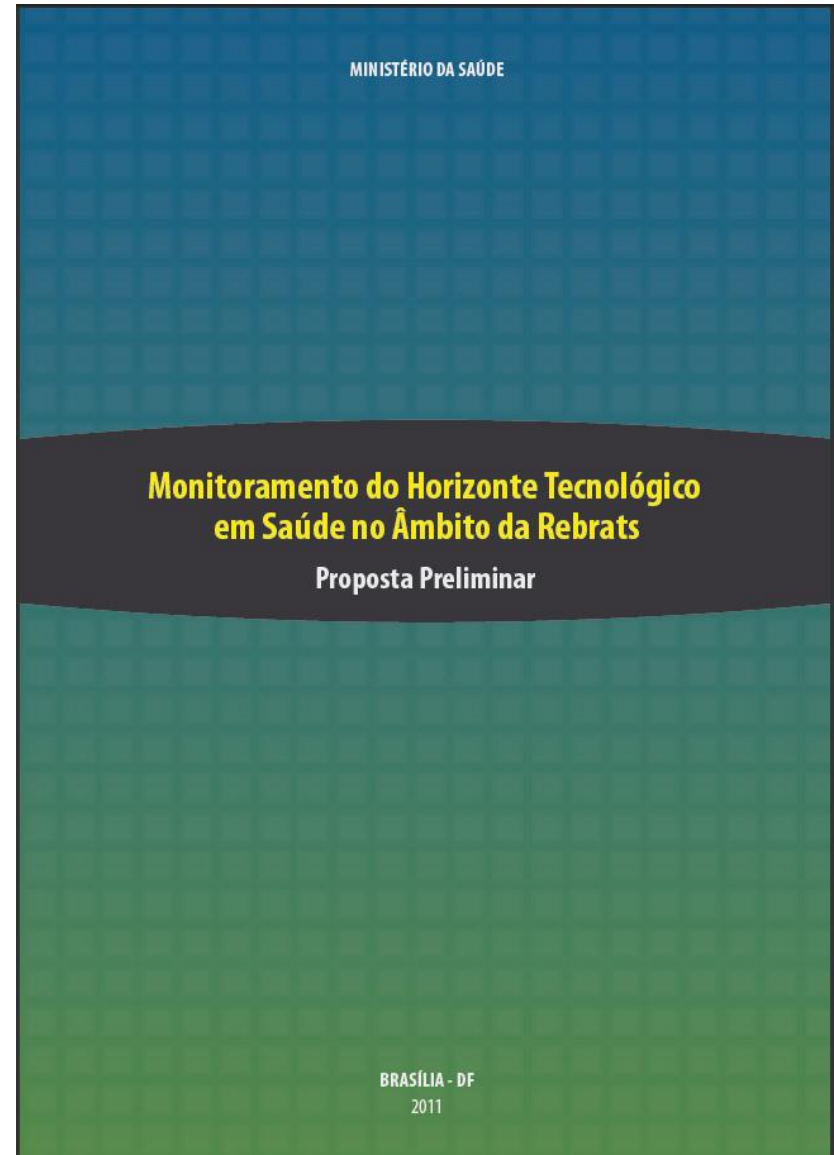
- 1. **Review the literature** in order to identify the methodologies utilized by the most experienced institutions in the field;
- 2. **Prepare a basic text on HS methodologies** in order to support WG discussions on the subject;
- 3. **Organize a workshop** to discuss an HS methodology proposal with managers and other experts in the fields of HTA and technology innovation;
- 4. **Define a pilot study** to validate a questionnaire created to monitor new health technologies.

Results

- The WG defined that HS activities within the REBRATS scope should focus on technologies that are found in the **initial phase of adoption** and that are of high priority for the Unified Health System (SUS).
- The priority scanning criteria were defined as:
 - ❑ **magnitude of the health problem;**
 - ❑ **health service impact;**
 - ❑ **technology characteristics;**
 - ❑ **social pressures;**

Results

The WG's preliminary proposal for a Horizon Scanning methodology in the REBRATS sphere was published in June of 2011.



Results12

- **A pilot study on robotic surgery (*da Vinci*[®])** was selected as the target technology in order to evaluate its impact in the SUS sphere:
 - A questionnaire was developed by the WG to monitor new health technologies;
 - 3 accredited hospitals from the city of São Paulo started to register data about the *da Vinci*[®] prostatectomy surgeries;

Conclusions

- Moreover, it is necessary to continue improving the methodology to be adopted;
- It is important to support ongoing HS activities in the scope of REBRATS.
- A collaboration among DECIT-MoH, PAHO and COPPE-UFRJ was established to guarantee the continuation of this process.

Thank you!

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