



**IFMBE** HTA Division

International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering

IFMBE – International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering

HTAD – Health Technology Assessment Division



## **Consolidated Report**

**2022-2025**

by

Murilo Contó

Chair, IFMBE HTAD

December 2025



**IFMBE** HTA Division

International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering



**Report 2022-2023**

**September 2023**



## 1- START OF WORK - MEMBERS & COMPOSITION

The Health Technology Assessment Division (HTAD) has a composition divided between elected members of the Board and collaborative members interested in participating in the division's actions. Up to two collaborating members can be co-opted to form the Board and only members of the Board are eligible as coordinators of the actions in the planning.

The first HTAD activity with the new composition board (elected during the IUPESM Congress in Singapore 2022) was a meeting held on September 7, 2022, with only the participation of the elected members of the Board. On that occasion, the names of the Treasurer (Ernesto Iadanza) and the Secretary (Rossana Rivas) were defined, in addition to the strategy for calling-invitations for collaborating members.

From the second meeting, held on October 12, 2022, HTAD began to count on the participation of collaborating members, many of whom have already participated in HTAD for many years with all previous Boards elected.

### Members HTAD (Board in bold):

**Murilo Contó, Chair (Brazil)**

**Rossana Rivas Tarazona, Secretariat (Peru)**

**Ernesto Iadanza, Treasurer (Italy)**

**Albert Poon, Board Member (Hong Kong)**

**Daniel Clark, Board Member (UK)**

**Piergiorgio Salerno, Board Member (Italy)**

**Akriti Chahar, Co-opted Member (India)**

Adriana Velazquez, Collaborator Member (Switzerland)

Carmelo De Maria, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Leandro Pecchia, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Mario Medvedec, Collaborator Member (Croatia)

Martina Andellini, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Nicolas Pallikarakis, Collaborator Member (Greece)

Rossella Di Bidino, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Stefania Manetti, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Vatsal Chhaya, Collaborator Member (India)

Veronica Gallegos, Collaborator Member (Mexico)

Victoria Hurtado, Collaborator Member (Chile)

## 2- STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN



During the subsequent meetings held on November 2nd and December 21st, 2022, the strategic action plan 2022-2025 was defined as well as the respective coordinators and team members responsible for each action.

In order to facilitate the management and execution of actions, the members agreed to establish more generic actions such as an “umbrella action plan” with macro activities in order to be able to include several specific actions.

The strategic action plan was thus defined and the activities carried out between September 2022 and September 2023 were reported in sequence.

#### HTAD 2023-2025 Action Plan

##### 1. IFMBE-HTAD Capacity Building Program

<i>Outcome:</i> Training on HTA to BMEs and HTA training contents for the IFMBE HTAD eLearning platform. Summer schools, Special sessions, Seminars, Workshops, Short-Courses about HTA concepts and best practices of this field on medical devices
<i>Benefit:</i> increase HTA culture among BME and share BME culture on HTA of medical devices among non-BME scholars.
<i>Coordinator:</i> Ernesto Iadanza and Daniel Clark
<i>Deliverables:</i> Summer schools; Seminars, Workshops, Short-Courses, Special Sessions, Recorded lessons to feed the HTAD E-Training Platform
<i>Team:</i> Ernesto Iadanza, Dan Clark, Nicolas Pallikarakis, Stefania Manetti, Albert Poon, Carmelo de Maria, Piergiorgio Salerno

##### 2. Webinar Series on HTA in Medical Devices

<i>Outcome:</i> promote one webinar a month in partnership with HTAD members and guests from other institutions involved in HTA practices (e.g., PAHO/WHO, ISPOR, HTAI, INAHTA)
<i>Benefit:</i> disseminate HTA practices among BMEs and non-BMEs.
<i>Coordinator:</i> Rossana Rivas
<i>Deliverables:</i> Lectures, short-courses/tracks, Recorded lessons to feed the HTAD E-Training Platform
<i>Team:</i> Rossana Rivas, Rossella di Bidino, Murilo Contó, Vatsal Chhaya

##### 3. Collaboration with International Organizations (Health Policies and HTA Practices)

<i>Outcome:</i> Presence and participation of cooperation works with traditional organizations of Health Policies and HTA such as WHO, INAHTA, ISPOR, HTAi and national MoHs
<i>Benefit:</i> Projection and creation of a IFMBE-HTAD identity with presence and participation in the main forums and initiative about HTA
<i>Coordinator:</i> Murilo Contó
<i>Deliverables:</i> Presence and participation representing IFMBE in the main Forums
<i>Team:</i> Murilo Contó, Stefania Manetti, Rossana Rivas, Akriti Chahar, Vatsal Chhaya

##### 4. HTAD Strategic Communication & Advocacy

<i>Outcome:</i> Activities for branding and presence of IFMBE-HTAD in main HTA Forums around the world to disseminate initiatives and needs to assess medical devices and the important role of BME in these processes
<i>Benefit:</i> Projection and creation of an IFMBE-HTAD identity with presence and participation in the main forums and initiatives about HTA in medical devices
<i>Coordinator:</i> Murilo Contó
<i>Deliverables:</i> Presence and participation representing IFMBE in the main Forums
<i>Team:</i> Murilo Contó, Rossana Rivas, Mario Medvedec, Ernesto Iadanza

##### 5. IFMBE HTAD Publications

<i>Outcome:</i> Development and of different approach to assess medical devices and the important role of BME in these processes
<i>Benefit:</i> Creation of IFMBE-HTAD reference materials for HTA professionals working in the assessing of medical devices
<i>Coordinator:</i> Akriti Chahar
<i>Deliverables:</i> Guides, Articles, One Pages, Literature Reviews about relevant topics such as Research designs, RWE, Economic Evaluation, Quality of Evidence Tools, HTA Hospital-based, etc
<i>Team:</i> Akriti Chahar, Stefania Manetti, Leandro Pechia, Vatsal Chhaya

##### 6. IFMBE HTAD Awards

<i>Outcome:</i> recognize individuals and organizations that contribute to the promotion and support of BME in HTA with three IFMBE HTAD prizes: /1) Best Paper Award, to BME and CE publishing outstanding HTA papers to journal or conferences. /2) Policy Award, to policymakers or stakeholders giving significant contribution recognition to BME in HTA. /3) Outstanding Contribution Award to individual giving outstanding contributions to BME involvement in HTA.
<i>Benefit:</i> IFMBE-HTAD Recognition of relevant contributions of the HTA of medical devices field
<i>Coordinator:</i> Piergiorgio Salerno
<i>Deliverables:</i> Promotion and Leverage publications of Articles, One Pages, Literature Reviews
<i>Team:</i> Piergiorgio Salerno, Mario Medvedec, Murilo Contó, Ernesto Iadanza, Nicolas Pallikarakis

### 3- CAPACITY BUILDING, WEBINARS & COLLABORATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

These three actions are integrated with connections between them. Despite the capacity building program and the webinars can be performed only with the HTAD members, these actions gain more attractivity and propagation if conducted with partner institutions. Thus, the HTAD members are seeking important connections with other institutions to execute their actions.

#### 3.1- HTAi – Health Technology Assessment International

HTAi is one of the most important international societies in the HTA field. The last HTAi annual meeting held in Adelaide, Australia, was attended by over 700 delegates of 42 different



countries. In a meeting with HTAi representatives (Antonio Migliore and Nicola Vicari) possibilities were discussed to organize joint actions related to HTA applied to medical devices and biomedical engineering. Considering that HTA for medical devices must have a different approach to that applied to medicines, were prioritized three joint activities IFMBE-HTAD & HTAi: Mini-Courses and Workshops, Webinar Series and setting of Working Groups specific to publications.

### 3.2- Course of Clinical Research & Hospital-based HTA

One of the results of the partnership with HTAi is a course on Clinical Research and Hospital-Based HTA, with professionals from Canada's Mc Master University to be held between October 24-26, 2023, at the Universidade Estadual Paulista (Botucatu campus), São Paulo, Brazil. The course will be in a hybrid format, free of charge, broadcast via the Zoom platform and will feature one day dedicated to Research and HTA in medical devices. In addition to the support of IFMBE-HTAD and HTAi, the event also has the official support of the Brazilian HTA Network and the Brazilian Ministry of Health.



### 3.3- Workshop IFMBE-HTAD, HTAi, REBRATS & Redetsa – HTA in Medical Devices



With a pre-defined date for the 11th, 12th and 13th of December 2023, a Workshop in a hybrid and free format is currently in the formatting phase to be held at the PAHO-WHO headquarters in Brasília, Brazil. The event will feature classes from international guests in English and the content of which will be recorded to be later uploaded in the HTAD E-Training platform. The organization and coordination will be divided between IFMBE-HTAD and the Brazilian Ministry of Health which, through its Department of Management and Incorporation of Health Technologies, manages REBRATS – Brazilian HTA Network. In the photo on the side, at the Ministry of Health in Brasília/DF, with Dr. Ávila Vidal, coordinator of REBRATS.

### 3.4- HTAD Webinars Series

In meetings with WHO and the CED-Clinical Engineering Division, some priority themes were defined for carrying out the series of Webinars on HTA for Medical Devices. Strategically, a synergy of efforts was established with IFMBE-CED so that there were no overlapping agendas or approaches to similar topics. The Webinar calendar for the months of October, November and December 2023 is being defined by the division chairs, together with Adriana Velazquez from WHO and Rossana Rivas who is an elected member of both Divisions HTAD and CED. HTAi will participate with support for disseminating and transmitting the Webinars to the entire global HTA community and will suggest speakers and topics to be covered.

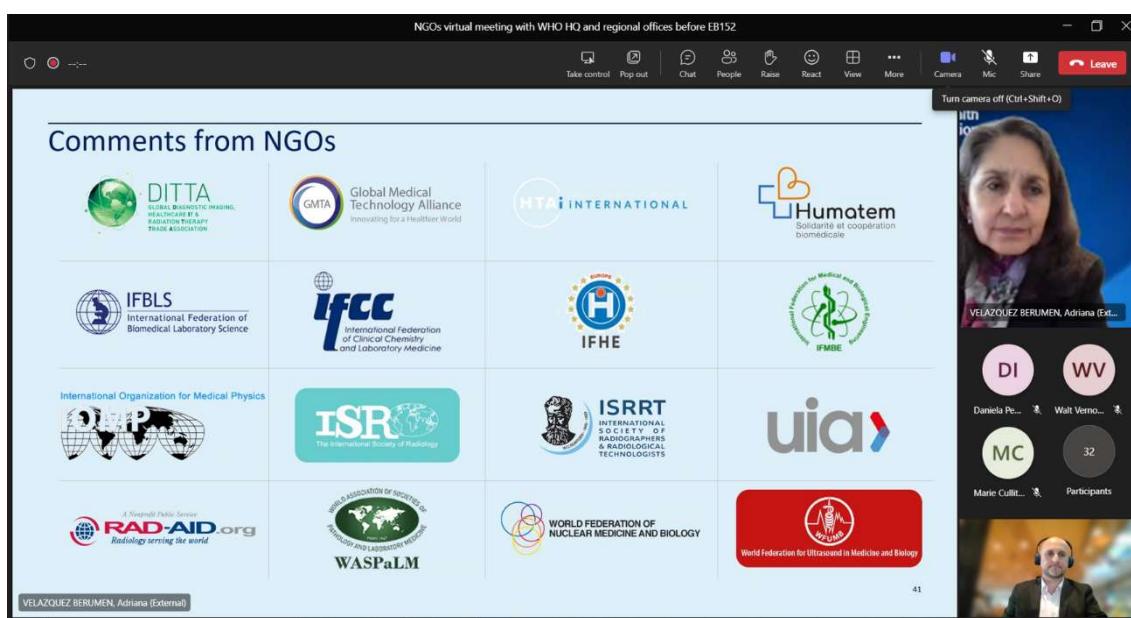
### 3.5- Collaboration with International Organizations



Several meetings and conversations have been and continue to be held periodically with bodies representing the areas of medical devices, biomedical engineering, and health technology assessment. Highlighting the WHO with participation in the NGOs meetings, representing IFMBE, the definition of themes of the HTAD's webinars aligned with WHO priorities and the HTAD support in the review and update of the HTA of Medical Devices publication of the WHO Medical Devices Series Publications. HTAD provide the support as well for the publication on HTA in Medical Devices prepared by the RedETSA - HTA Network of the Americas coordinated by PAHO – Pan American Health Organization.

With HTAi - Health Technology Assessment International, conversations are in progress for joined works about events, webinars, and publications.

Other conversations and contacts have been maintained with other national organizations such as government bodies, universities, and biomedical engineering societies.



*Participation in the NGOs meeting promoted by WHO representing IFMBE.*

#### 4- STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY

In addition to contacts and connections with representative bodies and institutions at a global level for the areas of HTA, Medical Devices and Biomedical Engineering, IFMBE-HTAD was present at several local events and webinars disseminating the relevance and importance of biomedical engineering and actions to strengthen the HTA area in medical devices. Some of these participations are listed below.

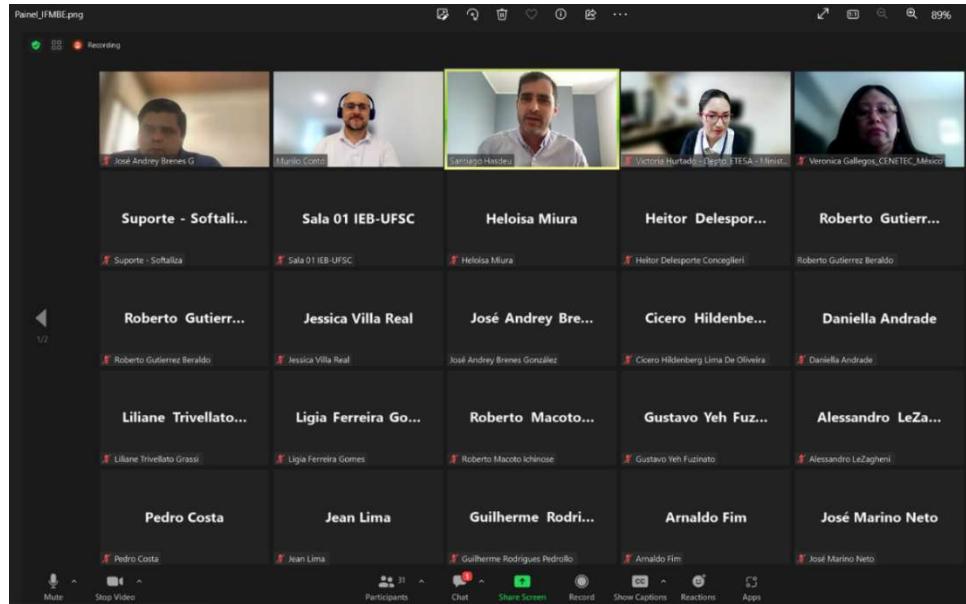
##### 4.1- Mexican Biomedical Engineering Congress SOMIB

Participation in the Mexican Biomedical Engineering Congress organized by SOMIB – Mexican Biomedical Engineering Society, in a Panel to present HTAD and the fundamental role of health technology assessment in conjunction with CED. The speakers of this panel were: Fabiola Martínez (IFMBE-CED), Murilo Contó (IFMBE-HTAD) and Eduardo Fernández (SABI – Argentinean Biomedical Engineering Society).

##### 4.2- CLAIB/CBEB 2022 Latin American and Brazilian Biomedical Engineering Congress



HTAD coordinated a special session about initiatives about medical devices in the Americas region with Murilo Contó (HTAD) and Fabiola Martinez (CED) as chair and co-chair and speakers from Argentina (Santiago Hasdeu/RedARETS), Chile (Victoria Hurtado/MoH), Colombia (Javier Camacho/EIA), Costa Rica (Jose Andrey/MoH) and Mexico (Veronica Gallegos/ CENETEC).



*IFMBE Special Panel – Medical Devices Initiatives in the Americas Region.*

Other special session organized by HTAD was a plenary to announce the winners of the SBEB-Boston Scientific Award with winners from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Paraguay.



*Innovation Award special session during CLAIB/CBEB 2022*

### **4.3- Innovation Award in Biomedical Engineering – 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition**

For the occasion of the CLAIB - Latin American Biomedical Engineering Congress taking place in Brazil in 2022, the organization conducted by SBEB – Brazilian Biomedical Engineering Society decided to create for the first time a type of award dedicated to other Latin American countries, in addition to the one originally given to Brazilian initiatives.



The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Award reached significant numbers in terms of competing projects and partnerships with over 60 different Institutions all over Latin America providing specialized evaluators, including members of IFMBE, CORAL, National Societies, Ministries of Health, National Surveillance Agencies, PAHO-WHO, Universities, and other relevant institutions in the health technology and innovation fields, to choose the winning projects. Webinars for calling the submissions of projects were organized, resulting in 192 projects and 13 Latin American countries directly involved with the event. The award ceremony included a special session (remotely) during CLAIB-CBEB 2022 and an in-person ceremony in the city of São Paulo, Brazil, with a live broadcast reaching more than 500 views. Considering the Webinars and the Awards ceremony, the audience total reached almost 1000 views.



Webinar posters and the winners of the Award during the ceremony - with Helio Schechtman, president of SBEB; Adilton Ribeiro, vice-President of SBEB; and Murilo Contó HTAD-IFMBE chair

### 4.4- CONIIC – International Clinical Engineering Congress

Rossana Rivas, HTAD Board, participated of the conference CONIIC - International Clinical Engineering Congress in Medellin, Colombia, presented the lecture: "Value Approach to Decision Making on Health Technology Acquisition and Planning" on March 30th-31st, 2023.



*Rossana Rivas presenting in CONIIC 2023 in Medellin, Colombia*

### 4.5- Webinar HTA: a new career dimension for Biomedical Engineers

Organized by Rossana Rivas, HTAD Board, on June 10th, 2023, this webinar brought a presentation of Vatsal Chhaya, HTAD collaborator, aimed to the Biomedical Engineering Undergraduate Program of the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Peru, explain the field and roles of the HTA professionals.



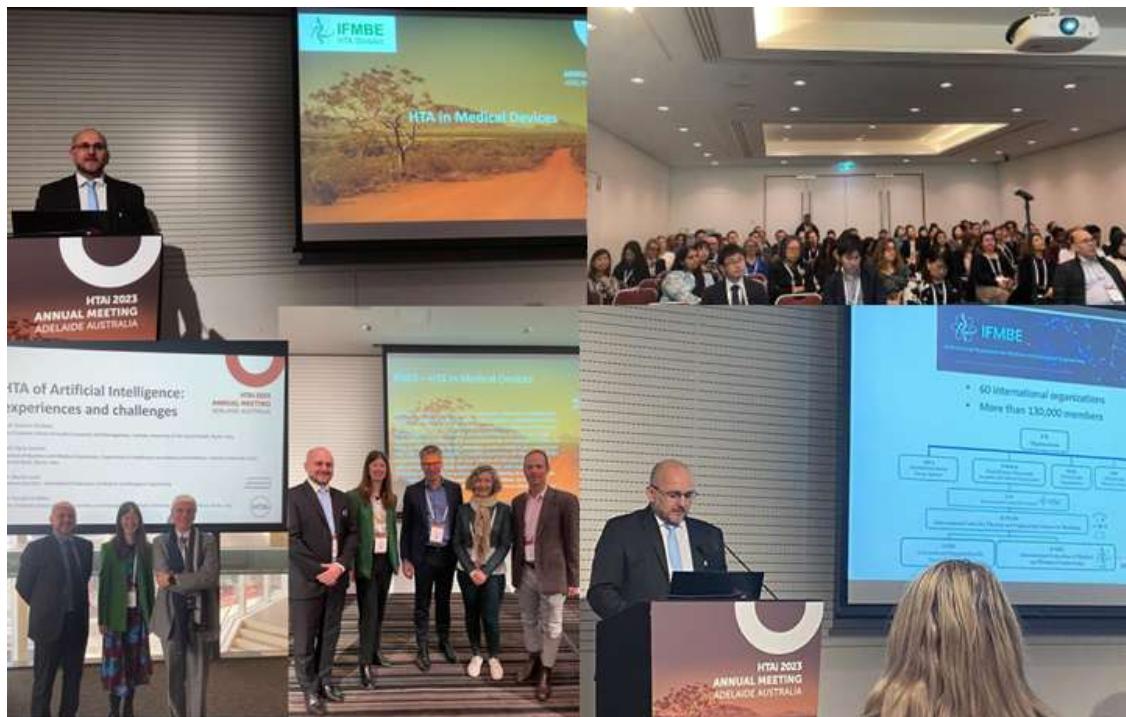
*Vatsal Chhaya and Rossana Rivas with Biomedical Engineering Students in the Webinar*

### 4.6- HTAi Annual Meeting – Adelaide, Australia, June 2023

IFMBE-HTAD was present in two sessions during the HTAi Annual Meeting, a Workshop on HTA in Artificial Intelligence, organized by Rossella di Bidino (Italy), collaborator member of HTAD-IFMBE, who also presented preliminary results of research on the HTA in AI that she has been developing. This Workshop also featured a presentation by Murilo Contó, IFMBE-HTAD chair, dealing with the possibilities of tools and future advances with AI in HTA of medical devices and procedures. The second session was a special panel of IFMBE-HTAD about HTA in Medical Devices to share different perspectives about the need to promote a different approach when the HTA involves medical devices. The session was chairing by the IFMBE-HTAD chair, Murilo Contó, and counted with speakers: Rossella di Bidino, HTAD collaborator member and research of Università del Sacro Cuore Rome, Italy; Aline Silveira, specialist in HTA and partner at the



Patient Voices Network, Canada; Michael Simmonds, Health Economics Director of Boston Scientific, Australia; and, Paul Dale, Policy Director of Medical Technology Association, Australia. Over 100 attendees were present in this special session demonstrating the relevance of this topic for HTA specialists and health managers around the world.



Workshop HTA of AI and Special Session HTA in Medical Devices Adelaide HTAi

### 4.7- ISPOR Health Technology Assessment – Round Table Latin America

Organized on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, by ISPOR – International Society of Health Economics and Outcomes Research, the roundtable with representatives of payers, appraisal bodies and specialists, promoted discussions about the deliberative processes and stakeholder involvement in the making decision. Rossana Rivas, HTAD Board, participated in the discussion representing IFMBE-HTAD.



Rossana Rivas representing IFMBE-HTAD in the ISPOR roundtable.



## 4.8- Africa Regional Biomedical Engineering & Health Technology Conference

Participation in the 1st African Regional Conference on Biomedical Engineering in a special session with the presence of IFMBE-HTAD together with IFMBE-CED, to present projects and possibilities for cooperation with the countries in the African region willing to join efforts.



IFMBE session during the 1<sup>st</sup> Africa Biomedical Engineering Conference

## 4.9- Argentinean Biomedical Engineering Congress SABI

The Argentinean Society of Bioengineering - SABI Congress will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina on October 3-6th, 2023. Murilo Contó, HTAD Chair, and Rossana Rivas, HTAD Board, are panelists in three different sessions, being one specifically to talk about Health Technology Assessment of Medical Devices in Latin America – a roundtable with representatives of Argentinean government, Academy and PAHO – Pan American Health Organization.



## 5- PUBLICATIONS

There have not been many advances in relation to the possibilities of publications related to HTA in medical devices or related themes. In one of the work meetings, Verónica Gallegos (CENETEC, Mexico) and Victoria Hurtado (MoH Chile), HTAD collaborator members, presented



the results of a literature review about best practices of HTA in Medical Devices that members of RedETSA conducted and should be converted in a publication by PAHO. HTAD was ready to assist the authors with a review and to support probable publication in a periodical with good circulation.

In order to stimulate new publications in the near future, IFMBE-HTAD and HTAi aligned the possibility to create specific Working Groups to work focused in publications on topics related to HTA in medical devices.

## 6- HTAD BEST PAPER AWARD

Due to delays in choosing the best articles published on HTA in biomedical engineering in 2022, this process will be unified with the choice of the best works in 2023. In 2022 the selection process was initiated by collaborator Mario Medvedec, with subsequent involvement from the elected member Piergiorgio Salerno. Only 5 papers were selected and seeking to increase this number, a search of the proceedings of the IUPESM Singapore Congress would be conducted for a final list of candidate papers. The process to select the best papers in the 2022 and 2023 will be completed by December 2023.



**IFMBE** HTA Division

International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering



## **Report 2023-2024**

**June 2024**



## 1- HTAD COMPOSITION – Board & Collaborators

The Health Technology Assessment Division (HTAD) has a composition divided between elected members of the Board and collaborative members interested in participating in the division's actions. Since the last HTAD Annual Report (2022-2023), the composition of the division basically wasn't change, exception for the entrance of two new collaborators from Jordan and Colombia.

Nowadays, HTAD board has six elected members with three members with specific roles: Murilo Contó (Brazil) as Chair; Rossana Rivas Tarazona as Secretariat and co-chair; Ernesto Iadanza as Treasurer; and 13 other collaborator members.

The current full composition of the HTAD is:

Members HTAD (Board in bold):

**Murilo Contó, Chair (Brazil)**

**Rossana Rivas Tarazona, Secretariat and co-chair (Peru)**

**Ernesto Iadanza, Treasurer (Italy)**

**Albert Poon, Board Member (Hong Kong)**

**Daniel Clark, Board Member (UK)**

**Piergiorgio Salerno, Board Member (Italy)**

Akriti Chahar, Collaborator Member (India)

Adriana Velazquez, Collaborator Member (Switzerland)

Carmelo De Maria, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Hashem Alfadel, Collaborator Member (Jordan)

Leandro Pecchia, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Mabel Catalina Zapata Alvarez, Collaborator Member (Colombia)

Mario Medvedec, Collaborator Member (Croatia)

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Veronica Gallegos, Collaborator Member (Mexico)

Victoria Hurtado, Collaborator Member (Chile)



## 2- STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

A strategic action plan established in 2022 didn't have any changes, remaining with six generic actions, such as an "umbrella action plan", with macro activities in order to be able to include several other specific actions aligned with the main topic.

The strategic action plan is currently defined with the follow activities:

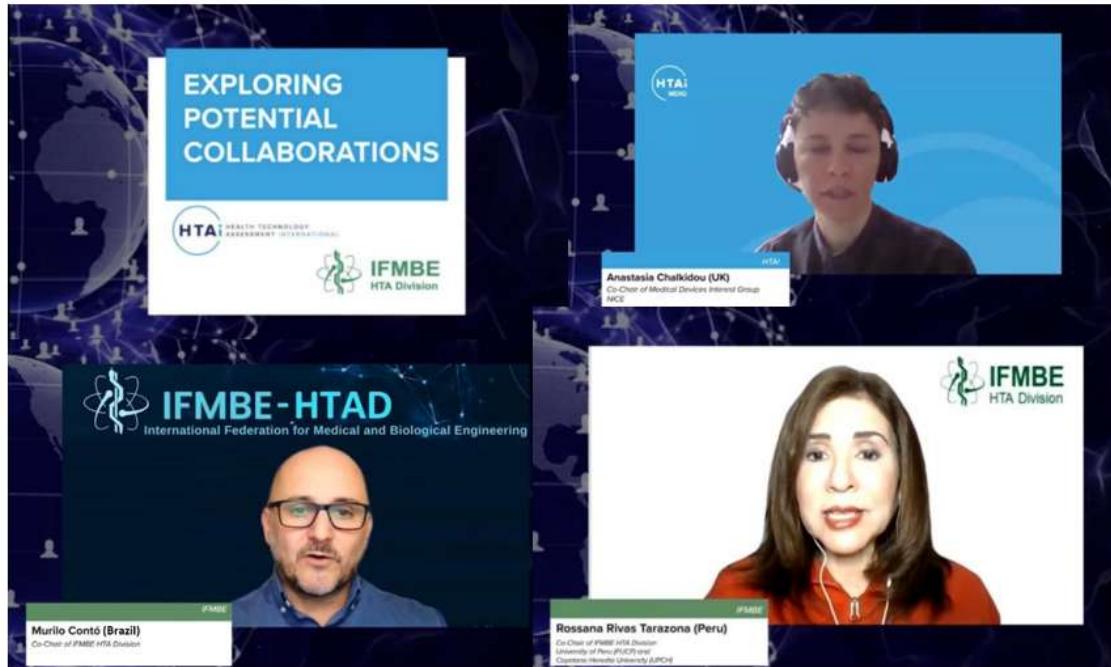
### HTAD 2023-2025 Action Plan

1. IFMBE-HTAD Capacity Building Program
<i>Outcome:</i> Training on HTA to BMEs and HTA training contents for the IFMBE HTAD eLearning platform. Summer schools, Special sessions, Seminars, Workshops, Short-Courses about HTA concepts and best practices of this field on medical devices
<i>Benefit:</i> increase HTA culture among BME and share BME culture on HTA of medical devices among non-BME scholars.
<i>Coordinator:</i> Ernesto Iadanza and Daniel Clark
<i>Deliverables:</i> Summer schools; Seminars, Workshops, Short-Courses, Special Sessions, Recorded lessons to feed the HTAD E-Training Platform
<i>Team:</i> Ernesto Iadanza, Dan Clark, Nicolas Paliakarakis, Stefania Manetti, Albert Poon, Carmelo de María, Piergiorgio Salerno
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<i>Outcome:</i> promote one webinar a month in partnership with HTAD members and guests from other institutions involved in HTA practices (e.g., PAHO/WHO, ISPOR, HTAI, INAHTA)
<i>Benefit:</i> disseminate HTA practices among BMEs and non-BMEs.
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<i>Outcome:</i> Presence and participation of cooperation works with traditional organizations of Health Policies and HTA such as WHO, INAHTA, ISPOR, HTAI and national MoHs
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6. IFMBE HTAD Awards
<i>Outcome:</i> recognize individuals and organizations that contribute to the promotion and support of BME in HTA with three IFMBE HTAD prizes: /1) Best Paper Award, to BME and CE publishing outstanding HTA papers to journal or conferences. /2) Policy Award, to policymakers or stakeholders giving significant contribution recognition to BME in HTA. /3) Outstanding Contribution Award to individual giving outstanding contributions to BME involvement in HTA.
<i>Benefit:</i> IFMBE-HTAD Recognition of relevant contributions of the HTA of medical devices field
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<i>Deliverables:</i> Promotion and Leverage publications of Articles, One Pages, Literature Reviews
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## 3- CAPACITY BUILDING, WEBINARS & INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

### 3.1. HTAi Partnership HTAi

Despite the capacity building program and the webinars can be performed only with the HTAD members, these actions gain more attractivity and propagation if conducted with partner institutions. Since 2023, the HTAD members established an important connection with HTAi – Health Technology Assessment International. HTAi is the most important international society in the HTA field around the world. These actions are integrated with connections between them and are promoted together with the Medical Devices Interest Group and Hospital-Based HTA Interest Group to leverage the IFMBE inside of HTA and Policy Makers community around the world.



*Partnership announcement video with HTAD-IFMBE and HTAi Interest Groups.*

### 3.2- Special Session in HTAi Annual Meeting Conference 2023 & 2024

Two good examples about that are the HTAi Annual Meeting 2023, in Adelaide, Australia, where HTAD organized a special session with more than 100 attendants from several countries. Considering the success of that session in Australia and because HTA for medical devices represents a challenge due different aspects to considering when compared with medicines, another special session about HTA of Medical Devices will be performed in the next HTAi Annual Meeting in Seville, Spain, in June 15-19<sup>th</sup>. For this session, HTAD will be represented by Murilo Contó accumulating the roles as moderator and speaker. The other speakers will be Adriana Velazquez (WHO), Anastasia Chalkidou (NICE, UK), and Rossella di Bidino (University Sacro Cuore, Italy). The proposal of this session is to cover different perspectives (from international organization, government and academia/hospital) about particular aspects of medical devices that, if properly observed, can enable a more comprehensive approach and a more sustainable incorporation to the health systems.





## HTAD-IFMBE Special Session "HTA of Medical Devices" - HTAi Conference in Adelaide, Australia 2023



## Special Session - Approved

## HTA in Medical Devices - Challenges and Advances Towards Sustainable Healthcare Systems

This panel will have speakers working in HTA of medical devices, bringing different perspectives (international organization, government, academia/hospital and industry) about particular aspects of medical devices that, if properly observed, can enable a more comprehensive approach and a more sustainable incorporation. The work to update of the WHO publication on HTA of Medical Devices will be presented during the panel.

Contó M<sup>1,5</sup>, Velazquez A<sup>1,2</sup>, Chalkidou A<sup>3</sup>, Di Bidino R<sup>1,4</sup>, Martinez I<sup>5</sup>  
<sup>1</sup> IFMBE - International Federation for Biological and Medical Engineering, Boston, USA  
<sup>2</sup> WHO - World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland  
<sup>3</sup> NICE - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, London, United Kingdom  
<sup>4</sup> University of Rome, Rome, Italy  
<sup>5</sup> Boston Scientific, Madrid, Spain

## Speakers



Murilo Contó – Boston Scientific BRA &amp; IFMBE



Adriana Velazquez – WHO



Anastasia Chalkidou – NICE



Rossella di Bidino – Hosp. Agostino Gemelli &amp; University of Rome



Inma Roug Martinez – Boston Scientific EMEA

## HTAD-IFMBE Special Session "HTA of Medical Devices" in the HTAi Annual Meeting in Seville, Spain 2024

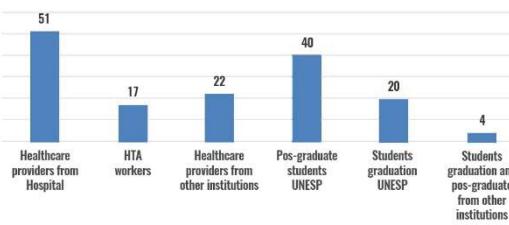
## 3.3- International Workshop on Clinical Research &amp; Hospital-based HTA - 2023

In a partnership with REBRATS – HTA Brazilian network, HTAi and Mc Master University (Canada) the first International Workshop on Clinical Research and Hospital-Based HTA, was held between October 24-26, 2023, at the Universidade Estadual Paulista (Botucatu campus), São Paulo, Brazil. The workshop was in a hybrid format, free of charge, broadcast via the Zoom platform and had one day dedicated exclusively to approach HTA in medical devices. In addition to the support of IFMBE-HTAD and HTAi, the event also has the official support of the Brazilian HTA Network and the Brazilian Ministry of Health. The total of participants in person was 154 attendants, but as the content was recorded, the audience continues to grow on the YouTube platform.



Total participants present : 154

Number of participants by category



This report provides a characterization of the participating audience, the satisfaction survey results, post-event details, information about sponsors, event photos, and the next project (2024)



Jean-Eric Tarride and Lehana Thabane



Fotini Taska, Murilo Conto and Evelinda Trindade



Ana Carolina – Ministry of Health



### 3.4- II International Workshop on Clinical Research & Hospital-based HTA - 2024

Considering the success of the 2023 edition and the great interest in HTA focused on medical devices and equipment, REBRATS together with HTAD-IFMBE decided to hold a second edition of the International Workshop in this year 2024 dedicated exclusively to HTA of medical devices, having as main audience Clinical and Biomedical Engineers. As international guests for this edition, the presence of speakers Ernesto Iadanza (IFMBE) and Jani Müller (HTAi) were invited and confirmed. The II Edition will be held between 24-26 November at the Universidade Estadual Paulista (Botucatu campus), São Paulo, Brazil.



*Speakers of the II International Workhop REBRATS, HTAi and HTAD-IFMBE 2024*

*Ernesto Iadanza (IFMBE) and Jani Müller (HTAi)*

### 3.5- Collaboration with International Organizations - WHO

The main collaborative work carried out over the last year was IFMBE-HTAD's effective participation in the process of updating the WHO compendium of innovative health technologies for low-resource settings. The work involved a team of 12 collaborating members and specialists in HTA for medical devices from HTAD-IFMBE who evaluated more than 60 projects between the months of November and December 2023. HTAD was responsible for the Health Technology Assessment topic, but the compendium considered other important aspects for technology eligibility: Clinical and Regulatory Aspects, Health Technology Management and Intellectual property. It is important to highlight the fundamental role played by INBIT - Institute of Biomedical Technology, Patras, Greece, which through its directors, Nicolas Pallikarakis and Aris Dermitzakis, carried out brilliant coordination of the evaluation work with IFMBE-HTAD.

A screenshot of a video conference call with six participants. On the right, a slide for the WHO Compendium of Innovative Health Technologies for Low-Resource Settings is displayed. The slide has a red and orange gradient background. At the top, it says "WHO compendium of innovative health technologies for low-resource settings". Below that, there is a list of categories: Medical devices, e-Health/mHealth, Medical simulation devices, Personal protective equipment, Assistive products, and Other technologies. At the bottom, there is a section titled "Health technology assessment" with a table showing indicators, evidence assessment, and innovation. The table includes categories like Medical, Safety, Economic, Organizational, Legal, Social, Ethical, and Green environment, each with a green checkmark icon.



*Team works to evaluate health technology projects to WHO Compendium*

## 4- STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY

In addition to contacts and connections with representative bodies and institutions at a global level for the areas of HTA, Medical Devices and Biomedical Engineering, IFMBE-HTAD was present at several local events and webinars disseminating the relevance and importance of biomedical engineering and actions to strengthen the HTA area in medical devices. Some of these participations are listed below.

### 4.1- Innovation Award in Biomedical Engineering – 4<sup>th</sup> Edition - 2023

Organized by SBEB - Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering, the 4th edition of the Innovation Award in Biomedical Engineering for Latin America had more than 100 projects submitted from 13 countries, with the following works being awarded.

Project	Author	University
Adjustment of the Potential of the Cricopharyngeal Muscle	Fabian Usuga	Universidad de Antioquia – Colombia
Remote monitoring of Biological Sample Banks	Ronald Coluchi	Universidad Nacional de Asunción - Paraguay
Ultrasound device for treating epileptic foci	Natalia Badenian	Universidad de la República - Uruguay
CARE - Cardiorespiratory Monitoring Device for Detection of Extubation Failure	Felipe Fava de Lima	University of São Paulo
Computational Intelligence in Supporting the Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease	Raimundo Guimarães Saraiva Junior	University of Brasília
RehaBEElitation: a serious game for the rehabilitation and monitoring of individuals with Parkinson's disease	Luanne Cardoso Mendes	Federal University of Uberlândia



*Winners – SBEB Innovation Biomedical Engineering Award 2023*



The award ceremony was held in São Paulo at 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023, with a live broadcast reaching more than 500 views. A special *honoris causa* award was given to Dr. Vania Canuto, former Director of the CONITEC - National Committee for Health Technology Incorporation into Public Health System in Brazil and current Advisor of RedETSA/PAHO, by the creation of a specific Committee for Medical Devices in the CONITEC. The audience total reached almost 1000 views including the ceremony and a webinar organized by SBEB and IFMBE (HTAD and CED) with Government Authorities. This initiative is officially supported by Ministry of Health and Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Brazil.



*Webinar with Adilton Carneiro (SBEB president), Fabiola Martinez (Chair CED-IFMBE), Murilo Contó (Chair HTAD-IFMBE) and Brazilian Government Authorities; Dr Vania Canuto in remote participation, receiving the "honoris causa" award.*

### 4.2 – Medical Devices Planning & Health Technology Assessment Conference

During the conference "Medical Devices Planning & Health Technology Assessment", Rossana Rivas, Co-Chair of HTAD-IFMBE presented the lecture "Engineering for Health International Congress", organized by College of Engineers of Peru, Lima, Peru on November 21<sup>st</sup> 2023.



*Rossana Rivas talking about Engineering for Health International*



### 4.3 – Participation at ICEHTMC India

Organized by GCE – Global Clinical Engineering Alliance, the 5<sup>th</sup> International Clinical Engineering and Health Technology Management Conference was held in Visakhapatnam, India in November 2023 and counted with a special participation of HTAD with the lecture about Health Technology Assessment and interactions with Clinical Engineering.



### 4.4 - Argentinean Biomedical Engineering Congress SABI

The Argentinean Society of Bioengineering - SABI Congress was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina on October 3-6th, 2023. Murilo Contó, HTAD Chair, and Rossana Rivas, HTAD Board, were panelists in three different sessions, being one specifically to talk about Health Technology Assessment of Medical Devices in Latin America – a roundtable with representatives of Argentinean government (Manuel Donato, CONETEC), Academy (Fernando Ballina) and RedETSA (Santiago Hasdeu, Americas HTA Network) coordinated by PAHO – Pan American Health Organization. The event was attended by approximately 800 participants, with 12 international speakers and 180 published works.



*Fernando Ballina (SABI), Santiago Hasdeu (RedETSA), Rossana Rivas (HTAD-IFMBE), Murilo Contó*

*(IFMBE-HTAD) and Manuel Donato (CNETEC) during the panel about HTA of Medical Devices;*

*Proceedings of the SABI Congress*

In the closing session, the SABI Congress had the participation of the Minister of Health of the Argentine Republic, who announced two important milestones for biomedical engineering in the country and Latin America: 1) the obligation of a clinical engineering department in all federal hospitals in the country; and, 2) the publication of a guide to good practices in clinical engineering to ensure the safety and effectiveness of medical and hospital equipment.



*Rossana Rivas (HTAD-IFMBE); Murilo Contó (HTAD-IFMBE), Minister of Health, Dr Carla Vizzotti and Binseng Wang (GCEA) in the closing session of SABI Congress*

#### **4.5 – Lectures about Health Technology Assessment of Medical Devices**

Organized and moderated by Rossana Rivas (HTAD-IFMBE) the lecture “Health Technology Assessment of Medical Devices” was provided by Nana Odom, Cleveland Clinic London, at the PUCP-UPCH Universities, Biomedical Engineering Undergraduate Program, Lima, Peru on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.



In the same university and also Cayetano Heredia University of Peru, Rossana performed another lecture: “Value, Trends and Impact of Health Technology Assessment in Biomedical Engineering”, conference provided for the Association of Students of the Biomedical Engineering (PUCP-UPCH Undergraduate Program), Lima, Peru (February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024).





## 4.7- Conferences at Hospitalar Fair

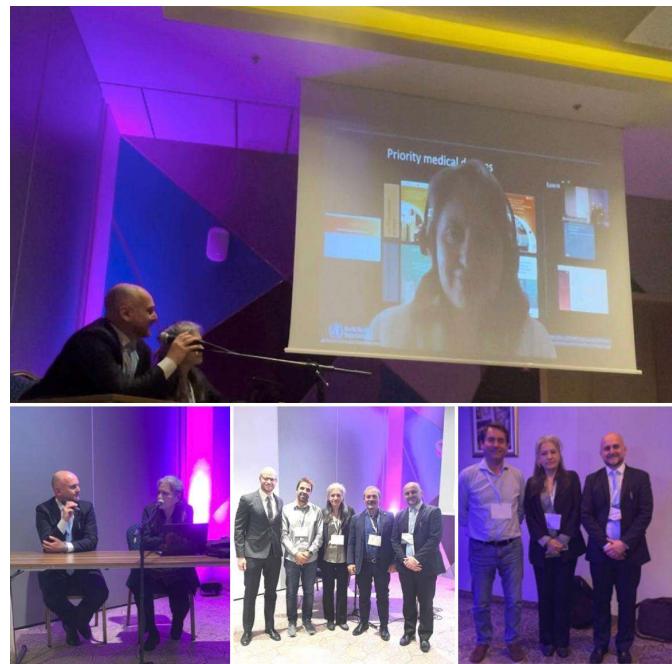
Organized by the Informa Markets Healthcare group, the Hospitalar Fair in São Paulo, Brazil already was considered, no doubt, the second greatest fair on medical equipment and devices in the world. Nowadays, this second place is competed with the Arab Health Fair in Dubai, organized by the same group. The greatest Fair of Medical Equipment is the Medica Fair in Dusseldorf, Germany. The 2024 edition of Hospitalar counted with around 90 thousand visitors from 100 different countries, with more than 1000 exhibitors from many countries. During the 4 days of the Fair, many conferences, panels and seminars were organized by societies and professional associations. SBEB – Biomedical Engineering Brazilian Society, organized panel to discuss the HTA of innovation in healthcare, having as speakers, Dr. Avila Vidal (Coordinator of HTA Brazilian Network in the Ministry of Health of Brazil; Dr Fotini Toscas, Medical Devices and HTA Researcher; and Murilo Contó, chair of HTAD-IFMBE. In the same fair, Brazilian High Innovation Industry in Healthcare Brazilian Association, organized another panel about best practices for HTA of Medical Devices. Once again, Murilo Contó was a speaker guest with other distinguish panelists speaking from the Agency, Hospital, Government and Academy perspective.



*Participations of HTAD-IFMBE Chair, Murilo Contó, during the conferences at Hospitalar Fair*

## 4.8 – MEDICON 2023

During MEDICON 2023 in Sarajevo, HTAD-IFMBE was represented by Murilo Contó, participating in discussions on potential joint actions with the other IFMBE divisions (CED and DHD) and collaborative work with WHO.



HTAD-IFMBE with CED, DHD and WHO during Medicon 2023

#### 4.9 – REBRATS Congress 2023

At the congress of the Brazilian Health Technology Assessment Network, HTAD-IFMBE supported the preparation of work that was presented during the event regarding the need for review and a more appropriate approach related to medical devices in Methodological Guidelines for the preparation of Technical-Scientific Opinions in HTA. Photo on the side with Murilo Contó (HTAD-IFMBE) and Eng. Anna Pereira, author of the work on the proposal to review the methodological guidelines to include more particularities about medical devices.



#### 4.10 - Lecture “The Roles and Carrier Possibilities of Biomedica Engineer” - UNINTER

Promoted by Eng. Ederson Cichaczewski, biomedical engineering coordinator at UNINTER University this online lecture already achieved more than 450 views in the YouTube where Murilo Contó (HTAD-IFMBE) talks about the biomedical engineering field and market work. It was held on September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023.





### 4.11 – Conference HTA in Peru

Organized by Rossana Rivas (HTAD-IFMBE), Health Technology Assessment in Peru conference was presented by Karen Huamán from National Institute for Health, at the Biomedical Engineering Undergraduate Program of PUCP & UPCU Universities on May 10th, 2024.



Evaluaciones de Tecnología Sanitaria

KAREN HUAMÁN SÁNCHEZ  
COORDINADORA TÉCNICA  
CENTRO DE EVALUACIÓN DE TECNOLOGÍAS EN SALUD  
INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE SALUD, PERÚ

### 4.12 – Clinical Engineering Symposium - Colombia



Organized by Eng. Karent Eliana Muñoz Salaza, Head of the Clinical Engineering Dpt. at Clinica Imbanaco – Grupo Quironsalud, Calli, Colombia. Murilo Contó (HTAD-IFMBE) performed a presentation about the interactions between Clinical Engineering and Health Technology Assessment of Medical Equipment. It was held in 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 in Calli, Colombia, hybrid format with around 100 attendants.

### 4.13 – Biomedical Engineering Week Peru

Promoted by Eng. Carolina Abigail Jiménez Cortez, biomedical engineering at Hospital Militar Central del Peru in partnership with I&T Bionics. During the HTAD-IFMBE presentation, the event was attended by 50 participants with the presentation focus on Innovation of Biomedical Engineering and how to advance in HTA methods to evaluate new process and new products, including SaMD and AI, to incorporate into the health systems.



## 5- PUBLICATIONS

Until now, the publications topic in the HTAD plan is the one that is most delayed but will be the focus for this last year of the current administration. Two initiatives are being prepared focusing on publications that aim to generate a very positive impact on the HTA and biomedical engineering community. The first of these initiatives is the holding of a Summit on Clinical Engineering and Assessment of Health Technologies, including new tools and products based on software and artificial intelligence, with the aim of generating a paper on how to evaluate and manage such technologies. The other initiative consists of a publication that could be a guide on the evaluation of medical devices and equipment considering the current framework followed



by the main HTA agencies in the world. Work will begin in Q3 2024 to be completed and published at the IUPESM World Congress in Adelaide, Australia in 2025.

## 6- HTAD BEST PAPER AWARD

The awards for the best papers of the year, as well as the highlights in biomedical engineering (group and professional) are in the evaluation process and are led by the secretary and co-chair of HTAD, Rossana Rivas, and will be announced in the coming months. The award for 2024 will be announced at the IUPESM World Congress in Adelaide, Australia in 2025.



**IFMBE** HTA Division

International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering



## **Report 2024-2025**

**December 2025**



## 1- HTAD COMPOSITION – Board & Collaborators

The HTAD is finishing the period of 2022-2025 with six elected members, one co-opted member and 14 other collaborator members. The final composition of the HTAD was:

### Board Members

**Murilo Contó, Chair (Brazil)**

**Rossana Rivas Tarazona, Secretariat and co-chair (Peru)**

**Ernesto Iadanza, Treasurer (Italy)**

**Albert Poon, Board Member (Hong Kong)**

**Daniel Clark, Board Member (UK)**

**Piergiorgio Salerno, Board Member (Italy)**

**Oriana Ciani, Co-opted member (Italy)**

### Collaborators Members

Akriti Chahar, Collaborator Member (India)

Adriana Velazquez, Collaborator Member (Switzerland)

Carmelo De Maria, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Hashem Alfadel, Collaborator Member (Jordan)

Leandro Pecchia, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Mabel Catalina Zapata Alvarez, Collaborator Member (Colombia)

Mario Medvedec, Collaborator Member (Croatia)

Martina Andellini, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Nicolas Pallikarakis, Collaborator Member (Greece)

Rossella Di Bidino, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Stefania Manetti, Collaborator Member (Italy)

Vatsal Chhaya, Collaborator Member (India)

Veronica Gallegos, Collaborator Member (Mexico)

Victoria Hurtado, Collaborator Member (Chile)

## 2- STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

A strategic action plan established in 2022 didn't have any changes, remaining with six generic actions, such as an "umbrella action plan", with macro activities in order to be able to include several other specific actions aligned with the main topic.



The strategic action plan was defined with the follow activities:

### HTAD 2023-2025 Action Plan

#### 1. IFMBE-HTAD Capacity Building Program

**Outcome:** Training on HTA to BMEs and HTA training contents for the IFMBE HTAD eLearning platform. Summer schools, Special sessions, Seminars, Workshops, Short-Courses about HTA concepts and best practices of this field on medical devices

**Benefit:** increase HTA culture among BME and share BME culture on HTA of medical devices among non-BME scholars.

**Coordinator:** Ernesto Iadanza and Daniel Clark

**Deliverables:** Summer schools; Seminars, Workshops, Short-Courses, Special Sessions, Recorded lessons to feed the HTAD E-Training Platform

**Team:** Ernesto Iadanza, Dan Clark, Nicolas Pallikarakis, Stefania Manetti, Albert Poon, Carmelo de Maria, Piergiorgio Salerno

#### 2. Webinar Series on HTA in Medical Devices

**Outcome:** promote one webinar a month in partnership with HTAD members and guests from other institutions involved in HTA practices (e.g., PAHO/WHO, ISPOR, HTAI, INAHTA)

**Benefit:** disseminate HTA practices among BMEs and non-BMEs.

**Coordinator:** Rossana Rivas

**Deliverables:** Lectures, short-courses/tracks, Recorded lessons to feed the HTAD E-Training Platform

**Team:** Rossana Rivas, Rossella di Bidino, Murilo Contó, Vatsal Chhaya

#### 3. Collaboration with International Organizations (Health Policies and HTA Practices)

**Outcome:** Presence and participation of cooperation works with traditional organizations of Health Policies and HTA such as WHO, INAHTA, ISPOR, HTAI and national MoHs

**Benefit:** Projection and creation of a IFMBE-HTAD identity with presence and participation in the main forums and initiative about HTA

**Coordinator:** Murilo Contó

**Deliverables:** Presence and participation representing IFMBE in the main Forums

**Team:** Murilo Contó, Stefania Manetti, Rossana Rivas, Akriti Chahar, Vatsal Chhaya

#### 4. HTAD Strategic Communication & Advocacy

**Outcome:** Activities for branding and presence of IFMBE-HTAD in main HTA Forums around the world to disseminate initiatives and needs to assess medical devices and the important role of BME in these processes

**Benefit:** Projection and creation of an IFMBE-HTAD identity with presence and participation in the main forums and initiatives about HTA in medical devices

**Coordinator:** Murilo Contó

**Deliverables:** Presence and participation representing IFMBE in the main Forums

**Team:** Murilo Contó, Rossana Rivas, Mario Medvedec, Ernesto Iadanza

#### 5. IFMBE HTAD Publications

**Outcome:** Development and of different approach to assess medical devices and the important role of BME in these processes

**Benefit:** Creation of IFMBE-HTAD reference materials for HTA professionals working in the assessing of medical devices

**Coordinator:** Akriti Chahar

**Deliverables:** Guides, Articles, One Pages, Literature Reviews about relevant topics such as Research designs, RWE, Economic Evaluation, Quality of Evidence Tools, HTA Hospital-based, etc

**Team:** Akriti Chahar, Stefania Manetti, Leandro Pechia, Vatsal Chhaya

#### 6. IFMBE HTAD Awards

**Outcome:** recognize individuals and organizations that contribute to the promotion and support of BME in HTA with three IFMBE HTAD prizes: /1) Best Paper Award, to BME and CE publishing outstanding HTA papers to journal or conferences. /2) Policy Award, to policymakers or stakeholders giving significant contribution recognition to BME in HTA. /3) Outstanding Contribution Award to individual giving outstanding contributions to BME involvement in HTA.

**Benefit:** IFMBE-HTAD Recognition of relevant contributions of the HTA of medical devices field

**Coordinator:** Piergiorgio Salerno

**Deliverables:** Promotion and Leverage publications of Articles, One Pages, Literature Reviews

**Team:** Piergiorgio Salerno, Mario Medvedec, Murilo Contó, Ernesto Iadanza, Nicolas Pallikarakis

## 3- CAPACITY BUILDING, WEBINARS & INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

### 3.1. HTAi Annual Meeting Conference 2024 – Seville, Spain – 17-19<sup>th</sup> June 2024

#### Special Session – HTA of Medical Devices

HTAD organized a special session with more than 100 attendants from several countries during the HTAi Annual Meeting 2023, in Seville, Spain, in June 15-19th. HTAD was represented by Murilo Contó who were the moderator of the session. The speakers were: Adriana Velazquez (WHO), Anastasia Chalkidou (NICE, UK), and Rossella di Bidino (University Sacro Cuore, Italy). The proposal of the session was to cover different perspectives (from international organization, government and academia/hospital) about aspects of HTA of medical devices that, if properly observed, could enable a more comprehensive approach and a more sustainable incorporation of medical devices into health systems. Also, Adriana Velazquez presented the opening of the public consultation period of the second edition of the WHO HTA of Medical Devices Book.



*Special Session HTA of Medical Devices – Murilo Contó (IFMBE-HTAD), Rossella di Bidino (University Sacro Cuore, Italy), Adriana Velazquez (WHO) and Anastasia Chalkidou (NICE, UK)*

### Meeting: RedETSA, IFMBE and Interest Groups of HTAi

During the HTAi Annual Meeting in Seville, there was also a meeting between the representative of the Health Technology Evaluation Network of Americas (RedETSA), Alexandre Lemgruber, representatives of the Hospital-based HTA interest group, the HTA in developing countries interest group, WHO representative Adriana Velazquez, and the HTAD-IFMBE represented by Murilo Conto. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss possible synergies for a joint work and present the regional event Policy Forum Latam, that would be held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia in August. The meeting addressed a webinar about hospital-based HTA and HTA in development countries focused on medical devices with the IFMBE-HTAD participation.



*Representatives from RedETSA/ PAHO-WHO, HTAi, IFMBE-HTAD and HTA National Centers from Brazil, Colombia and Uruguay.*

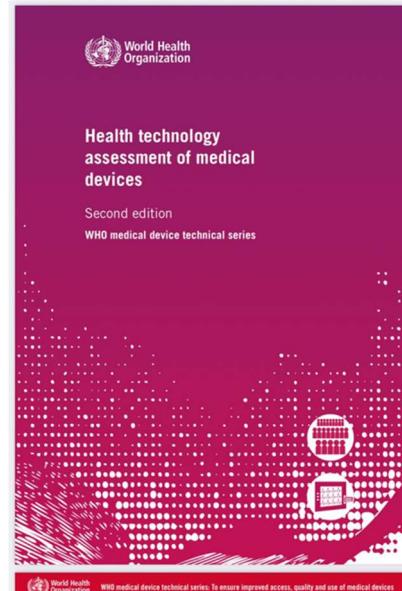


### 3.2. Contributions to WHO book HTA of Medical Devices updating

After the special session in the HTAi Annual Meeting in Seville, Spain, HTAD contributed with technical content for the book during the public consultation period. The final version of the second edition of the book HTA of Medical Devices was launching during the 5<sup>a</sup> WHO Global Forum on Medical Devices between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, June 2025, exclusively in online format.



Timeline to develop the second edition during 2024.



*Launch of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the HTA Medical Devices book during the 5<sup>a</sup> WHO Global Forum on Medical Devices*

### 3.3. Updating of WHO book Development of Policies for Medical Devices

This other important WHO book was reviewed by IFMBE in a very short term in a period comprehensiving no more than two months, including the HTAD, CED and other expert collaborators from IFMBE. The IFMBE works were leaded by Leandro Pecchia and Marianna Zarro from University of Rome and basically had 3 meetings, being 2 remotes and 1 in-person at Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma (UCBM) in 18-19th December 2024.



*IFMBE Working Group – Meeting in the Campus Bio-Medico di Roma (UCBM), University of Rome in 18-19<sup>th</sup> December 2024*



### 3.4. Symposium HTA of MD & Clinical Engineering – SP 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024

The HTAD with institutional support from the Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering (SBEB) and the Brazilian Association of Clinical Engineering (ABEclin), organized a half period event in the city of São Paulo, at the headquarters of Boston Scientific do Brasil that also financially supported the event. The purpose of the Symposium was to discuss the current situation of biomedical engineering and clinical engineering, as well as potential interactions between these both fields in the health technology life cycle. The event was coordinated by the HTAD Chair, Murilo Contó, and was attended by two international speakers, Ernesto Iadanza (IFMBE-HTAD & IFMBE-CoS), and Jani Muller, current director of the Health Technology Assessment International (HTAI). Abeclin was represented by its president, Ricardo Maranhão, and SBEB by his treasurer, Leonardo Elias at the University of Campinas (Unicamp). As a special guest, Prof. Saide Calil, one of the pioneers of clinical engineering and evaluation of medical-hospital equipment in Brazil. The participating public, about 40 people, was mainly composed of professionals and students from clinical engineering and health technology assessment.



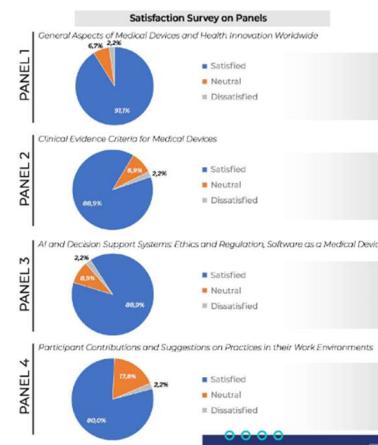
*Representatives of IFMBE-HTAD, SBEB, ABEclin and Boston Scientific during the International Symposium HTA of MD & Clinical Engineering*

### 3.5. II International Workshop on Assessment of Medical Devices - 2024

Considering the success of the 2023 edition and the great interest in HTA focused on medical devices and equipment, the HTA Centre of Hospital das Clínicas in Botucatu, São Paulo State, decided organizing together with HTAD-IFMBE this second edition of the International Workshop dedicated exclusively to HTA of medical devices, having as main audience Clinical and



Biomedical Engineers. This edition featured international guests: Ernesto Iadanza (IFMBE-HTAD & IFMBE-CoS) and Jani Muller (HTAi). Both speakers divided sessions with HTA professionals from different institutions from Brazil, including Ministry of Health and ANVISA. The event had 146 participants (74 in-person and 72 on-line).



Murilo Contó (IFMBE-HTAD),

Jani Muller (HTAi) and Ernesto Iadanza (IFMBE-HTAD & CoS) during the II International Workshop on Assessment of Medical Devices - 2024

3.6. Course on HTA of Medical Devices to Ukraine – July-November 2024

HTAi organized an online course to address the needs about HTA of medical devices to Ukraine. The project was organized joined with the national regulatory authority in Ukraine, State Expert Center of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine (SECMOH) and supported by USAID and Management Sciences for Health (MSH) from USA. The course was organized into 7 modules of 5-6 hours each, for a total of 40 hours, focusing on regulatory processes, approaches and methods for assessment along the lifecycle, and how HTA is integrated with decision making process. The training team was composed for collaborator members of IFMBE-HTAD (in bold):

- **Dr. Rossella Di Bidino, Training Program Coordinator, Italy**
- **Dr. Julie Polisena, Lecturer, Canada**
- Prof. Elena Petelos, Lecturer, Greece
- Dr. Rosa Maria Vivanco-Hidalgo, Lecturer, Spain
- Eng. Lorenzo Leogrande, Lecturer, Italy
- **Prof. Oriana Ciani, Lecturer, Italy**
- Prof. Iñaki Gutierrez-Ibarluzea, Lecturer, Spain
- Prof. Kristian Kidholm, Lecturer, Denmark
- Dr. Iga Lipska, Lecturer, Poland
- Dr. Anke-Peggy Holtorf, Lecturer, Switzerland
- **Eng. Murilo Contó, Lecturer, Brazil**



3.7. Webinars IFMBE-HTAD & HTAi – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Two Webinars were promoted joined with HTAi, the first on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, where the synergies between both institutions, HTAi Medical Devices interest group and IFMBE-HTAD, were appointed. In this first webinar participated: Murilo Contó (IFMBE-HTAD), Rossana Rivas (IFMBE-HTAD), Rossela di Bidino (HTAD & HTAi), Tobey Clark (University of Vermont) and Richard Charter (HTAi). The second webinar was focused on the HTA in developing countries, promoted by the respective HTAi interest group.

Webinar\_HTAI\_IFMBE2.png

## IFMBE & HTAi: A Partnership to Support Healthcare Systems

**Goals of the IFMBE:**

1. To function as the leader in representing the international community of medical and biological engineering
2. To foster the creation, dissemination and application of medical and biological engineering knowledge and the management of technology for improved health and quality of life
3. To promote the development of the medical and biological engineering profession, and the recognition and awareness of the profession by the public
4. To advance collaboration between national and transnational societies, industry, government and non-governmental organizations engaged in health care and in biomedical research and its applications
5. To recommend policies and provide guidelines in appropriate professional, educational and ethical areas
6. To enable IFMBE to achieve its goals effectively, optimize the organizational structure and communication and enhance its finances.

**HTAi Mission:**

To support and promote the development, communication, and use of HTAi research that can serve as a scientifically based means of promoting the introduction of effective innovations and the effective use of resources in healthcare.

**IFMBE Group Mission:**

To promote the role of MedTech in interdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder health technology assessments to enable the holistic healthcare system to move towards the key principles of value-based healthcare: improving health outcomes and lowering total system costs.

**The MDG has the goals are:**

1. To produce relevant, objective research to inform, and improve policy making that is intended to improve population health.
2. Advance the dialogue on Medical Device HTA methods and evidence generation.
3. Reflect all stakeholder groups and ensure the unique role of HTA is considered in policy decisions.

**HTAi Medical Device Interest Group Mission:**

To promote the role of MedTech in interdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder health technology assessments to enable the holistic healthcare system to move towards the key principles of value-based healthcare: improving health outcomes and lowering total system costs.

**HTAi WEBINAR**

## Sharing Hospital-Based HTA Experience in Developing Countries

MARCH 7, 2025 13:00-14:15 GMT+1

**Panel Speakers:**

- Jani Mueller
- Iga Lipska
- Abheirup Dutta Majumdar
- Abeer Al-Rabayah
- Murilo Contó
- Graciela Demirdjian

**Panel Moderators:**

- Mario Contó
- Jani Mueller
- Richard Charter
- Rossella Di Bidino
- Tobey Clark
- Rossana Rivas Tarazon

**HTAi Scientific Development and Capacity Building Committee Chair and Chair of the HTAi HTA in Developing Countries Interest Group:**

- South Africa



### 3.8. Webinar IFMBE-HTAD & ISPOR – HTA of Medical Devices - 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024

The IFMBE-HTAD, through Rossana Rivas, articulated with the direction of ISPOR the promotion of a webinar to talk about HTA and economic assessments of medical devices. Speakers representing IFMBE-HTAD: Rossana Rivas, Murilo Contó and Martina Andellini, a collaborating member of HTAD, who presented a complete assessment of glycosimeters in a children's hospital. Representing ISPOR participated: Dr. Wilson Follador, President of the ISPOR Brazilian Chapter, and Prof. Donald Juzwischim (University of Victoria, Canada).



### 3.9. IFMBE Divisions United Latin American Forum – Hospitalar Fair - May 2025

For the occasion of the Hospital Fair, the city of São Paulo, Brazil, the 3 Divisions of IFMBE, HTAD, CED and DHD, organized a forum to discuss the current structure of training of biomedical engineering professionals. The event was supported by SBEB - Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering and ABECLIN - Brazilian Association of Biomedical Engineering, as well as the financial support and facilities of Boston Scientific do Brasil, where the event was held. Were invited 18 students, 6 nominated by IFMBE (from Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay), 6 nominated by SBEB and 6 nominated by Abeclin.



*Lectures of KPLin, Prof Ratko Magjarević at Hospitalar Fair, Murilo Contó (HTAD), Fabiola Martinez (CED) and Paulo Carvalho (DHD) during the IFMBE Divisions United Latin American Forum*



The event featured lectures from SBEB and Abeclin representatives and IFMBE representatives, KPlin, Virginia Ballarin, Fabiola Martinez, Paulo Carvalho and Murilo Contó. Two other invited international biomedical engineers, Fernando Ballina (President of Sabi, Argentina) and Javier Camacho (Univ. EIA, Colombia) also gave presentations. After the expert presentations, all students had the opportunity to pitch on their projects to receive feedback from the experts present. On the second day, six newly graduated biomedical engineers and already hired by Boston Scientific presented their professional functions in the areas of Regulatory Affairs, Health Economics, Marketing, Clinical Training, Product Specialist and Capacity Building Specialist. The event closed with Professor Ratko Magjarević. Afterwards, everyone proceeded to the Hospital Fair, where Professor Ratko opened the Latin American Biomedical Engineering Seminar with a lecture.



Students & Representatives IFMBE, SBEB, ABEClin and Boston Scientific – IFMBE Division Forum LATAM



### 3.10. Workshops in the HTAi Annual Meeting, Buenos Aires, Argentina 14-18<sup>th</sup> June 2025

#### Workshop “Building Evidence for The Evaluation of Digital Health Technologies”

Organized by Rossella di Bidino (IFMBE-HTAD collaborator) and with Rossana Rivas (IFMBE-HTAD) participation as speaker. The workshop covered the new possibilities about evidence generation from different digital sources.

*Rossella di Bidino, Rossana Rivas and other speakers*



#### Workshop: “Artificial Intelligence & Health Technology Assessment: Where We Are Now and What We Can Do?” – Jun 2025

This workshop was led by Rossella Di Bidino (IFMBE-HTAD collaborator) and covered the possibilities of AI being used in HTA processes, as well as how to evaluate AI as a device. The event was attended by about 50 participants In-Person and IFMBE-HTAD was represented by Rossana Rivas and Murilo Contó who presented AI's perspective as a tool to streamline the processes of evidence synthesis from literature and to support economic evaluations.

*Rossana Rivas, Rossella di Bidino and Murilo Contó among other speakers*



### 3.11. International Workshop: Quality Control & Metrology in Medical Equipment – Hospital El Cruce, Buenos Aires, Argentina – 11 and 12 June 2025

Organized by the president of Argentinean Bioengineering Society (SABI), Fernando Ballina, this workshop held in the biggest Public Hospital in Argentina, Hospital El Cruce - Dr. Nestor Carlos Kirchner-HEC – and co-organized by the Universidad Nacional Arturo Jauretche-UNAJ, the event was supported by MD Javier Mariani, Executive Director of HEC and counted on the speakers: Rossana Rivas (IFMBE-HTAD); Tobey Clark (University of Vermont) and Sleyder Aguilar (Set&Gat).

*Speakers and SABI/Hospital El Cruce Buenos Aires, Argentina***3.12. Summer School – Universidad Javeriana, Bogota, Colombia – Jun 2025**

Organized by Martha Zaquera (IFMBE) the Summer School of the Javerian University of Bogota, Colombia came to its tenth edition in 2025. Held from June 24<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, the event was attended by 40 Biomedical Engineering students from various Latin American countries who mixed in various groups to work in technological solutions for real life health problems of elderly patients. During the week the students received numerous technical lectures and at the end presented their solutions to the jurors, graduated by members of IFMBE and Javerian University. IFMBE-HTAD funded the participation of three Brazilian students and featured two lectures given by Murilo Contó about the work market in biomedical engineering with AI impacts and health technology assessment focusing on medical devices.

*Moments during the 10<sup>th</sup> Summer School - Universidad Javeriana, Bogota, Colombia – June 2025*



## 4- STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY

IFMBE-HTAD was present at several different events and webinars disseminating the relevance and importance of biomedical engineering and actions to strengthen the HTA field with focus in medical devices. Some of these participations are listed below.

### 4.1. EMBEC 2024 – Portoroz, Slovenia 10 – 13 June 2024

#### Special Sessions

During the European Medical and Biological Engineering Congress held in Portoroz, Slovenia, HTAD organized the special session “Health Technology Assessment of Medical Devices-Advances & Challenges”. The session featured presentations by Martina Andellini, a collaborating member of HTAD, and Fabiola Martinez-Licona, Chair of Clinical Engineering Division (CED). Another special session was organized together among the three IFMBE divisions, with co-chairs: Murilo Contó (HTAD), Fabiola Martinez-Licona (CED) and Paulo Carvalho (DHD). The theme of the session was “Optimizing Healthcare Patient-Centered Technology Innovations” which featured presentations by students, researchers and market professionals, linked to the area of Innovation in Health Technologies.



IFMBE-HTAD Special Session and Joined Special Sessions with CED and DHD during the EMBEC 2024



## 4.2. HTAi Policy Forum & Regional Meeting LATAM – 13 and 14 August 2024

Annually the Health Technology Assessment International (HTAI) organizes regional meetings with health policy formulators to discuss issues related to the assessment of technologies, access, equity and financing. These meetings have two distinct moments, a first closed in a small group, basically formed by policy formulators and a more open second that has other important actors of the health ecosystem in the Latin America region. The 2024 edition of the Policy Forum Latam took place in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia and was attended by HTAD leadership with Murilo Contó and Rossana Rivas, representing the division in discussions on advances in health technology assessment, especially regarding to medical devices. During the event, there was a meeting with the coordinator of HTAI Scientific Initiatives, Antonio Migliori, a biomedical engineer, to get details for the promotion of a HTAI joint webinar, involving the group of interest in medical devices and the Hospital-based HTA interest group.



Rossana Rivas and Murilo Contó representing IFMBE-HTAD in the HTAi Regional Meeting



### 4.3. Biomedical Engineering Brazilian Congress - CBEB 2024 – 2– 6<sup>th</sup> September

Held every two years, the Brazilian Congress of Biomedical Engineering of 2024 was organized in the city of Ribeirão Preto approximately 300km from the city of São Paulo, having as organizing the University of São Paulo (USP) Compus Ribeirão Preto. The event featured 900 participants, 8 short courses in pre-congress, 608 scientific papers presented, 415 posters and 193 oral presentations. There were 72 speakers, 12 international. HTAD supported the event since its conception and organization and was present in a special session on HTA of medical devices where Murilo Contó made an initial presentation on IFMBE-HTAD and then coordinated the session with two speakers linked to the Brazilian Ministry of Health and the National Committee for Health Technology Incorporation. The event was also attended by IFMBE President Ratko Magjarević as Key speaker of a technology evaluation session that was chaired by Murilo Contó, and another session, alongside Martha Zequera, for students & newly graduates.



Prof. Ratko Magjarević, Martha Zequera, Paulo Carvalho and Murilo Contó during the Biomedical Engineering Brazilian Congress 2024



#### 4.4. Lecture Particular Aspects in assessment and incorporation of Medical Devices - Oct 2024

Organized by UNER – National University of Entre Ríos, Argentina, the lecture covered the main topics to conduct a evaluation of medical device and it was a good opportunity to talk directly with the Biomedical Engineering students of UNER, explaining important aspects to decision making processes to incorporate new technologies into healthcare systems in Latin America, especially in Argentina and Brazil.



#### 4.5. SBEB Innovation Award in Biomedical Engineering – 5th Edition - 2024

Organized by SBEB - Brazilian Society of Biomedical Engineering, the 5th edition of the Innovation Award in Biomedical Engineering for Latin America had the participation of 13 countries and more than 100 projects submitted. In 2024, the following works were awarded:

Project	Author	University
“De Olho no Pé” AI-based analysis of risk signals in diabetic feet	Wender Emiliano Soares	UFF – Fluminense Federal University, Brazil
“App for digital blood count based on AI and smartphone use”	Ana Carolina B. M. Padilha	UNICAMP – University of Campinas, Brazil
“BIOTECHTEA interface for communication of people with cerebral palsy or non-verbal autistics”	Paulo Victor Paula Loureiro	Independent Research, Fortaleza, Brazil
“Machine learning-based predictive models for myocardial infarction”	Johana Gómez Ceballos	UFRJ – Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
“Wheelchair for Patient Transport and Transfer”	Eladio Quintana	Nacional University, Paraguay
Leuk Vision – Using Smartphones for Ophthalmological Testing	Diego Ramirez	Independent Research, Buenos Aires, Argentina

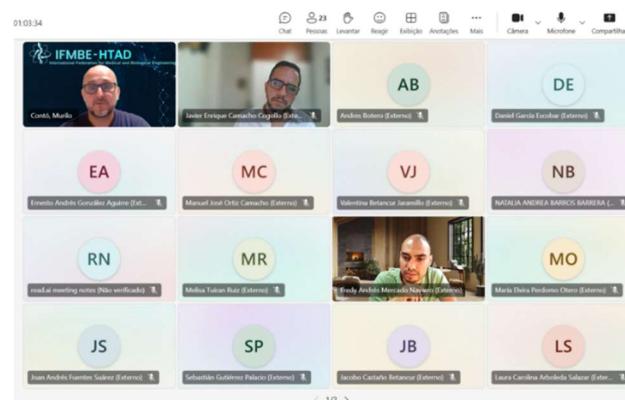
Since the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, the Innovation SBEB Award has been promoted to the "Honoris Causa" award for professionals who have contributed significantly to innovation in biomedical engineering. Last year the professional selected to receive the *Honoris Causa* Award was Adriana Velazquez, leader of the WHO medical device team. Adriana attended the event remotely to host the awards and make a brief speech. At the end of the event, the audience received a ballet presentation with a prosthesis leg user dancer, demonstrating the potential that biomedical engineering has to transform lives.



*Winners of SBEB Innovation Award, Adriana Velazquez and Ballet Presentation*

### 4.6. Lecture HTA & Innovation in Biomedical Engineering – University EIA Medellin, Colombia – March 2025

Lecture to undergraduate and postgraduate students at the University School of Engineering, Medellin, Colombia, addressing topics such as health innovation concepts, health technology assessment, innovative initiatives, regional health innovation ecosystems, the scenario of Latin American countries in terms of innovative companies and government supports, among other aspects. initiative of Prof. Javier Camacho from EIA University.



### 4.7. International Congress-College of Engineers of Peru – May 2025

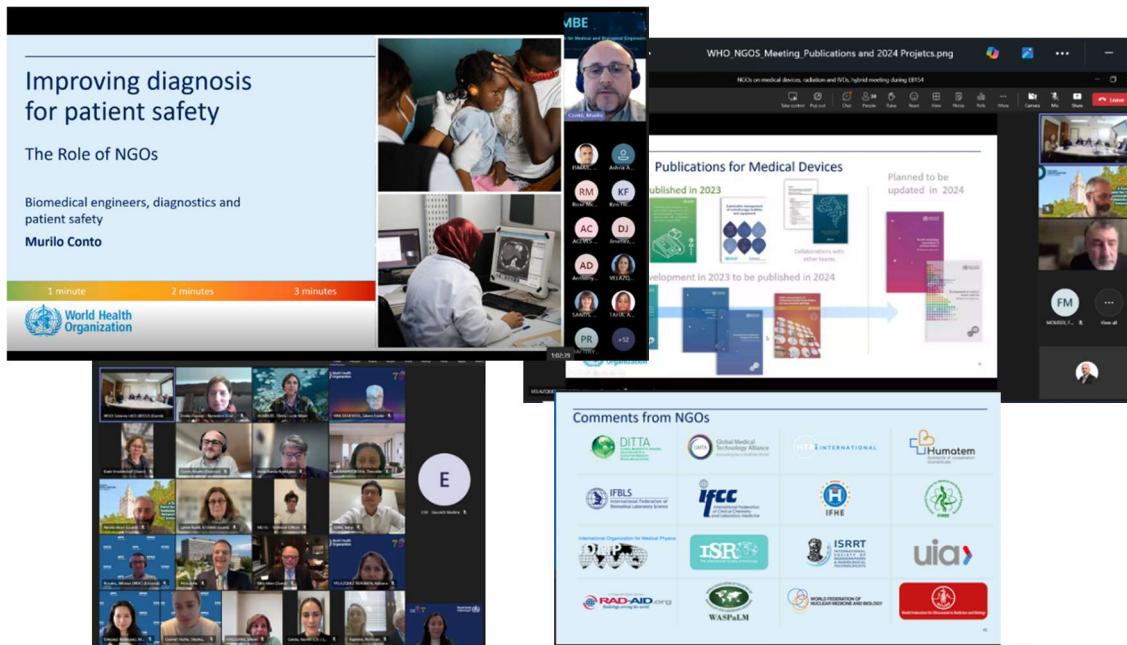


Organized by the Electronic Engineering Chapter, College of Engineers of Peru-CD Lima, Rossana Rivas (IFMBE-HTAD) participated as speaker with the presentation: "AI for Health Innovation Projects: Quality & Safety". Lima, Peru – May 14th, 2025.



#### 4.8. Webinars and Meetings promoted by WHO - Patient Safety & NGOs

Annually, WHO conducts Webinars on specific topics related to health technologies as well as annual meetings with non-governmental organizations that support the organization's initiatives. The Webinar theme of 2024 was Improving Diagnosis for Patient Safety and IFMBE's participation was represented by Murilo Contó who made a speech about the relevance of diagnostic technology assessment processes, as well as the importance of managing these technologies through clinical engineering practices. The contribution on clinical management and engineering was authored by Fabiola Martinez, Chair of IFMBE-CED. Murilo also participated of the meeting between WHO and NGOs in which can make comments about some collaborative works between IFMBE and WHO.



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#### 5- PUBLICATIONS

Two initiatives are being prepared focusing on publications until the end of 2025. The first of these initiatives is a paper about all discussions generated from IFMBE Divisions United Latin American Forum held in São Paulo, Brazil in May 2025. All the content approached was documented in a Report and the



objective is to extract the main topics from the report generating a paper for publication. The other initiative consists in a publication about the mapping of the medical devices access in different countries, including all required assessment steps such as regulation, coding, incorporation and reimbursement policy. The project started with 11 Latin American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay) involving professionals from universities and governments. It's possible to extend new chapters inserting countries from other regions of the world.



## 6- HTAD AWARDS

All process for HTAD Awards were conducted according to document HTAD Awards document (HTAD-Awards-v2020Sep17).

### HTAD Best Paper Awards

The HTAD awards committee, led by Rossana Rivas and formed by Piergiorgio Salerno and Oriana Ciani, has been searching, selecting and evaluating the best papers of the years 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025, with the best papers of each year being chosen as follows:

Author(s)	Title	Journal	Link	Year
Frey, AL., et al.	Domain coverage and criteria overlap across digital health technology quality assessments: a systematic review.	Health Technol. 15, 15–27	<a href="https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12553-024-00934-8">https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12553-024-00934-8</a>	2025
Leutz-Schmidt, P., et al.	Performance of ChatGPT on basic healthcare leadership and management questions.	Health Technol. 14, 1161–1166	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s12553-024-00897-w">https://doi.org/10.1007/s12553-024-00897-w</a>	2024
Oronti, I.B., et al.	Effects of home telemonitoring using non-invasive versus conventional approaches on patients affected by congestive heart failure: a systematic literature review and meta-analysis.	Health Technol. 13, 535–555	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s12553-023-00764-0">https://doi.org/10.1007/s12553-023-00764-0</a>	2023
Nassibi, A., Papavassiliou, C. & Atashzar, S.F.	Depression diagnosis using machine intelligence based on spatiotemporal analysis of multi-channel EEG.	Med Biol Eng Comput 60, 3187–3202	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s11517-022-02647-4">https://doi.org/10.1007/s11517-022-02647-4</a>	2022

### HTAD Outstanding Contribution Award

After the deadline established by the IFMBE call for nominations for the IFMBE Awards, all documentation received was analyzed and the nominee for the HTAD Outstanding Award was Prof. Ernesto Iadanza from University of Siena, current member elected and past Chair of HTAD and Chair of IFMBE-Cos. The short biography for being the winners of the HTAD Outstanding Award are presented in the sequence.

#### Ernesto Iadanza

*Ernesto Iadanza, Ph.D., Professor of Bioengineering at the Department of Medical Biotechnologies, University of Siena, Italy. Current member of the IFMBE Administrative Council, chair of the Council of Societies of the International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE), immediate past chair of its Health Technology Assessment Division Board (IFMBE/HTAD), and past chair of its Clinical Engineering Division Board (IFMBE/CED). Member of the Union Journal Committee of the International Union for Physics and Engineering in Medicine (IUPESM). He is also IEEE (and IEEE-EMBS) Senior Member and received the IBM Faculty Award in 2013, the IFMBE/CED Teamwork Award in 2019, the IFMBE/CED Best Journal Article Award 2022 and the*





*IFMBE/CED Best Conference Paper Award 2022. Section Editor of "Technology and Health Care", Associate Editor of "PLOS One", "Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology", "Health & Technology", and "Future Internet" and member of the scientific committee of many international conferences in bioengineering. Organizer of postgraduate master courses in Clinical Engineering, Healthcare Engineering and HTA at the University of Florence since 2007. Supervisor in 200+ graduation theses. Author of 240+ publications on international books, scientific journals, volumes and conference proceedings. Editor in Chief, Clinical Engineering Handbook 2nd Edition.*

### **INBIT - Institute of Biomedical Technology**

*INBIT is a non-profit organization which constitutes an initiative for the advancement of the applied field of Biomedical Technology. The main objective is to actively contribute in the advancement of the applied field of Biomedical Technology and the promotion of Patient Safety. INBIT focuses on the effective and safe use of Biomedical Technology and promotes the application of evidence based and quality approaches in the health care sector. INBIT is actively involved in the development and applications of Regulations, Management and Assessment of Medical Devices initiatives at a global level. INBIT is an independent, non-profit organization founded in 1991, providing services and R&D projects.. During the year of 2024, INBIT performed a crucial role to collaborate with IFMBE-HTAD in the evaluation of candidate technologies to compose the Compendium of Innovative Technologies for Low Resources Settings from World Health Organization. Acknowledgments to INBIT's coordinators, Prof. Nicolas Pallikarakis and Prof. Aris Dermitzakis for the outstanding contributions with IFMBE-HTAD.*



### **Rossana Rivas Tarazona**

*Doctoral Candidate, Mines Paris Tech, École des Mines de Paris, France; MSc, Management of Social and Health Organizations, with a specialization in Management, Organization, and Strategy from Jean Moulin University - Lyon III, France. Expert in Health Technology Management, Clinical Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Health Technology Assessment, and Innovation. Professor at the Faculty of Public Health, Faculty of Sciences, Master's Program in Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy and Management, Peruvian University Cayetano Heredia-UPCH. Professor at the Faculty of Sciences and Engineering of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru-PUCP and the Master's Program in Biomedical Engineering, Master's Program in Social Management PUCP, Academic Coordinator of the Diploma Program in Hospital Architecture and Engineering. She has been a consultant for the Pan American Health Organization-PAHO, Canadian International Development Agency-CIDA, Resources International Group Ltd., USAID, and UNDP. Member of: American College of Clinical Engineering-ACCE, International Discussion Forum-Global Exchange: Infrastructure & Technology of Health Services-INF RATECH, World Technology Association-WTA International-Health Technology Assessment International-HTAi, Latin & Ibero-American Association Technology; Health*





*Technology Task Group-HTTG; Health Technology Assessment Discussions-Pan American Health Organization-PAHO-HTA; Co-founder and Executive Director of Tecnopolo Salud-CENGETS: Cluster of Clinical Engineering and Health Technology Management. She was a Project Executive for Biomedical Engineering, Innovation, and Technology Management, Office of the Vice-Rector for Research, PUCP. From 2011-2015, she was a member of the Commission for the creation of the joint PUCP-UPCH Biomedical Engineering program. During the period 2022-2025 Prof. Rossana Rivas was the secretary of IFMBE-HTAD with relevant contributions in partnerships with important international institutions related to HTA.*

### **HTAD Policy Award**

After the deadline established by the IFMBE call for nominations for the IFMBE Awards, all documentation received was analyzed and the nominee for the HTAD Policy Award was Dr. Adriana Velazquez leader of medical devices group of World Health Organization. The short biography for being the winner of the HTAD Policy Award is presented in the sequence.

#### **Adriana Velazquez**

*Team Lead on medical devices and in vitro diagnostics at World Health Organization and 40 years of passionate work with the aim to ensure good quality, appropriate, affordable health technologies, to prevent, diagnose and treat diseases everywhere, especially to the sickest and the poorest. Biomedical Engineer, Clinical Engineer. Almost 17 years of work at the World Health Organization. Developed the Medical Devices Technical series, including guidance for medical devices policies, the role of biomedical engineers, Health Technology Assessment of Medical Devices, CMMS, inventories until decommissioning, the Global Atlas of medical devices and 7 editions of the Compendium of innovative technologies for Low resource settings and for selection of WHO Priority Medical Devices with the associated clearinghouse called MeDeVS. Previously, worked 7 years in the Ministry of health in Mexico, where I was the founding director of CENETEC. Previously worked promoting biomedical engineering departments in private and public hospitals in Mexico, in Latin-America, and globally.*



### **7. NEWLY ELECTED BOARD AND NEW HTAD CHAIR**

#### **Newly Elected Board**

After all the formal steps of the IFMBE for the election of new IFMBE members and positions, including the call for nominations and documentary review of the nominations received from the national societies, the election for new HTAD members took place electronically, resulting in five new members being elected for the period 2025-2031:

- Biziya Enkhjargal (MONGOLIA)
- Fatimah Ibrahim (MALAYSIA)
- Martha Lucia Zequera Diaz (COLOMBIA)
- Salome Mwaura (KENIA)
- Oriana Ciani (ITALY)



The newly elected board and the current board of HTAD had their first meeting together on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025 when they started the process to choose the new Chair of the Division. Murilo Contó (current Chair), Ernesto Iadanza (current Treasure) and the elected members, Daniel Clark and Albert Poon, are leaving the board of HTAD after the term of six years. The elected members Piergiorgio Salerno (Italy) and Rossana Rivas (Peru) remain on the HTAD board for another three years until 2028.

### **New Chair – Oriana Ciani**

Regarding the nomination for the new HTAD Chair, the name of elected member and current co-opted member, Oriana Ciani, was presented as a name previously validated by members of the IFMBE AC, but to ensure equal opportunities for all HTAD members, it was agreed that if any other member interested in assuming the position of Chair, must express their intention and, in case of new applicants for the position, a vote among the elected members will be conducted. An e-mail with the meeting minutes was sent by the Chair to the members establishing a 3-day deadline for interested parties to express their intention to run for the Chair position, support the nomination of Oriana Ciani or even any other type of manifestation. After the deadline and the absence of contrary manifestation, Oriana Ciana was considered the new Chair of HTAD. A brief Oriana's curriculum is presented below:

*Oriana Ciani is Associate Professor of Practice at SDA Bocconi School of Management and researcher in Health Economics & HTA at the Center for Research on Health and Social Care Management. Her research interests are centered around the use of HTA, on the methodological aspects of the evaluation of health technologies, and on the use of evidence synthesis techniques to inform health policies. Oriana is currently PI on the HORIZON Europe project HI-PRIX on payment and pricing models for health care innovation. She was 2020 Fulbright Research Scholar at Yale School of Medicine and Yale School of Public Health. She is the author of several publications and Associate Editor for Value in Health. Her paper published in the International Journal of Health Technology Assessment (2015) on HTA practices for Medical Devices received the 2016 Egon Jonsson Award. Oriana holds an MSc in Biomedical Engineering from Politecnico di Milano and an MSc in Healthcare Management and Economics from SDA Bocconi. She received her PhD from the Peninsula Technology Assessment Group (PenTAG), University of Exeter Medical School (UK) with a thesis focusing on the evaluation of surrogate endpoints in HTA, which remains one of her main research interests.*

