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Registries for health technology assessment: back to the future

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For many years, registries have been used to fill important gaps in evidence and contribute to determine clinical and cost effectiveness of health care products and services, to monitor safety and harm, and to measure quality of care [1].

As innovative medical devices (MD), differently from drugs, are typically introduced into clinical practice with evidence that is limited both in quality and in quantity [2], MD registries become an increasingly important tool for comparative assessments and long-term surveillance, bridging the gap between device performance in clinical trials and their use in real-world setting.