

The Canadian HTA Landscape (2020–2023): A Comparative Study Of CDA-AMC And INESSS Recommendations

HTA64

Sola-Barrado B.¹, Cervelo-Bouzo, P.¹, Wang T.¹, and McAuslane N.¹

Centre for Innovation in Regulatory Science (CIRS), London, United Kingdom.



INTRODUCTION

Health technology assessment (HTA) informs reimbursement decisions in Canada. Two agencies conduct HTA separately: Canada's Drug Agency (CDA-AMC), which evaluates medicines for all provinces and territories except Quebec, and Quebec's Institut National d'Excellence en Santé et en Services Sociaux (INESSS), which serves Quebec.

OBJECTIVES

To compare HTA **timelines** and **outcomes** for new active substances (NASs) evaluated by CDA-AMC and INESSS between 2020 and 2023, focusing on common compounds assessed by both agencies.

METHODS

Data: 1st HTA reports from CDA-AMC and INESSS (01-01-2020 to 31-12-2023).

Common compounds: NASs reviewed by both agencies.

Submission sequence:

- Parallel: submission to HTA before Notice of Compliance (Pre-NOC).
- Sequential: submission to HTA after NOC (Post-NOC).

Time measures:

- Time to submission = Health Canada (HC) approval → HTA submission.
- Time to recommendation = HC approval → HTA recommendation.
- Submission gap = Submission INESSS – Submission CDA-AMC.

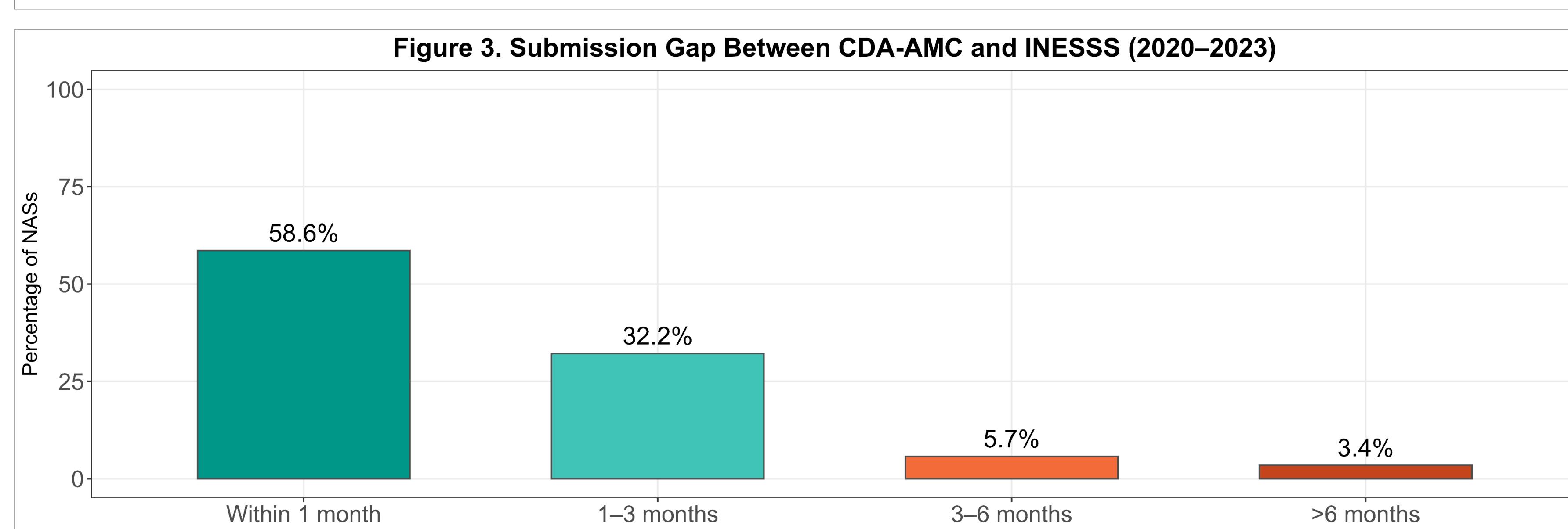
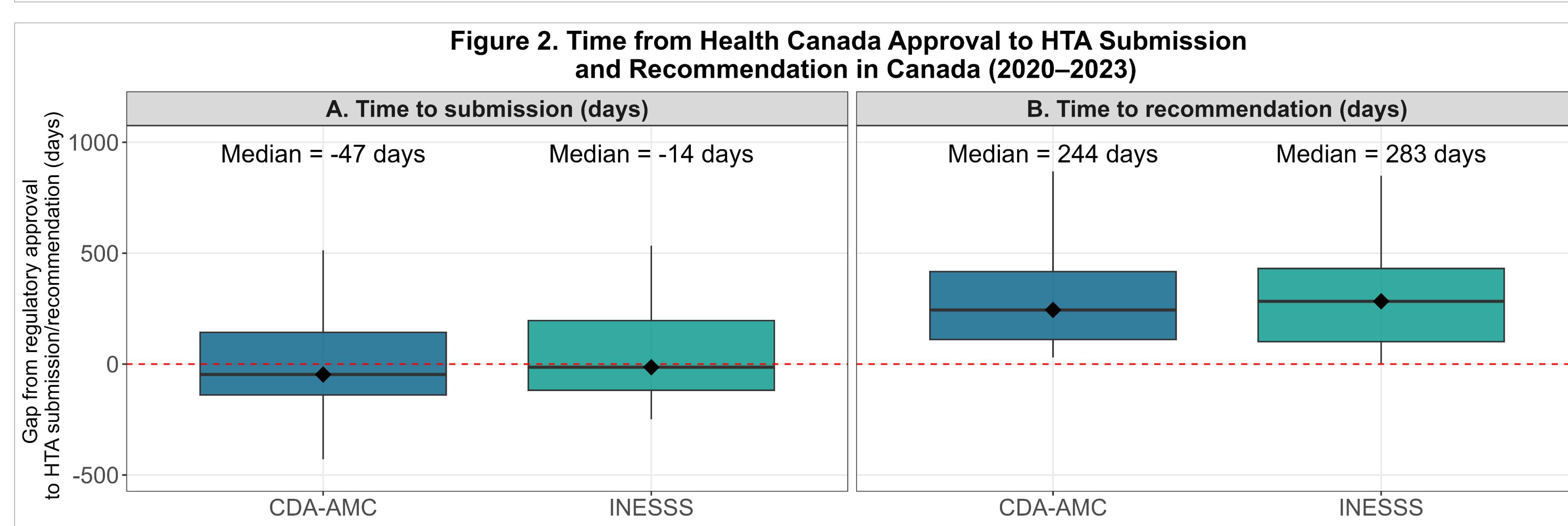
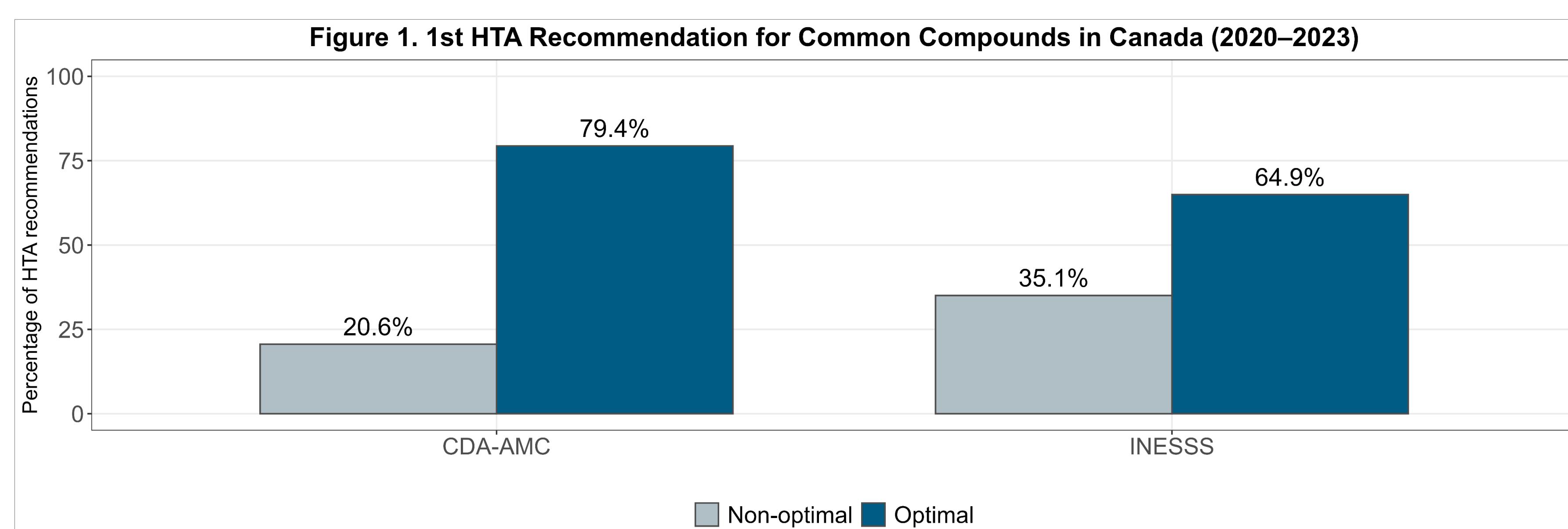
Statistical analysis: Wilcoxon rank sum test for differences in timelines.

Recommendation classification:

- Optimal: reimburse or reimburse with conditions.
- Non-optimal: do not reimburse.

RESULTS

- NASs reviewed between 2020 and 2023:
 - CDA-AMC: 112 & INESSS: 103
 - Common compounds: 97
 - Oncology products: 52.6% (51/97)
- HTA recommendations (Figure 1):
 - CDA-AMC: 79.4% (77/97) optimal ✓
 - INESSS: 64.9% (63/97) optimal ✓
- Submission trends:
 - Pre-NOC - Parallel submissions:
 - CDA-AMC: 53.6% (52/97)
 - INESSS: 52.6% (51/97)
- Time to submission (Figure 2.A):
 - CDA-AMC: 47 days before HC approval
 - INESSS: 14 days before HC approval ($p = 0.209$)
- Time to recommendation (Figure 2.B):
 - CDA-AMC 244 days, INESSS 283 days ($p = 0.749$)
- Submission sequence: 89.7% (87/97) first submitted to CDA-AMC
 - Of these: 58.6% (51/87) within 1 month, 32.2% (28/87) within 1–3 months submitted to INESSS (Figure 3)



CONCLUSIONS

- Timelines from HC approval to HTA submission and recommendation were comparable between CDA-AMC and INESSS, with no significant differences observed ($p > 0.05$).
- Most NASs were first submitted to CDA-AMC, with INESSS generally following within three months.
- Overall, the findings suggest broadly similar company submission strategies across Canadian jurisdictions.

CONTACT INFORMATION

bsola@cirsci.org. Centre for Innovation in Regulatory Science (CIRS), London, United Kingdom.

