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Health Technology Assessment and Incorporation into Health Systems: Final Report

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The International Council of Nurses (ICN) supports health technology assessment and incorporation into Health Systems. ICN believes that health technologies provide significant opportunities to improve the working lives of nurses, advance practice and improve population health.

There is significant potential for nurses to be positively impacted by and contribute to the health technology assessment and incorporations into health systems. Nurses, as leaders of clinical care and health services research, are key to both the assessment of and incorporation of health technologies into health systems. Without incorporating nurses, there is a risk of new technologies having negative impacts on the abilities for nurses to deliver care and support citizen's health and wellbeing. Nurses tell us that the challenges they face with health technology are:

- Technologies are not well designed and cause more work for nurses and midwives affecting their ability to join up care across different care settings and to deliver person-centered care that is safe and of high quality.
- They do not feel confident in using new technology without optimal training.
- Technologies often reinforce exclusion of staff, marginalized groups, and communities.
- Health systems need to incorporate high value technologies, rather than technologies that have rising costs with little added benefit.

The pandemic has demonstrated the ability of nurses to adopt new ways of working with a surge in remote monitoring, telehealth and other new technologies. There is synergy between the WHO Global Nursing & Midwifery Strategic Priorities¹ and the call to incorporate health technology into health systems. We call for nurses to have leadership voice in the incorporation and assessment of health technologies into health systems.

The **International Council of Nurses** (ICN) is a federation of more than 130 national nurses associations representing the millions of nurses worldwide. Operated by nurses and leading nursing internationally, ICN works to ensure quality nursing care for all and sound health policies globally.