

# INTRODUCTION: THE GLOBAL PATTERN THAT SHOULD NOT EXIST

The purpose of this section of the Maimon Research website is simple: to present a series of AI-driven interrogations—country by country, agency by agency—that reveal what the world’s Health Technology Assessment (HTA) systems actually know, ignore, and systematically misunderstand about measurement. The results are presented as endorsement probabilities and normalized logits for 24 true-or-false statements drawn directly from representational measurement theory, the scientific foundation that determines when numbers represent quantities and when arithmetic is legitimate.

What emerges across nations is nothing short of astonishing.

Whether we interrogate Australia, New Zealand, Canada, the United States, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, NICE, PBAC, or ICER, the profile is the same. The pattern is so consistent, so repetitive, so globally uniform that it cannot plausibly be attributed to coincidence or local error. It is the signature of a shared belief system—a memetic structure—that has replicated itself across jurisdictions for more than four decades without ever confronting the foundational question: **Are the numbers we use actually measures?**

## The Uncanny Global Convergence

Across all countries examined, we see the same three findings:

- 1. True statements reflecting basic measurement axioms receive weak or negligible endorsement.**  
Unidimensionality, ratio-scale requirements for multiplication, measurement preceding arithmetic, Rasch rules for latent traits—these are the bedrock of scientific quantification. Yet across nations, probabilities of endorsement collapse into the low range, while logits fall into the negative region, often to the floor at  $-2.50$ .
- 2. False statements central to HTA practice receive neutral or even positive reinforcement.**  
QALYs as ratio measures, EQ-5D as interval data, ordinal scores as quantities, negative ICERs as meaningful ratios—these impossibilities appear not as contested ideas but as unexamined assumptions. The knowledge base neither rejects them nor recognises their incoherence.
- 3. Rasch measurement—essential to evaluating latent traits such as quality of life—is almost completely absent.**  
Every jurisdiction produces the same floor logits for items linking Rasch rules to representational measurement. This indicates not disagreement but non-possession: the concept simply does not exist within the global HTA cognitive universe.

## Why Are the Patterns Identical?

The uncanny similarity does not come from shared training, shared textbooks, or shared scientific principles; indeed, none of those exist in HTA. Instead, the convergence has the structure of a meme: an inherited, self-reinforcing belief system transmitted through guidelines, journal conventions, teaching practices, and professional norms.

A meme persists not because it is true, but because it is repeated.

HTA never adopted representational measurement theory. It adopted utilities, QALYs, and reference-case simulations at a moment when no one asked basic scale-type questions. No scientific revolution occurred inside HTA—no period of falsification, no Popperian reflection, no intellectual contest. Instead, a procedural convenience became a global orthodoxy.

This explains why the LLM interrogations return the same results everywhere:

**HTA communities around the world have been exposed to the same inputs, trained on the same flawed constructs, taught not to ask the same questions, and rewarded for reproducing the same assumptions.**

The result is a global belief system without measurement.

## Why These Results Matter

The LLM interrogations do not measure opinion; they measure epistemic structure. Each table shows what the national knowledge base reinforces, ignores, or contradicts. When every country repeatedly endorses false statements more strongly than true ones, and when every jurisdiction yields negative logits for basic measurement principles, it becomes clear that we are not observing random error but a structural failure.

This global pattern represents the most extensive evidence yet that HTA is operating outside the domain of scientific measurement. The uniformity itself is the diagnosis: a worldwide epistemic system unable to distinguish quantities from non-quantities, evidence from simulation outputs, or latent traits from ordinal scores.

The reports that follow show this, country by country, in a way that can no longer be dismissed.

**The measurement cat is out of the bag.**

**What each jurisdiction chooses to do next will define the future of HTA.**