Unnecessary care in Canada



Wastes health system resources



Increases wait times for patients



Can lead to patient harm



Canadians have

1 million +

potentially unnecessary medical tests and treatments each year.



of patients indicated in the
8 selected Choosing Wisely Canada
recommendations had tests, treatments and
procedures that are potentially unnecessary.

There is room to reduce unnecessary care.

Substantial variation exists among regions and facilities in terms of the number of unnecessary tests and procedures performed — this points to an opportunity to improve.





Choosing Wisely Canada is a campaign to help clinicians and patients engage in conversations about unnecessary tests and treatments, and make smart choices.

Unnecessary Care in Canada explores 8 out of 200+ Choosing Wisely Canada recommendations across sectors of the health system: primary care, specialist care, emergency care and hospital care.



