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.

Up to 30% 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.

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