

Preventing Overdiagnosis 2025 Themes

Winding back the harms of too much medicine and finding solutions

Themes for 2025

Incentives and drivers of overdiagnosis

- Pre-disease and expanding disease definitions impact on overdiagnosis.
- The growing commercialisation of medicine, the impact of payments and reimbursements on over-testing
- Defensive medicine, fear of litigation and decreasing risk tolerance role as a driver of overdiagnosis
- Medical education as a driver of overdiagnosis
- Policy, healthcare systems and the healthcare setting's role as a driver of overdiagnosis.
- The role of Artificial Intelligence in overdiagnosis

Communication of overdiagnosis and the role of direct-to-consumers testing

- Communicating about overdiagnosis and the role of the mainstream media
- Social media's role in screening and overdiagnosis
- Consumer testing and self-screening contribution to overdiagnosis
- Problems and solutions in communicating with the public about overdiagnosis
- Improving statistical literacy in diagnosis for physicians and patients
- Communication and decision-making during the consultation to mitigate overdiagnosis

Overdiagnosis in clinical practice and public health

- Preventing overdiagnosis at the individual level
- The role of overdiagnosis in population health
- The impact of too much medicine and its consequences
- The financial toxicity of overdiagnosis on individual patients
- Assessing the effects of diagnostic procedures that have no meaningful consequences for patients

The role of overdiagnosis on sustainable healthcare and its environmental impact

- Overdiagnosis contribution to waste in healthcare
- Understanding overdiagnosis through a lens of sustainability to reduce harm to individuals and prevent societal waste
- The impact of testing on costs, resources and the effects on the health system
- How does overdiagnosis contribute to the environment and healthcare's global carbon footprint
- What is the role of overdiagnosis in providing affordable Healthcare

Developing the methods for assessing overdiagnosis

- Developing the methods for assessing the consequences of overdiagnosis
- Assessing the costs and resource implications of overdiagnosis
- Evaluating the effects of over-medicalisation and subsequent overtreatment.
- Determining the psychosocial impact of overdiagnosis