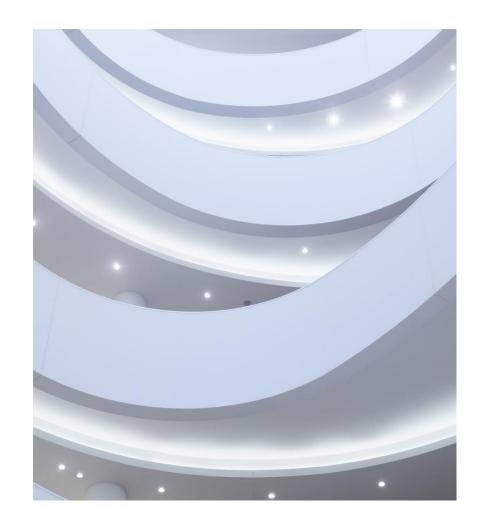
# Low-value care in NSW public hospitals

#### Presented by

Tim Badgery-Parker

Menzies Centre for Health Policy



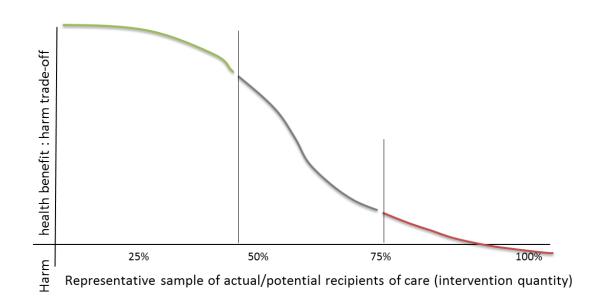


#### What is low-value care?

- Expected benefit does not outweigh potential harm
  - Evidence that intervention causes net harm (inappropriate care)
  - Evidence that intervention does not provide a net benefit (ineffective care)
  - No evidence that intervention does provide a benefit

May also consider cost-effectiveness

#### Low-value care depends on intervention and patient

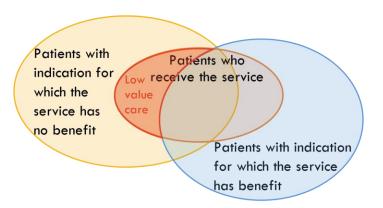


## **Choosing Wisely initiative**

- Clinical societies develop "top 5" lists of tests and interventions that should be questioned
- Started in United States, now international (19 countries)
- Aim to "start conversation" between patients and their doctors about what care is necessary

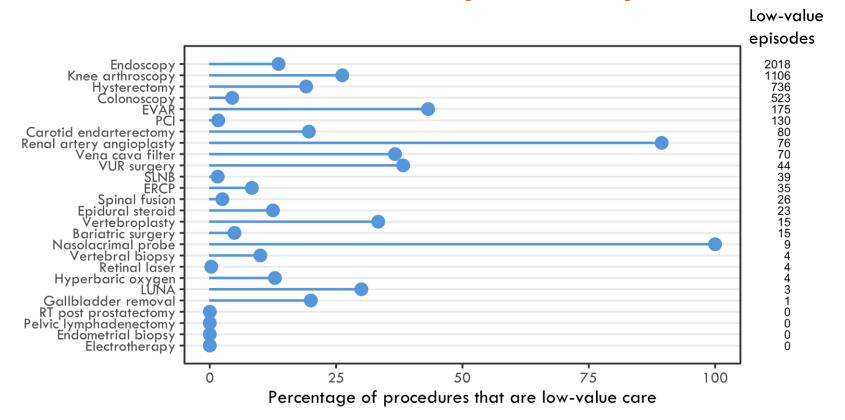
- Lists are evidence-based, clinician-endorsed statements of when NOT to use an intervention
  - Low-value care

#### How I measure low-value care

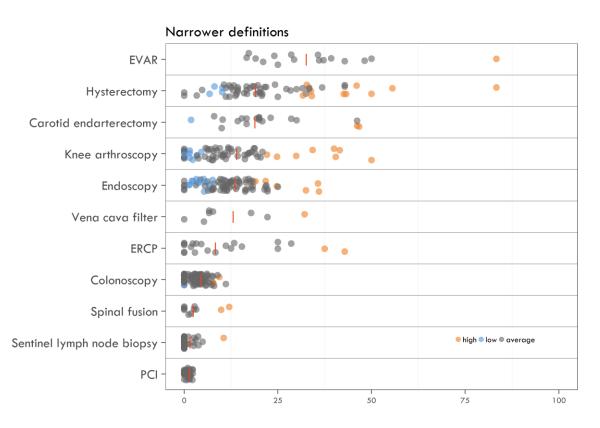


- Identify patients who receive the procedure
- Identify which of these are in subgroup that should not receive it
- Look for any other diagnoses that might justify procedure

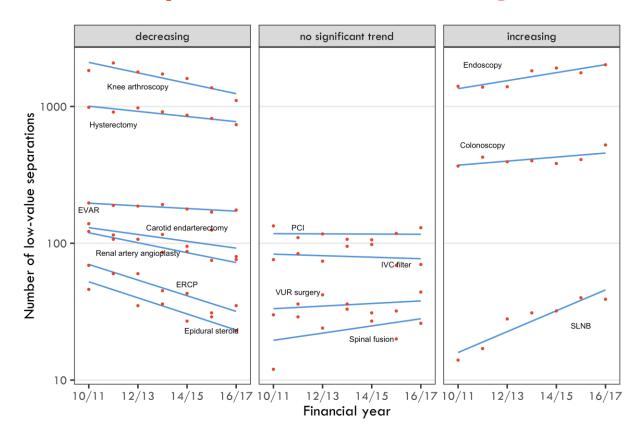
## Low-value care rates in NSW public hospitals



## Substantial variation in rates by hospital

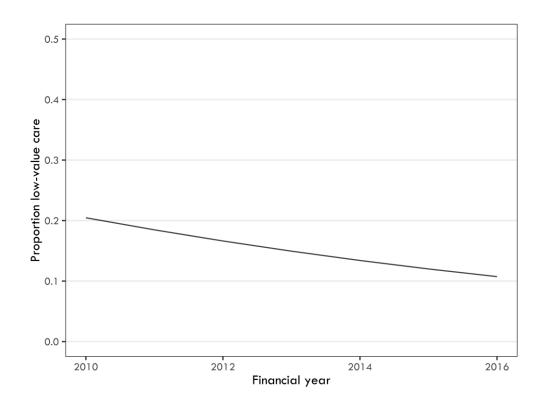


#### Many low-value procedures decreasing over time



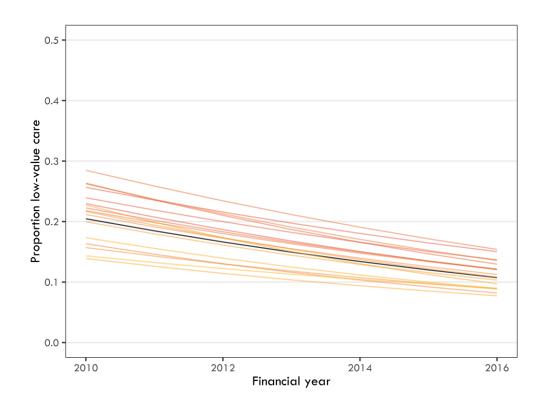
## Example: knee arthroscopy decreasing in NSW

**NSW** 



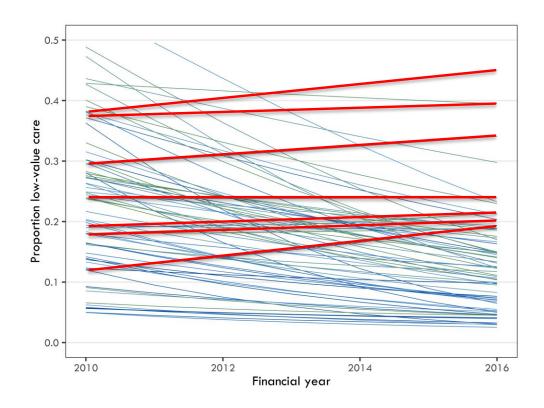
## Example: LHDs follow same trend as NSW

NSW LHDs

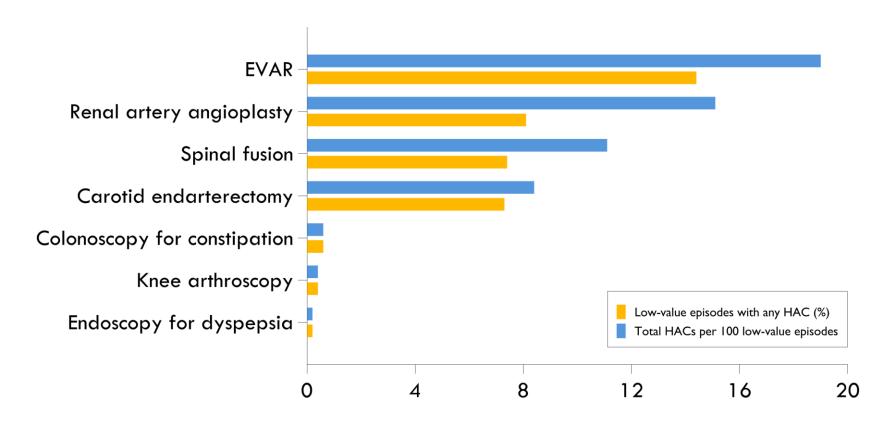


## Example: some hospitals have increased their rates

NSW hospitals



#### Measurable harm associated with low-value care



#### Conclusions

- Not large volume of low-value care for these procedures
- Most have decreasing rates

→ Clinicians generally following the evidence

- Variation in rates and trends
  - Some individual facilities (individual doctors?) have high or increasing rates

#### What should we do with these results?

- Audit and feedback
  - Let hospitals and doctors see how much low-value care they provide, compared with their peers
- Investigate the outliers
  - Why do some hospitals have high or increasing rates?

## **Acknowledgements**

- Capital Markets CRC
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#### References

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