

The Cost of Low-Value Care



The U.S. health care system continues to deliver more and more care. But it's not always the right care—and it's rarely at the right price.


30%


of all health care spending in the U.S. may be unnecessary—and, in many cases, harmful to patients.¹

And, every year, low-value care costs the health care system **\$340 billion**²



Worse, when consumers receive unnecessary care, it's **not just one and done**.

 **62%** of unnecessary treatments or tests lead to additional low-value care for that same patient.³

 And that hurts outcomes. **87%** of doctors have reported **negative impacts from low-value care**.³

There isn't a quick fix to low-value care. But here's where we can start:



Support provider education efforts such as *Choosing Wisely*



Implement EHR tools to identify unnecessary tests and treatments



Improve care management efforts

And support the shift to value-based payment models, which provide financial incentives to avoid low-value care.



Learn how ACHP is helping push for a better, smarter health care system based on value and built around consumers.

1. William H. Shrank, "Waste in the US Health Care System," JAMA (JAMA Network, October 15, 2019), <https://achp.pub/JAMA-LVC>.

2. "Low-Value Care," University of Michigan V-BID Center, February 1, 2022, <https://achp.pub/VBID-Low-Value-Care>.

3. Ishani Ganguli, "Characteristics of Low-Value Services Identified in US Choosing Wisely Recommendations," JAMA Internal Medicine, February 1, 2022, <https://achp.pub/Low-Value-Study-2022>.