

# Reducing Unnecessary ECGs

Up to 30% of ECGs are unnecessary according to Choosing Wisely Canada.



Choosing Wisely Canada **does not recommend** ECGs for:

- Detecting heart disease in asymptomatic patients
- Predicting future risk
- Routine screening at annual checkups
- Routine screening before surgery

## Fewer tests benefit everyone!

**Patients** save time, worry and out of pocket expenses

Patients are 5x more likely to get a downstream test after an ECG than any other test (Bhatia RS et. al , 2017)

**Physicians** save time and energy to spend on patients who need the most care

**Health system** savings and potential to reduce wait times

Testing has increased to a larger degree than occurrence of incident ACS. Costs have increased 22% over 10 years up to 2016 (Bailey KR, et. al, 2019)

1 in 5 low risk patients receive an ECG

(Bhatia RS et. al , 2017)



## Join us in reducing unnecessary ECGs

**Steps the ECG Initiative has taken:**

- Reduction of pre-selected ECGs in order sets
- Best Practice Advisories in Connect Care
- Spread of developed decision-making algorithm
- Education to sites

**Our project partners:**

AHS Improving Health Outcomes Together, Connect Care, Operations