

Title: Underuse and disparities in use of cardiac stress testing: gender, ethnicity, and insurance status disparities

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Research Project Description: Millions of stress tests (nuclear, stress echo, stress treadmill) are performed in the United States and estimates are that up to one quarter of these tests are unnecessary. A far less well understood phenomenon is the underuse of stress testing. This issue is of particular concern in women and minority populations where testing is underused. This project will investigate doctor and patient driven reasons why tests are performed. Students will assist in data gathering and entry with the expectation of presenting aspects of the research and participating in publishing a manuscript on the results.

Selected Readings:

Carlisle DM et al. Underuse and Overuse of Diagnostic Testing for CAD in patients with New Onset Chest Pain. Am J Med 1999;106:391

Philbin EF et al. Underuse of Invasive Procedures Among Medicaid Patients with acute MI. Am J Publ Health 2001;91:1082

Winchester et al. Appropriate Use of Myocardial Perfusion Imaging in a Veteran Population, JAMA Internal Medicine 2013;173:1381.

Papolos A et al. US Hospital Use of Echocardiography. J Am Coll Cardiol 2016;67:502

Cook NL et al. Racial and Gender Disparities in Implantable Cardioverter-Defibrillator Placement: Are they due to Overuse or Underuse? 2011;68(2):226