An Index for Measuring Systemic Overuse in the Privately Insured

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What is Quality of Care?

- – "The degree to which health services…**increase the likelihood of desired health outcomes and are consistent with professional knowledge."** –IOM, 1990
- – There are three types of quality problems in health care: **underuse, misuse and overuse.**
- – Due to a new emphasis on optimizing care "value," **overuse has become a topic of increasing interest.** (LipitzSSynderman, 2017)
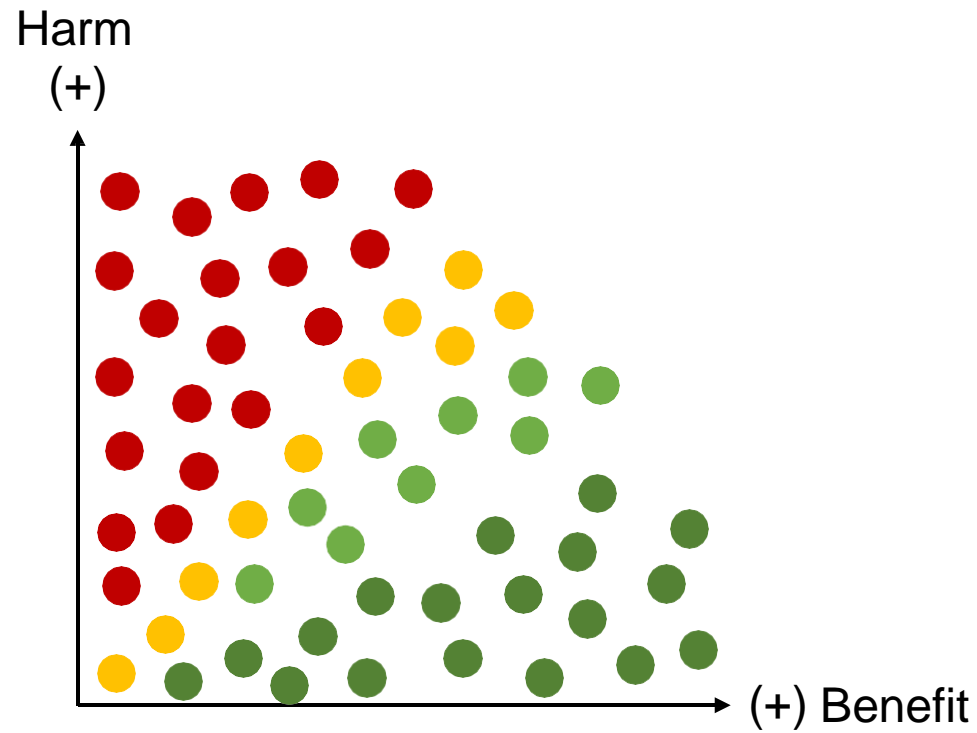
Overuse

– Is the **provision of health care services for which harms outweigh benefits**. (AHRQ, 2013)

– Diverse types of health care services have been identified as contributing to overuse. (Brownlee, 2017)

– Overuse is **prevalent, costly and harmful.**

Improvement in overuse could **1) enhance the health of populations** and **2) reduce spending.**
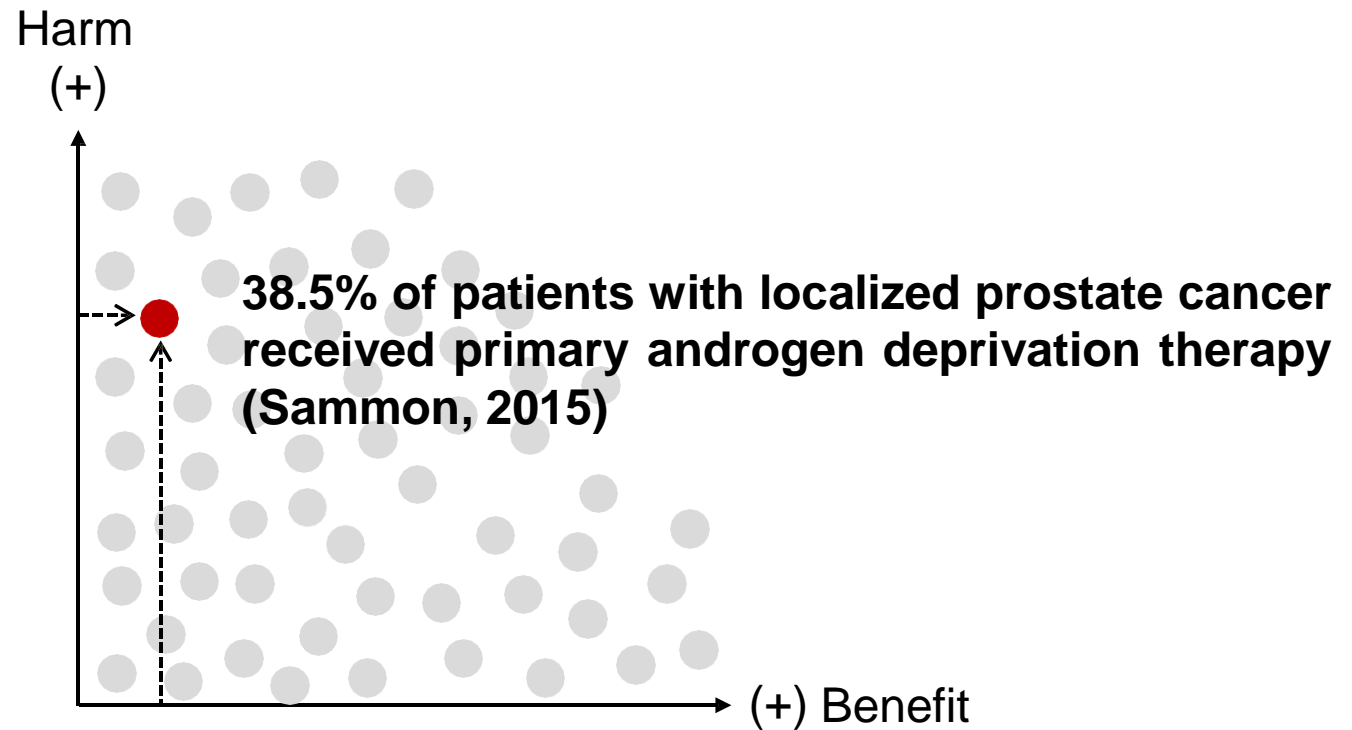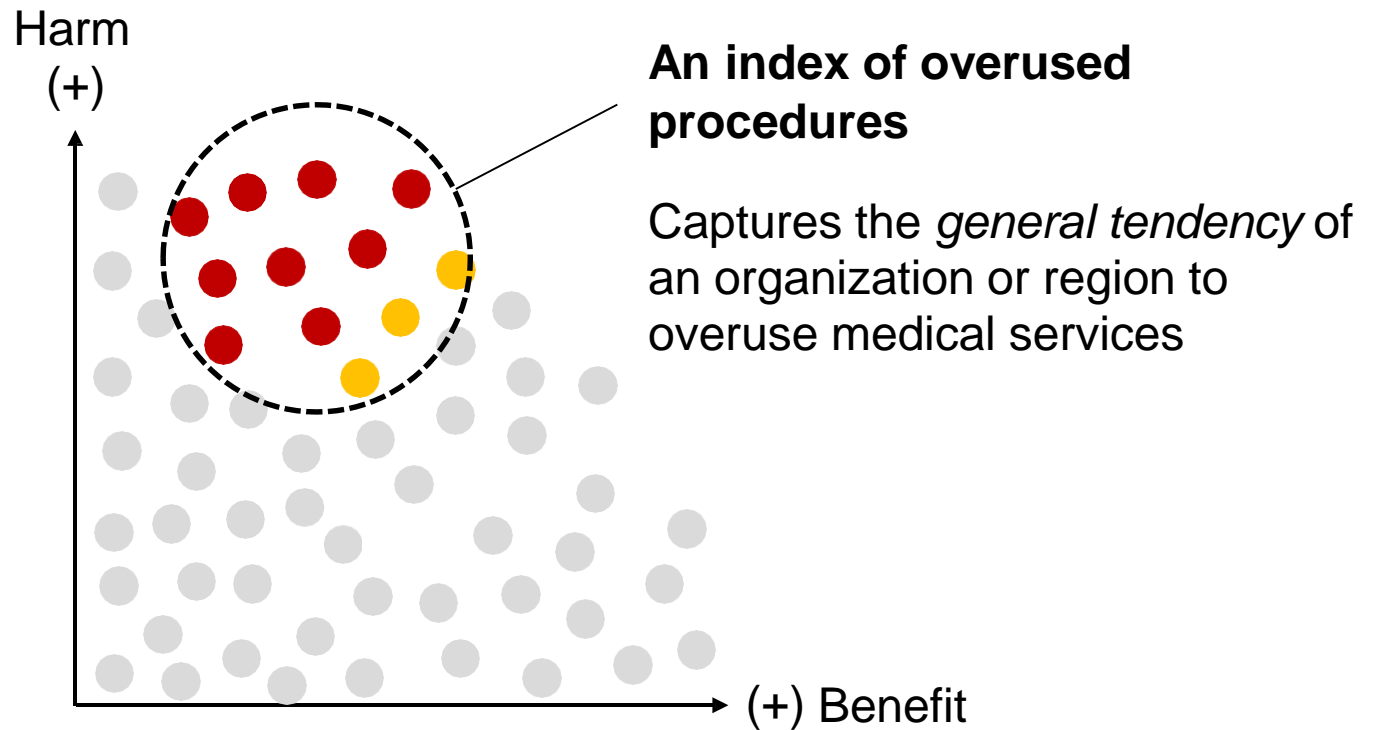
(Berwick, 2008N Segal, 2013)

Overuse

Overuse

Harm (+) / (+) Benefit axes chart

38.5% of patients with localized prostate cancer received primary androgen deprivation therapy (Sammon, 2015)

Systemic Overuse

Harm (+)

An index of overused procedures

Captures the *general tendency* of an organization or region to overuse medical services

(+) Benefit

Systemic Overuse in Medicare

Z-score of all overuse measures by Hospital Referral Region

	-9.91 - -3.50
	-3.50 - -1.35
	-1.35 - 0.38
	0.38 - 2.29
	2.29 - 19.62
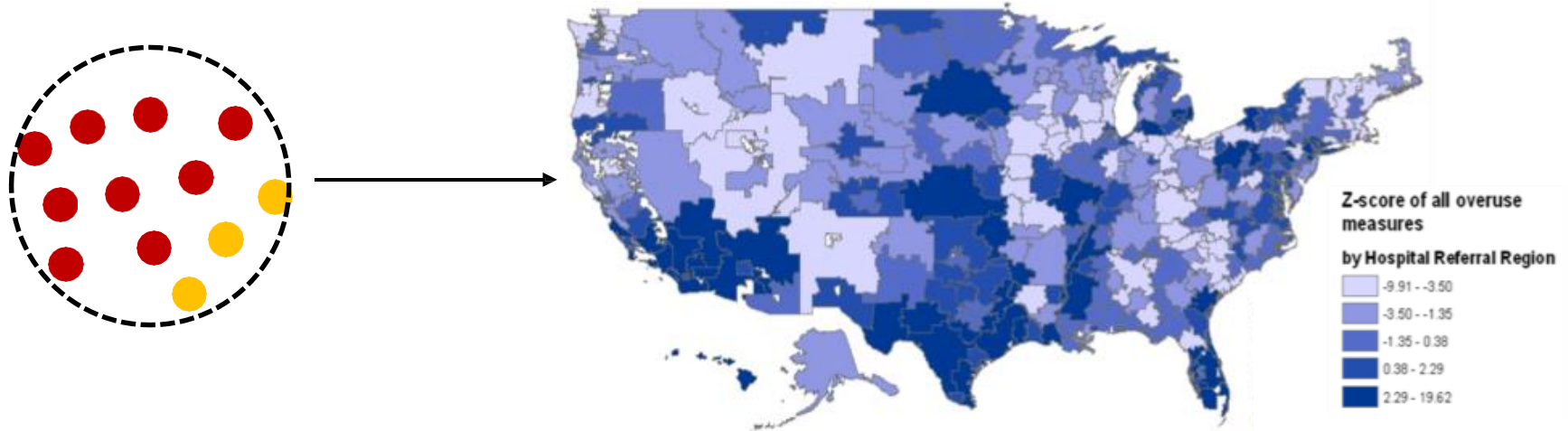
- The Johns Hopkins Overuse Index (JHOI) includes 20 indicators

- Among 2008 beneficiaries, 14% experienced ≥1 overuse event → varied across Hospital Referral Regions

- The JHOI was correlated with 30 day postdischarge mortality and overall costs (Segal, 2015)

- Other groups have used different sets of indicators to document overuse in this population (Colla, 2014; Schwartz, 2014)

Study Objective

– Adapt the JHOI for application to privately insured, 18C64 year old adults

– Generate a normalized overuse index for each Metropolitan Statistical Area in the United States using data on 30 million privately insured adults in the 2010 Truven MarketScan Commercial Claims and Encounters Database

Results

– Research in progress

Discussion

– Research in progress

Questions?

Thank You!