

PRiMHE

Programme in the Methods of Health Economics

'Tackling Wasteful Spending on Health: An OECD perspective'

Dr. Agnès Couffinhall

Agnès Couffinhall is a senior economist at the OECD, specialized in the analysis of health systems and policies. Her recent work has focused on ineffective care and waste through the preparation of a background report to the 2017 meeting of OECD Health Ministers. Until 2015, she worked at the World Bank, using a range of analytical, advisory, and financial tools to support Governments in their efforts to improve health system performance. Prior to this, she worked as a health financing specialist for the World Health Organization in Copenhagen and as a senior research fellow at the Institute for Research and Information in Health Economics (IRDES) in Paris. She holds a Ph.D. in economics from Paris IX-Dauphine.

Date:

09 October 2017/4.30-6pm (lecture starting at 5pm)

Venue:

**Medical University of Vienna, Centre for Public Health,
[Kinderspitalgasse 15, 1090 Vienna, Austria \(Please use the entrance Zimmermangasse\)](#)
Bianca von Bienenfeld Room (SE3), 2nd floor**

Summary:

Up to a fifth of health system spending and activities does not contribute to improving outcomes. Wasteful spending occurs: when patients are harmed in the process of care, receive interventions which are not medically indicated, use brand-name drugs instead of generics or are unnecessarily treated in a hospital instead of a lower level facility. Actions to tackle waste are needed in the delivery of care, in the management of health services, and in the governance of the system. Acknowledging the existence of wasteful spending and collecting more systematic information on its scope are necessary steps. Tackling waste also requires persuading all stakeholders that the best option is the least wasteful one and developing payment and incentives which reward the delivery of the right care in the right place. Agnès Couffinhall is the main author of the 2017 OECD report on wasteful spending on health. She will present the framework developed to analyse wasteful spending and highlight the main policy options to tackle it.

This lecture is accredited with 1 DFP point.



CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA
Department of Health Economics

For further information and registration (free) please contact:
E. Tunkel, Email: primhe@meduniwien.ac.at, Tel: +43 1 40160 34842
<http://healthconomics.meduniwien.ac.at/primhe/>