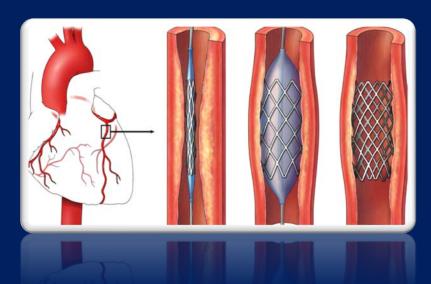


New evidence ... contradicts current clinical practice



#### Pain management for chest tightness



May temporarily improve chest pain but doesn't help patients live longer

stents used to unblock arteries for stable angina vs medication

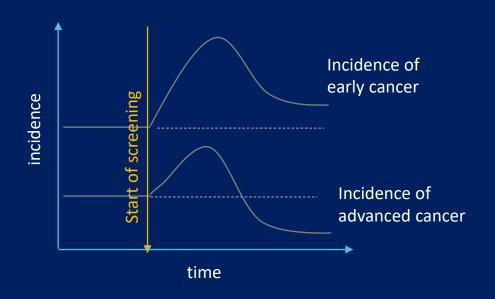
less invasive treatment can suffice.

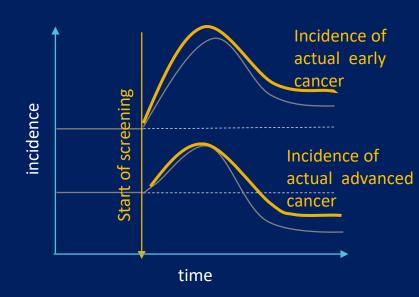


#### Screening test guidelines

how screening should work

what actually happened





## Pain management for wear and tear on the knee



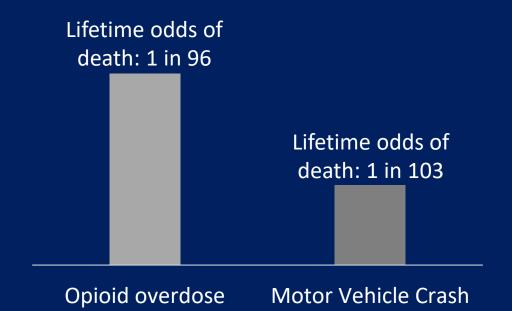
arthroscopic knee surgery vs physical therapy

less invasive treatment can suffice.



#### General pain management with opioids

varying prescribing approaches required.









## what if. ...the evidence changes

#### replacement.

... new practice surpasses an existing standard of care

#### back to the drawing board.

... new practice is no better than current practice

#### reaffirmation.

... existing practice is found to be better than a lesser standard

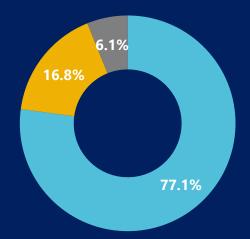
#### reversal.

... existing practice is found to be no better than a lesser therapy

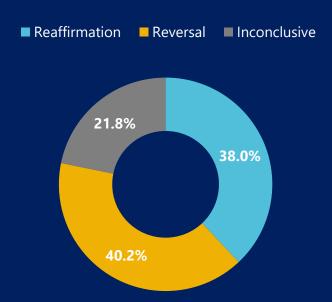


#### literature testing new practice





#### literature testing existing practice





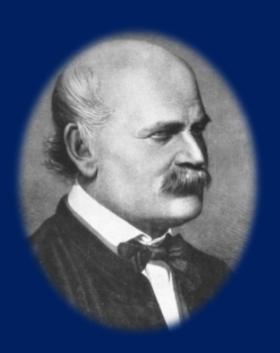


Transition time for change

over 10 years.



## why is the transition time so long?



Semmelweis effect
is a metaphor for
the tendency to reject new evidence
or new knowledge
because it contradicts
established norms



## why is the transition time so long?

doctors aren't trendy.



doctors have vested interests.





## But ...

patients may demand inappropriate treatments.



feeling better is misleading.





## and ...

doctors don't agree.



doctors get sued.

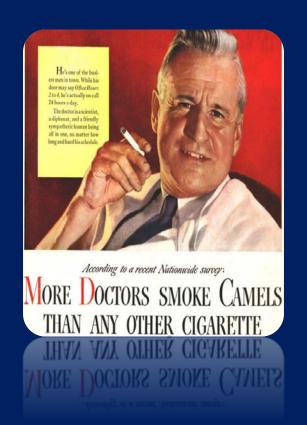




# why is it so difficult to abandon old evidence?

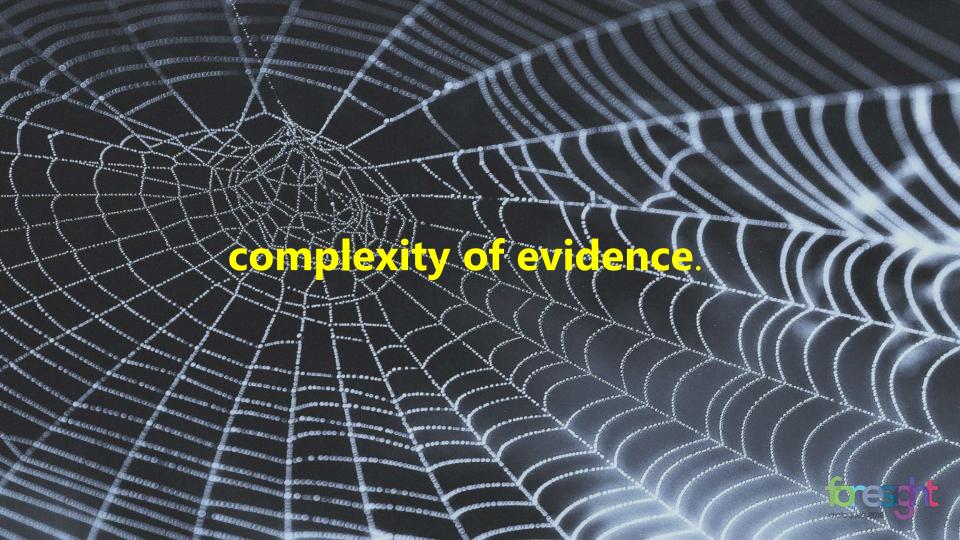


#### public sentiment.









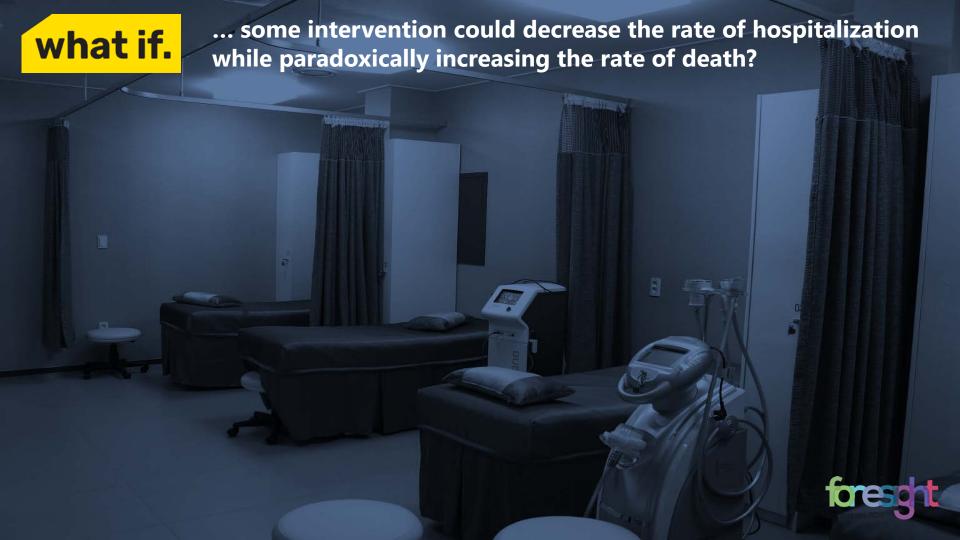
#### surrogate end points

- Easier to show a drug improves bone density ... than to show it decreases fractures
- Easier to show a drug reduces blood pressure ... than to show it decreases rate of stroke
- Easier to show a statin reduces cholesterol ... than to show it decreases heart disease

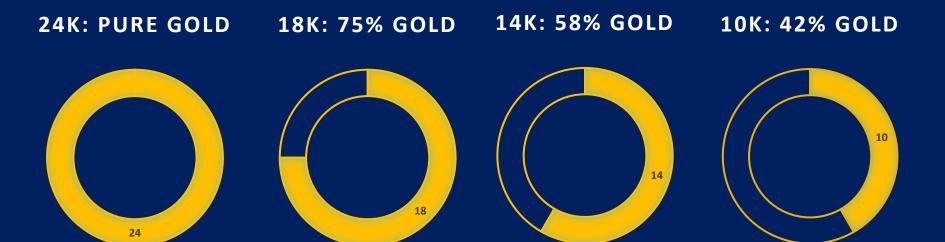
Improving the numbers does not necessarily translate to what we care about

helping people live longer and better.

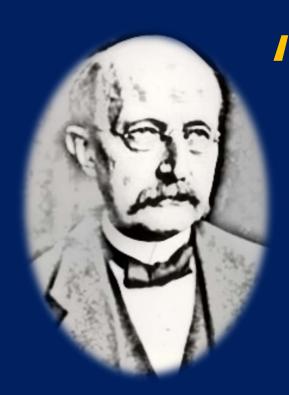




## purity of evidence







A new scientific truth does not triumph by convincing its opponents and making them see the light, but rather because its opponents eventually die, and a new generation grows up that is familiar with it.

Max Planck
Theoretical physicist



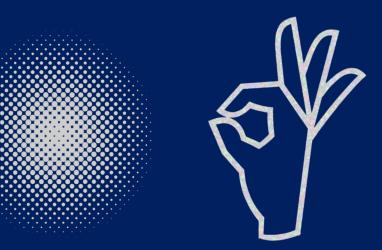
## strong evidence

large enough.

method sound enough.

important enough.

results replicated.









#### smoothing the transition to good evidence

reform medical education.

support doctors in transfer of skills.

rather than rewarding discovery, reward replication.

fee-for-service vs salaried doctors.

different processes for approval of guidelines/drugs/devices/apps.





# what if.

... machines can help



Limited storage

Don't always stay up to date

Forget

Have biases



- Constantly learning
- Don't forget
- Built for optimization however still open to manipulation

