

PARALLEL SESSION 2.5

BEST BUYS, WASTED BUYS AND CONTROVERSIES IN NCD PREVENTION

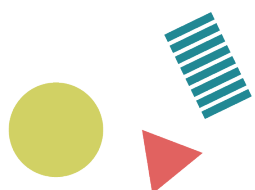


| BACKGROUND

The world is facing a spectre of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which will diminish the length and quality of life, interact with existing health conditions, raise household and public health expenditures, and increase the burden of care on family members. A number of policies have been implemented to fight NCDs and studies have shown some interventions to be 'best buys' whereas others are 'wasted buys'. Most NCDs can be preventable and, given the generally lower cost and simpler delivery of preventive interventions, a move towards preventive rather than curative interventions could be attractive. Another approach that is gaining prominence in discussions of NCDs is 'do-it-yourself' or DIY interventions. NCDs are by definition not contagious or infectious and people develop them over the course of their lives for many reasons including those to do with lifestyle. As such, they can be prevented if people modify their lifestyles (i.e., in DIY interventions). At present, there is no definitive collection of evidence on 'best buys', 'wasted buys', and DIY interventions for the prevention of the NCD burden that governments, health professionals, NCD program managers, and healthy lifestyle promotion personnel can use.

| OBJECTIVES

This session will introduce an upcoming information package which aims to provide details on Best Buys, Wasted Buys, and DIYs in NCD prevention focusing on cardiovascular diseases (heart disease and stroke), diabetes, chronic lung disease and cancers. This work is not intended to offer a one-size-fits-all approach for making recommendations on NCD prevention. It seeks instead to identify how different systems can create and utilize information for identifying interventions offering best value for their populations.





Panelist

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Ryota Nakamura is an associate professor at Hitotsubashi University, Japan. He also serves as a visiting associate professor at the Institute of Statistical Mathematics. He is an applied microeconomist specialising in health economics and policy. He holds a BA and an MA in Economics from Kyoto University and a PhD in Economics from the University of York. Prior to joining Hitotsubashi University in 2016, he held positions at the University of East Anglia and the University of York. His research interests include empirical and theoretical investigations of health-related behavior as well as healthcare systems to inform national and international public health policies, using a wide range of research methods including micro-econometric analysis of observational data, e.g. impact evaluation, economic experiment, modelling, and evidence synthesis.