

CENTRE FOR HEALTH POLICY

Seminar Series

The University of Melbourne



MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF
**POPULATION
& GLOBAL
HEALTH**

Healthcare, Overconsumption and Uneconomic Growth



Presenter: A/Prof. Martin Hensher

Tuesday 7 December 12pm-1pm

Via Zoom [https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/86529578984?
pwd=ZWRBVEJRZGc4RlVoRGpMS2p1NklOdz09](https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/86529578984?pwd=ZWRBVEJRZGc4RlVoRGpMS2p1NklOdz09)
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Healthcare and economic growth have been closely associated for many decades. Yet there is increasing evidence that not all healthcare improves health: overdiagnosis, overtreatment and low value care all provide little or no benefit, while potentially causing harm. Similarly, evidence is increasing rapidly that current patterns of economic growth may be delivering more harm than benefit – that overconsumption may be leading to uneconomic growth.

This presentation explores the implications of the interaction between health, healthcare, overconsumption and uneconomic growth.

Martin Hensher is Associate Professor of Health Systems Financing and Organisation in the Institute for Health Transformation (IHT) at Deakin University; he is also the Deputy Director of Deakin Health Economics. Current research includes the economic evaluation of telehealth, digital and strategies and interventions to reduce overuse and low value care; minimising the ecological footprint of healthcare; and integrating insights and techniques from ecological economics with health economics.

Associate Professor Hensher has over thirty years' experience in health management, planning and financing in the UK, Australia, Africa, Europe and Central Asia. He was the senior economic adviser to the Chief Medical Officer and the National Health Service Medical Director in the Department of Health England, before moving to Australia where he spent seven years as a Director in the Tasmanian Department of Health.