

Review of: "[Short Communication] Individual opinions on the excessive and under diagnosis and treatment of thyroid cancer"

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This article addresses very important issues in the management of thyroid cancer, namely the rapidly increasing incidence and uncertainties about optimal management strategies, especially for lower risk cancers.

Whilst I would very much agree with the comments regarding over-diagnosis, I am less sure that I can understand the arguments made about under diagnosis and under treatment.

I would suggest that there are many more factors contributing to over-diagnosis than simply the uncertainty of pathologists. The rapid increases in medical imaging, not to mention in some settings screening with neck ultrasound surely make a very significant impact here with asymptomatic, incidental diagnoses, and are well documented in the literature, for example from South Korea and elsewhere.

I think the article could make greater reference to the vital importance of risk stratification once a thyroid cancer has been diagnosed, and the appropriate trend to treatment de-escalation, including observation alone, in those cancers that we deem to be very low risk.