



McGill

Department of  
Epidemiology, Biostatistics  
and Occupational Health

**EPIDEMIOLOGY SEMINAR SERIES**  
**Winter 2017**

**\*\*THE DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, BIostatISTICS AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, - SEMINAR SERIES IS A SELF-APPROVED GROUP LEARNING ACTIVITY (SECTION 1) AS DEFINED BY THE MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION PROGRAM OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS OF CANADA\*\***

**Xabier A. Garcia-De-Albeniz, MD**

Research Associate, Department of Epidemiology – Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

***Effectiveness of Screening Colonoscopy to Prevent Colorectal Cancer among Medicare Beneficiaries Aged 70 to 79 Years -- Behind the Scenes***

**Monday, 20 February 2017**

**4:00 pm - 5:00 pm – McIntyre Medical Building  
3655 promenade Sir William Osler – Rm 504**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**SYNOPSIS:**

No randomized, controlled trials of screening colonoscopy have been completed, and ongoing trials exclude persons aged 75 years or older. The Medicare program, however, reimburses screening colonoscopy without an upper age limit.

We evaluated the effectiveness and safety of screening colonoscopy to prevent colorectal cancer (CRC) in persons aged 70 to 74 and those aged 75 to 79 years. We used observational data to emulate a target trial with 2 groups: colonoscopy screening and no screening. This talk will provide an overview of the motivation, implementation and methodological challenges faced in implementing this study.

**OBJECTIVES:** At the end of this seminar, participants will be able to:

- 1) Use the emulation of a target trial as a tool to ask well-defined causal questions
- 2) Understand pros and cons of different ways to deliver of results in screening studies
- 3) Identify gaps in clinical trials that can be filled in by observational studies

**BIO:**

<https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/xabier-garcia-de-albeniz/>

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