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Author

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Organization

Evict Radon National Study

Title

An economic evaluation of the costs of radon testing and mitigation weighed against the healthcare system savings associated with lung cancer prevention

Abstract

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer mortality in Canada and is associated high treatment costs in the era of personalized cancer treatments. While tobacco usage and tobacco-associated lung cancers continue to decrease, lung cancer among people who do not smoke tobacco is rising and Canadian radon exposure presents a worsening threat to our communities. Fortunately, radon exposure can be reduced by implementing proven and effective reduction strategies largely carried out by C-NRPP certified professionals. Mr. Griffin and Macqueen will jointly present ongoing work to develop a decision analytic model to simulate the effect of radon reduction strategies (compared to no action) on cost and quality-adjusted life years for lung cancer. As an essential part of that work, we have been estimating costs associated with radon mitigation in consultation with C-NRPP professionals. We will also describe work on a second decision analytic model to investigate the economic impact of implementing lung cancer screening with non-tobacco lung cancer risk factors (e.g. high radon exposure). The goal of our work, once complete, is to better inform policy makers who are developing recommendations to reduce radon exposure and/or develop new guidelines to help detect lung cancer from radon earlier.