

Economic Considerations in Endoscopy

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Over the last 20 years, we have seen a rapid evolution of knowledge gained, the resulting demands and associated investments compared to other areas.

Today, we have clear ideas of quality in endoscopy with objective parameters such as adenoma coverage rate, caecum proliferation, complete removal of lesions, the complication rate, just to mention a few.

There are more requirements today that are a prerequisite for these quality guidelines, such as hygiene regulations, complication management, etc.

Strikingly, the investment costs of a simple endoscopy system, compared between 1995 and 2015, the investment costs increased by 1047%! And that's why some of today's indispensable features have not even been considered. The inflation rate between the years 1995 and 2015 averaged 2% each year, thus a total of 40% and since 1995 the fees have been rising by the rate of inflation.

The offer of endoscopy in private practice can only be upheld seriously if it is rewarded economically under quality-assured conditions. Compromises serve neither the patient, nor the method, nor the state of the medical profession as a whole. We have to convince our opposite:

1. There is a problem - without and if; 2. This problem must be solved honestly - without ulterior motive; 3. We have a common social goal - the health of our population;

Biography:

Dr. Gerald Oppeck is a outpatient practice, specialist in internal medicine, specialist in nuclear medicine and also a advisory council at ÖGGH. He also participated as a delegate at "United European Gastroenterology". He is a president of (IG Endoskopie) Interessengemeinschaft Endoskopie, Austria official at Endoskopiereferat at Ärztekammer für Niederösterreich.