

Appendix 1

Detailed search string from Pubmed.

defensive medicine OR defensive practice OR defensive practices OR medicine, defensive

("defensive medicine"[MeSH Terms] OR ("defensive"[All Fields] AND "medicine"[All Fields]) OR "defensive medicine"[All Fields]) OR ("defensive medicine"[MeSH Terms] OR ("defensive"[All Fields] AND "medicine"[All Fields]) OR "defensive medicine"[All Fields]) OR ("defensive"[All Fields] AND "practice"[All Fields]) OR "defensive practice"[All Fields]) OR ("defensive medicine"[MeSH Terms] OR ("defensive"[All Fields] AND "medicine"[All Fields]) OR "defensive medicine"[All Fields]) OR ("defensive"[All Fields] AND "practices"[All Fields]) OR "defensive practices"[All Fields]) OR ("defensive medicine"[MeSH Terms] OR ("defensive"[All Fields] AND "medicine"[All Fields]) OR "defensive medicine"[All Fields]) OR ("medicine"[All Fields] AND "defensive"[All Fields]))

Appendix 2

Detailed chain search and all references of the studies' definition of defensive medicine. Listed after articulated definition of defensive medicine complement to Supplementary Table 1 –

Definitions of defensive medicine.

*No reference to the definition of defensive medicine. †Full text not available.

Antoci et al. 2016, Italy

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 - 1.2. *Duke Law J*. 1971, 939 (1971) †
2. Kessler D, McClellan M. Do doctors practice defensive medicine? *Q J Econ*. 1996; 111 (2): 353–390. †

Aranaz Andrés et al. 2020, Spain

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Bourne et al 2015, UK

1. Jain A, Ogdan J. General practitioners' experiences of patients' complaints: qualitative study. *BMJ* 1999;318:1596–9. *

Bourne et al. 2016, UK

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 - 6.1.1.1. Hershey N. The defensive practice of medicine: myth or reality. *Milbank Mem Fund Q* 1972;50:69-97. *
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Gadjradj et al 2020, Europe, Africa, Asia & Oceania, North America and South America

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Litchfield et al. 2014, UK

- No reference.

Mira et al. 2018, Spain

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