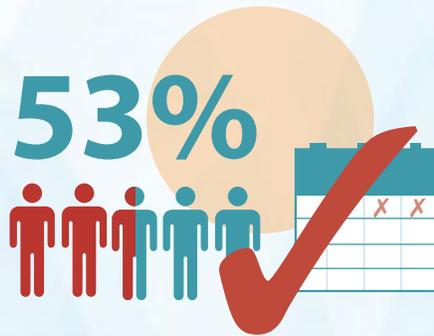




FEDERAL ELECTION 2019

Timely Access to Care Through the Patient's Medical Home

Background



Fifty-three per cent of adults in Canada report not being able to get a same- or next-day appointment when needing care—the worst among surveyed OECD countries¹

The needs of the aging Canadian population continues to evolve:

- By 2031 those over 65 years of age are expected to make up 23 per cent of the total population (17 per cent in 2016)²

The Patient's Medical Home (PMH) is a vision of family practice focusing on continuous, comprehensive, compassionate, and timely care provided by an interprofessional team.³

94%



A recent public poll commissioned by the CFPC confirmed **94 per cent** of respondents believe that the PMH vision is important.⁴

The latest research indicates that applying PMH principles yields improvements in care and efficiency at no additional cost to the health care system offering the best value.⁵

In addition, the PMH yields:

- ↓ Reduced emergency department visits and hospitalization
- ↑ Improved access to care
- ↑ Enhanced delivery of preventive care
- ↑ Improvements in quality of care
- ↑ Higher satisfaction for providers and patients⁶

The PMH is a truly interprofessional vision that brings together health care providers to ensure best services delivered to the community. It is endorsed by many organizations, including:

- Canadian Nurses Association
- Canadian Home Care Association
- Canada Health Infoway
- Canadian Association of Social Workers

- Canadian Medical Association
- Canadian Public Health Association



Calls to Action

The federal government should standardize the PMH vision across Canada and provide support through a dedicated Primary Health Care Transition Fund

- Current application of the PMH principles is uneven across Canada
- The previous Primary Health Care Transition Fund launched by the federal government in 2000 allowed for the creation of PMH-aligned models in Quebec, Alberta, and Ontario that continue to lead the way and evolve



Accelerating the transition to PMH models across provinces will improve access to community-based collaborative care, reduce stress on secondary and tertiary health infrastructure, and improve provider satisfaction and well-being.

The federal government should adopt the PMH vision in all areas of federal health care delivery

- The federal government has direct responsibility to deliver health care to specific populations:
 - Canadian Forces members and eligible veterans
 - Inmates and offenders incarcerated in federal correctional facilities
 - First Nations peoples living on reserves, and Inuit
 - Some refugee claimants
- The federal government should direct Health Canada and all relevant agencies responsible for delivering health care to these populations to **implement the PMH vision**
- This will allow the federal government to:
 - Reform health care delivery for populations the federal government is directly responsible for
 - Model best practices to the provinces, leading by example rather than compelling primary care reform

Endnotes

- 1 The Commonwealth Fund. 2016 International Survey of Adults website. <https://international.commonwealthfund.org/data/2016/>. Accessed 2019 Jun 4.
- 2 Statistics Canada. Age and sex, and type of dwelling data: Key results from the 2016 Census. *The Daily*. May 2017. Available from: www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/170503/dq170503a-eng.htm. Accessed 2019 Jun 4.
- 3 Patient's Medical Home. Vision website. <https://patientsmedicalhome.ca/vision/>. Accessed 2019 Jun 4.
- 4 Ipsos Public Affairs. *CFPC Family Medicine in Canada Report*. Toronto, ON: Ipsos; 2019. Available from: www.ipsos.com/sites/default/files/ct/news/documents/2019-06/familymedicineincanada-report-2019-06-13-v1.pdf. Accessed 2019 Jul 4.
- 5 Tranmer JE, Rotter T, Alsius A, Ritonja J, Paré G. *Impact of Patient's Medical Home (PMH) models on cost-related outcomes*. Kingston, ON: Queen's School of Nursing and Health Services and Policy Research Institute. Forthcoming.
- 6 Toward Optimized Practice. *Benefits of a Patient's Medical Home: A Literature Summary of 115 Articles|2017 Update*. Edmonton, AB: Toward Optimized Practice; 2017. Available from: www.topalbertadoctors.org/file/top--evidence-summary--benefits-of-pmh.pdf. Accessed 2019 Jun 4.

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Read the CFPC's election backgrounder at
<https://election2019.cfpc.ca>