

Canadian Health Coalition

INDEX ON MEDICARE



Federal cash contribution to public health care spending in Canada in 1977:
50%

Federal cash contribution to public health care spending in Canada in 2000:
approximately 15%

Total expenditure on health (public and private) as a share of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
in Canada in 1998 and all citizens are insured:
9.5%

Total expenditure on health care as a share of GDP in the United States in 1998
and over 40 million citizens are uninsured:
13.9%

Increase in public spending on health care between the years 1989 and 2000:
29%

Increase in private sector spending on health care (out of pocket) in Canada over the same period:
48%

Increase in prescription drug costs in Canada from 1985 to 2000 (unadjusted):
344%

Increase in total health spending as a percentage of GDP for Canada from 1985 to 2000:
0.8%

Increase in private health insurance expenditure in Canada between 1988-1998:
148.6%

Number of Canadians who have inadequate drug insurance:
6 million

Increase in hospitalizations caused by increase in drug insurance premiums
on social assistance recipients in Québec:
194%

Canada's prescription drug costs as a percentage of OECD average:
30% higher

Current level of nursing care for Ontario long term care residents per day:
less than 15 minutes

Level of nursing care per resident per day recommended by
U.S Health Care Financing Administration:
2 hours

Number of Canadians who would die annually if hospitals were converted to for-profit facilities:
approximately 2,200

Sources: Canadian Institute for Health Information (1,2,3,4,7,9,10); CIHI & Stats Canada (5,6); OECD (12); "Rapport d'évaluation de l'impact du régime général d'assurance-médicaments" (11); PricewaterhouseCoopers (13); US General Accounting Office (14); CMAJ Vol. 166 No. 2, Devereaux, P.J., et al (15)