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Improving access to home and community care - an analysis of the 2017 Health Accord

What?

In 2017, the federal government confirmed the new Canadian Health Accord which included a targeted transfer of **\$6 billion over 10 years** to the provinces and territories to improve access to home and community care services.

Why?

Issues in home and community care

- Unmet home care needs
- Burden on caregivers

Unregulated and undervalued

Canada's aging population

How?

A Statement on Shared Health Priorities

- The federal, provincial and territorial governments came together to identify pan-Canadian health issues that then informed federal funding priorities.

Bilateral Agreements

- Agreements between the federal and provincial or territorial governments set out the conditions of funding for the identified health priorities.



Take a picture to get a sneak peek of the **report**



Impact

Previous attempts (2003 and 2004) failed to improve home and community care, so what's different?

Collaboration

- This Accord reflects the Liberal Government's leadership style "collaborative federalism".

Accountability

- Provinces and territories (except Quebec) have to report **annual measurements to CIHI** and submit **annual financial statements** to the federal government.

Results

Preliminary results are mixed

- The targeted transfers appears to be boosting investments in the home care sector and fostering collaboration across jurisdictions.
- However, it is unclear whether there are improvements in access to home and community care.

| Strengths | Weaknesses |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bilateral agreements allow provinces and territories to tailor implementation to their unique needs. - Each province and territory (except Quebec) have committed to reporting set indicators to CIHI. - The transfer has strengthened plans to improve access home and community care, with some common themes across jurisdictions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited comparisons can be made between provincial and territorial indicators due to differences in population demographics and home care service systems. - Agreements and indicators may not directly address formal workforce issues which are essential to improving home care services. |
| Opportunities | Threats |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As collaboration is a key component of the targeted transfer, home and community service activities and innovations could be scaled up more quickly across provinces and territories. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It will be difficult for the federal government to ensure that all funds go toward a true increase in homecare spending, or to pull back funding if activities don't fully align with the bilateral agreements. - Inconsistencies between agreements undermine the overall impact of the reform. |