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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.

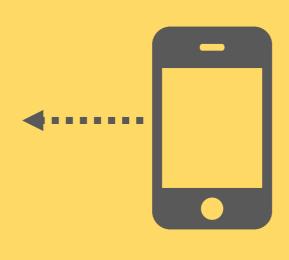
Bilateral Agreements

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



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





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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

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.

Opportunities

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.

Weaknesses

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.

Threats

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.