

THE COLLEGE OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS
OF CANADA



LE COLLÈGE DES
MÉDECINS DE FAMILLE
DU CANADA

Transforming the Foundation of Canada's Health Care System: Solutions to bolster primary care

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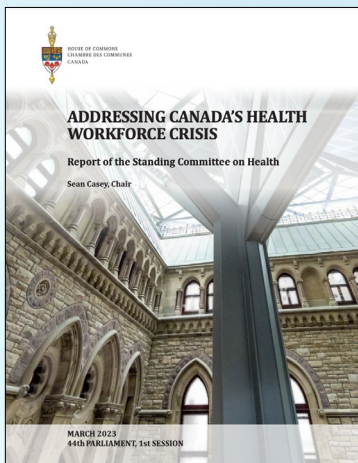
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The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) calls for federal government leadership in health care through national standards and dedicated federal funding to provinces and territories to deliver results in areas of shared priority. To achieve improvements in access to family health services, the following solutions need to be enacted.

The solutions* are aligned with the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Health's report, Addressing Canada's Health Workforce Crisis. The solutions can be resourced through the federal health investment announced in February 2023.

*College of Family Physicians of Canada. Health Workforce report recommendations are sound, now is the time for decisive action [news release]. 2023. <https://www.cfpc.ca/CFPC/media/Resources/Health-Policy/HPGR-FP-Reform-Policy-EN.pdf>

Solution 1

Fund interprofessional collaborative teams

- 1.1 The federal government should allocate funding toward the creation, maintenance, and development of interprofessional practices to strengthen primary care across Canada.



Solution 2

Reduce administrative burden for family physicians

2.1 Dedicated funding must be targeted to projects that:

- 2.1.1 Identify and eliminate unnecessary forms.
- 2.1.2 Simplify forms or reduce unnecessary aspects of forms where elimination is not possible.
- 2.1.3 Fairly compensate physicians for filling out forms that cannot be eliminated or simplified.
- 2.1.4 Offer funding for the administrative staff needed to conduct this work.

2.2 Federal funding should be earmarked to pilot projects within the provinces/territories to employ medical scribes within family practices and measure their effectiveness and impact.



Solution 3

Minimize the burden associated with adopting new technologies in practice



- 3.1 Invest in provincial/territorial centralized data technology initiatives to implement new, or advance existing, centralized data systems that support a One Patient, One Record approach.**
- 3.2 Fund family practice subsidies to invest in quality improvement (QI) projects aimed at adopting or optimizing digital tools in family medicine.**
 - 3.1.1 Focus on enabling family physicians to share patient information and coordinate care with health care professionals outside their practice.
 - 3.1.2 Include funding for QI specialists with expert knowledge of clinical workflows to ensure efficiency and usability of technologies that are already in use or desired by a practice.
 - 3.1.3 Invest in programs that allow family practices convenient access to their practice data to enable family medicine-based research.
- 3.3 Prioritize ongoing federal action to enable access to reliable high speed Internet in all communities across Canada, especially in rural and remote areas.**

Solution 4

Support national licensure and improved locum availability

4.1 The federal government must work with the provinces and territories to address the urgent need for locum availability by:

- 4.1.1 Expediting and funding work to shift toward national licensure.
- 4.1.2 Subsidizing provinces/territories to reimburse physicians for licensing fees in each jurisdiction.
- 4.1.3 Encouraging provinces/territories to ensure their respective provincial and regional physician agreements allow for flexibility and physician work-life balance.



Solution 5

Invest in fair physician remuneration that incentivizes team-based practice and complexity of care

- 5.1 Facilitate the transition from fee-for-service to blended capitation by investing in capitation-based payment programs that compensate family physicians for their full range of tasks and are compatible with team-based care.
- 5.2 Increase the appeal and sustainability of comprehensive community-based family medicine by ensuring fair and competitive remuneration for physicians as an appropriate incentive to enter and remain in practice.





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