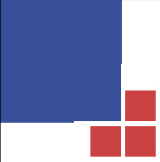


# The Rebuilding of our Health Care System

Dr. Duncan G. Sinclair Lectureship in Health Policy

Dr. Jeffrey Turnbull. MD, FRCPC

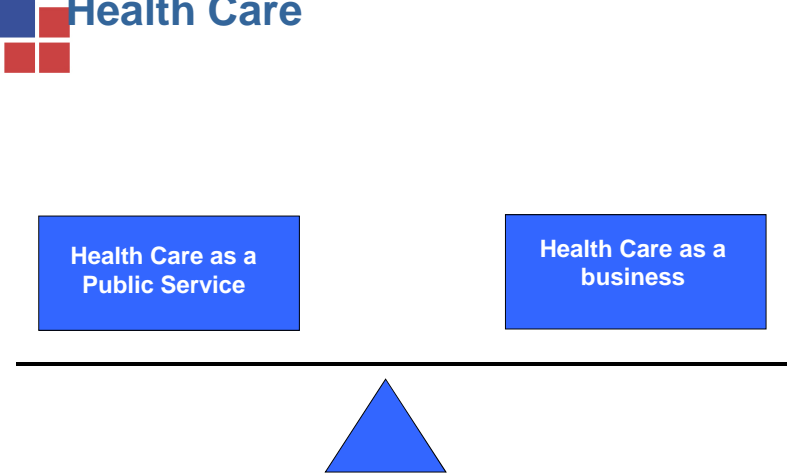
February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012



## Overview of presentation

- Reframing sustainability
- Principles to guide transformation
- The evolving consensus
- Exploring the options
- The Health Care Accords
- Looking ahead

## Reframing the Different Perspectives of Health Care



## Health Care as a Public Service

- A social service built upon Canadian values:
  - Equity
  - Shared risk
  - The common good
  - Social justice
- A social service guided by professional principles:
  - Compassion
  - Respect
  - Trust
  - Primacy of the patient's welfare

## Health Care as an Economic Engine

- Health care as a key component of our economic recovery



## Health Care as business

- Health care changing to incorporate effective business principles in the management of health service delivery





## Challenges to our Perception of Health Care as a Public Service: Is it sustainable?

- System is inadequate to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century needs
- Principles of Medicare not being met
- Canada a “bottom of the pack” performer compared to other countries
- Fiscal challenges faced by governments
- Health care viewed as an inhibitor of growth
- Changes required to:
  - Improve efficiency/productivity of system
  - Improve quality of care
  - Improve Canadians’ confidence in system



## Reframe “Sustainability”

- Sustainability debate has focused only on financing
- Need to sustain:
 

Universal access to quality patient-centred care that is adequately resourced and delivered along the full continuum in a timely and cost-effective manner.
- Several dimensions to sustainability:
  - infrastructure, quality/outcomes, health promotion/disease prevention, governance/management, public finance



## Principles of the Canada Health Act

- Universality
  - Accessibility
  - Comprehensive
  - Public Administration
  - Portable
  - Enhance the Health Care Experience
    - Patient Centred
    - Quality Health Care
- Improve Population Health
  - Prevention
  - Equitable
- Value for Money
  - Sustainable
  - Accountable



## A National Dialogue with Canadians: We heard support for...

- A publicly funded health care system
- Expanded scope of the CHA
- A strong federal role – equality
- Accountability mechanisms
- Innovation, efficiencies
- Dealing with the bigger picture
  - social determinants of health




## Advisory Panel Observations

- Health care system could be better for the money spent
- Inequities in access; other countries do better in providing access to broader range of services
- Need to clarify and separate the management and governance of health care system
- Need to better integrate physicians and other components of health care system



## Advisory Panel Recommendations

- Consider ways to fund services along continuum of care
- Advocate for greater accountability of the health care system to people who need care and their families
- Advocate for less government micro-management
- Support services addressing other determinants of health

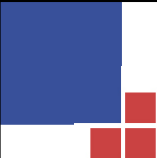


## From Consensus to Action

### Picking at the Seams **VS** Transformative Change

#### Scope and Magnitude of Change

- Models of care
- Scope of services provided
- Governance/Management/Accountability
- Financing/Sustainability




## From Consensus to Action

### Picking at the Seams **VS** Transformative Change

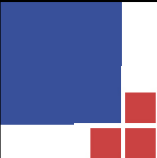
#### Paradigm Changes

|                                   |   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Provider-focused                  | → | Patient-centered                                  |
| Acute care paradigm               | → | Chronic disease management                        |
| Individual, isolated practice     | → | Group-connected, team-based, accountable practice |
| Rhetoric                          | → | Data/evidence                                     |
| Silos                             | → | Integrated regional systems-based care            |
| Unrestricted growth of technology | → | Evidence informed innovation                      |



## Financing

- 192 Billion
- 11.7% of GDP
- \$5700/capita



## Financing

- Growth of expenditures of 7% in excess of declining revenue: (approaching 50% of total provincial expenditure 7%)
  - Population growth
  - Inflation – general/medical
  - Population aging (1%)
  - Utilization (2%)



## The Efficiency Argument

- Utilization (2.1%)
- Efficiency (OECD) 20% reduction in costs
- Addressing the social determinants of health

## What about Equality & the Social Determinants of Health?

- Equality of access/delivery?
- Equality of outcomes?
- Can we afford it?  
OR
- Can we afford not to act?



## Social Determinants of Health



## Canada's Most Vulnerable

- Aboriginal people
- Rural residents
- Single-parent families
- Physically disabled
- Mentally ill
- Addicts
- Recent immigrants
- The young and the elderly
- The homeless





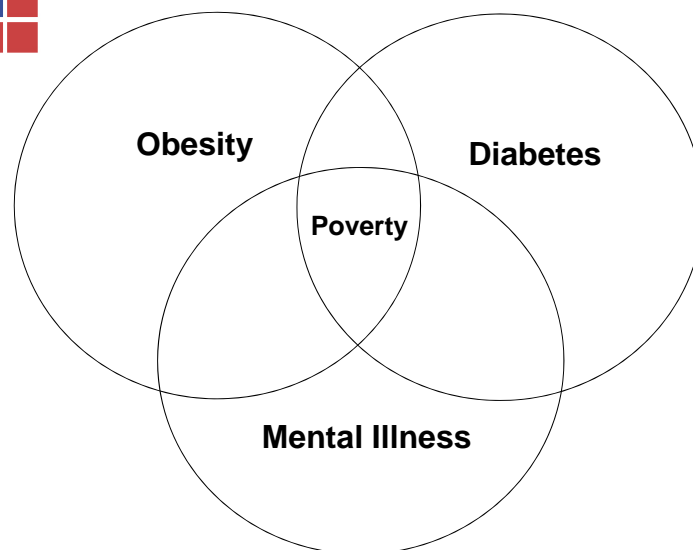
## Advocating for Equality


Our collective responsibility:

- An expression of our values as citizens
- An expression of our professional ethics/civic professionalism
- A matter of cost-saving to society
- Champions of fundamental human rights



## The High Cost of Inequity

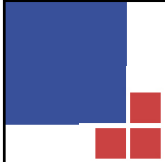




### Health Care Cost of Socioeconomic Inequalities, European Union, 2004

| Health Care Cost      | % of Total |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Physician Services    | 16.4       |
| Hospital Services     | 22.1       |
| Total Health Services | 20.0       |


Source: Mackenbach J et al. Economic costs of health inequalities in the European Union JECH 10.1136/jech.2010.112680



### Economic Burden of Health Inequalities for Minority Populations in the U.S. 2003-2006

|                                  | Estimated excess cost<br>due to health inequalities<br>(2008-billion \$) |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Direct medical care expenses     | \$229.4  |
| Indirect cost of illness         | \$50.3   |
| Indirect cost of premature death | \$957.5  |
| Total                            | \$1,237.2  |

Source: La Veist T. et al. The economic burden of health inequalities in the United States. 2009.  
[http://www.jointcenter.org/hpi/sites/all/files/Burden\\_Of\\_Health\\_FINAL\\_0.pdf](http://www.jointcenter.org/hpi/sites/all/files/Burden_Of_Health_FINAL_0.pdf)



## Cutting Services VS Increased Revenue

- Private vs Public funding: A False Dicotomy
  - Co-payments
  - Private insurance
  - Taxation based
    - General revenue
    - Dedicated health funds
    - Tax benefits/deductions
  - Social insurance models



## 2004 Health Accord Commitments

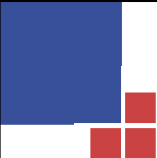
- Adoption of wait-time benchmarks by December 2005 for 5 procedural areas
- Health human resource (HHR) action plans by December 2005
- First-dollar coverage for home care by 2006
- Goal of 50% of Canadians having 24/7 access to multidisciplinary primary care teams by 2011
- 5-yr \$150 million Territorial Health Access Fund



## 2004 Health Accord Commitments

(cont'd)

- 9-point National Pharmaceuticals Strategy (NPS)
- Accelerated work on pan-Canadian Public Health Strategy including goals and targets
- Continued federal investments in health innovation
- Reporting on health system performance and the elements of the Accord
- Formalization of the dispute avoidance/resolution mechanism on the *Canada Health Act*.



## Looking ahead to 2014

- Predictable funding – federal transfers
- Address continuum of care (prescription drugs & continuing care)
- Focal point for exchange of innovative practices
- Meaningful accountability:
  - National framework for reporting on performance to Canadians

**OR**

Devolution of Federal Responsibility



## Transformational Opportunities Levers for Change

### 1) Strategic Reinvestment

- Matching investment to outcome
- Invest in quality
- Invest in systems management (IS/IT, EMR)
- Invest in leadership
- Invest in health equity
- Targeted systems change
  - High risk/high cost
  - Globalization



## Transformational Opportunities Levers for Change

### 2) Management/governance structures

- Redefine levels of health decision making/regionalization of care
- Build on accountability linking to responsibility and resources
- Engage public and providers in strategic directions and decision making
- Drive change with evidence
- Consider independent health organizations (IHO)

## Transformational Opportunities Levers for Change

### 3) Change the Culture

- Joint ownership
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Accountability/responsibility
- The best business practices in delivering an essential public service

## Political Safe Zone Building a Grassroots Movement

