The Future of Canadian Healthcare

Abstract

Background

The Canadian healthcare system is often treated as a model for its practical and moral application, utilizing public funds to fully cover healthcare costs at the point of care. But there are still discrepancies that exist within the system, such as the inaccessibility of the drug and dental industries, that continues to establish rising costs, and the prolonged patient waiting times crisis, that suggests core economic issues with the system.

Findings

The emergence of private drug insurance in Canada has created drug expenditures that are nearly the most expensive feature of the healthcare budget. With a patchwork of public and private plans, it is an inefficient, and inaccessible way to provide Canadians with the pharmaceuticals they need. The dental industry is in a similar vein, as many Canadians don’t go to the dentist each year because they cannot afford it, leading to a multitude of other health problems. Both issues can be addressed with a universally- covered insurance program, drastically reducing costs and increasing coverage. The lack of healthcare supply contributing to patient waiting times cannot be dealt with by increasing the healthcare budget. Establishing a small, regulated, private system, coupled with changing the healthcare bureaucratic sector, can ease the burden of healthcare demand.

Conclusion

While Canadians appreciate their healthcare system, they await necessary changes to be made that can alter health outcomes, and quality of life outcomes for the better. The discourse surrounding necessary health policy has been contorted by both the political implications of private and public industries, and controversial criticism of the ethos of Canadian health care.