



Public health care. Let's look at the evidence.

Physicians have gathered in Vancouver this week for important discussions about how to improve public health care in Canada.

Unfortunately, some politicians think the answer is to make hospitals compete with each other for funding and to hand over public health care dollars to private clinics.

But the evidence shows that payment-by-results – or patient-focused funding as some call it – doesn't help patients at all.¹

Payment-by-results turns back the clock to a time when hospitals were forced to treat people as consumers instead of patients.

In the United Kingdom, this funding model has led hospitals to focus on high volume, low cost procedures to the detriment of specialty programs and patients with “unprofitable” chronic or complex conditions.² It has increased administrative costs.³ And it has undermined the essential collaboration between service providers that allows our health care system to run smoothly.⁴

Instead of putting hospitals “on the market”, we should be investing in real innovations, such as streamlined public surgical clinics, improved long-term and home care, multi-disciplinary community health centres, and more. These are proven public solutions to health care's challenges.

As your partners in delivering quality care to patients, we encourage you to support the evidence-based innovations that will make public health care stronger for all Canadians.



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