

Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care

Making Healthy Change Happen

Our goal is to make Ontario the healthiest place in North America to grow up and grow old.

We need to protect and strengthen health care, so it's there for our children and grandchildren, just as it is there for us.

Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care is our plan to get us there.

In our health care system, patients must come first. We will continue to work with health care partners to build a quality health care system that is more responsive to patients and delivers better value for taxpayers.

January 2013

Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care – One Year Progress Report

Keeping Ontario Healthy

Smoke-Free Ontario

- Expanded access to nicotine replacement therapies and counselling for smokers in Family Health Teams, Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinics, Community Health Centres, Aboriginal Health Access Centres and addiction services
- Helped Ontario Drug Benefit (ODB) clients by providing funding for smoking cessation drugs through the ODB Program
- Increased support for Ontarians who smoke with hospital-based cessation initiatives in 15 locations and workplace-based cessation programs in collaboration with 19 Public Health Units

Childhood Obesity

- Engaged experts and leaders from the health and education sectors, NGOs and the Aboriginal community to form the Healthy Kids Panel, whose report will inform the provincial strategy to reduce childhood obesity by 20 per cent over five years

Cancer Screening

- Integrated screening programs for cervical, breast and colorectal cancer, with participants benefitting from screening reminders. Ontarians at high-risk will be linked to screening programs, prevention supports or genetic testing
- Increased access for girls aged 9-12 to school-based HPV immunization program to prevent cervical cancer

Faster Access and a Stronger Link to Family Health Care

Local Integration and Family Health Care at the Centre of the System

- Established 19 early-adopter Health Links, with more to come, to better co-ordinate care for high-needs patients including seniors and others with complex conditions. With personalized care plans developed by the Health Links, patients will receive the quality of care they need, when they need it

Faster Access and Focus on Quality in Family Health Care

- Enhancing benefits for patients under new Physician Services Agreement with:
 - Better access to virtual care through telemedicine initiatives, e-consults and virtual connections between family doctors and specialists
 - Expansion of Quality Improvement Plans to primary care
 - Increasing after-hours access to family health care providers

House Calls

- Improving care for seniors and others with complex conditions by adding 30,000 more house calls by primary care providers
- Continued expansion of access to house calls by other health care professionals including nurses and occupational therapists

Right Care, Right Time, Right Place

More Home Care for Seniors

- Improving quality of life for 90,000 more seniors who will benefit from new funding for home care services
- Adding 3 million more Personal Support Worker hours over 3 years, to help with a range of essential daily activities that help maintain a patient's physical well-being

Ontario Seniors Strategy

- Launched the Seniors Strategy to improve quality of care and life for older Ontarians. Informed by Dr. Samir Sinha's report, *Living Longer, Living Well*, the strategy will prepare the health care system to meet the needs of an aging population
- Enhanced the ability of seniors to live independently in their homes longer through the new Healthy Home Renovation Tax Credit

Funding Reform: Patient-Based Funding for Hospitals

- Modernized funding in more than 100 hospitals to reflect population growth and clinical needs
- Focused on value and quality with the implementation of Quality-Based Procedures to fund hospitals for the number of patients treated for select procedures, based on efficiency and best practices

Moving Procedures into the Community

- Provided women with more choice on where to have their babies through two new midwife-led birth centres
- Expanding non-profit clinics for select procedures starting in 2013

Expanded Scope of Practice – Pharmacists

- Improved access to care through pharmacists who can now administer flu vaccines, renew and adapt existing prescriptions, and prescribe smoking cessation drugs, among other services

Working with patients and their families, health care partners, organizations and clinicians, we will continue to deliver on making Ontario the healthiest place in North America to grow up and grow old. Building on our success, we will:

- Take action to reduce childhood obesity by 20 per cent over the next five years
- Work to reduce youth smoking and tanning by minors
- Continue to implement the 2012 Physician Services Agreement

- Help seniors stay healthy and at home longer by implementing the Seniors Strategy, which will reduce strain on hospitals and long-term care homes and improve quality of life for older Ontarians
- Expand Health Links to strengthen the circle of care around patients, improving transitions within the system and helping to ensure that patients receive more responsive care
- Continue to modernize health system funding to improve the delivery of cost-effective and high quality patient care with more quality-based procedures
- Move services from acute care hospitals to specialty clinics where appropriate
- Support Cancer Care Ontario with the creation of an online tool that uses medical/family history to assess personal cancer risks to identify Ontarians requiring genetic testing, prevention supports or screening

Making Healthy Change Happen

– *by the Numbers*

■ Increased investments in home care and community services by 4 per cent means

90,000 more seniors receiving care at home

■ Additional funding means

3 million more personal support worker hours over the next 3 years

■ **19** early-adopter Health Links

providing care to almost one million people, through the co-operation of 18 hospitals, 42 primary care groups and over 60 community service providers

■ Since 2005, Ontario has led all provinces and territories by having the

lowest surgical wait times

■ As of January 2013, **619** pharmacies are participating in the Universal Influenza Immunization Program

■ More than **9,800** community-based clinicians implementing Electronic Medical Records – represents 9 million Ontarians

■ **4,000** more doctors practicing in Ontario today than 9 years ago

■ **26** Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinics serving over 27,000 patients and growing

■ **200** Family Health Teams in operation, serving nearly 3 million Ontarians and growing