Hospital insurance A hospital insurance plan is in operation in each of the ten provinces. In all provinces but Quebec, the program is a joint federal-provincial undertaking, with approximately half the cost of hospitalization for patients being met by the Federal Government and the remainder by the province. In Quebec, the program is entirely a provincial undertaking. The share of cost normally carried by the Federal Government in the other provinces has been assumed by Quebec in exchange for fiscal compensation by way of a larger occupation of the field of personal income tax. Some provinces finance their share of the cost of the program by taxes and others require the deduction of a monthly premium from the wages of their residents as a contribution or premium for the plan. In such provinces, self-employed people must also pay the premium directly if they wish to be covered by the plan. In some provinces, the proceeds of a retail sales tax are earmarked, in whole or in part, for the support of the hospital plan.

Medicare

A national medical-care plan involving the joint participation of federal and provincial governments now exists in all provinces. Like hospital insurance, this program is financed by the Federal Government and the provinces on a cost-sharing basis. Some provinces levy their share of the cost through premium contributions, while others levy their share through direct taxation.

(This publication is not an official interpretation of any of the taxing statutes. It is an explanation. As such, it does not attempt to describe any of the various taxes in a comprehensive or detailed manner. It attempts to provide only a general description of the most important features of these various taxes; by necessity, many important details have not been mentioned.)

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