

This study was initiated to address concerns about the adequacy of health care funding arrangements to provide quality health care to Canadians that meets the standards of the *Canada Health Act*. Having heard numerous witnesses with diversified expertise, experience and interests in health care, the Committee has discovered that our health care system does in fact face a variety of challenges, many of which may not be solved by simply increasing our spending on the system as it currently exists. We still believe that Canada has one of the best health care systems in the world and we are committed not only to maintaining that system but also to improving upon it. The Committee heard repeatedly that rather than more financial resources for health care, we need more cost-effective and appropriate distribution of resources in a system which recognizes that health goes well beyond hospital and medical care. The national planning approach which the Committee recommends acknowledges the need to revisit the assumptions underlying our system of health care.

4. That a Canada Health Council, representing health care providers, consumers, researchers and others, be established and funded to advise the federal government on matters related to national health care. (Chp. 3)
5. That the federal government consult with the provinces and territories in developing a framework for the gradual shift of selected health resources (human, financial and technological) to more appropriate levels of community, home care and social support services. (Chp. 3)
6. That within two years, the federal government produce a complete report, based on a compilation of existing research and pilot studies of physician remuneration systems, with a particular emphasis on the appropriateness of certain remuneration systems for specific practice situations. (Chp. 3)
7. That the federal government encourage the provinces and territories to continue to develop innovative alternatives to existing remuneration systems for physicians. (Chp. 3)
8. That the federal government place on the agenda for the next Federal-Provincial Health Ministers' Conference the development of services to provide support and respite for volunteer caregivers of chronically ill disabled Canadians. (Chp. 4)