

Others don't tolerate long waits. WHY SHOULD WE?

HEALTH CARE WAITS: HOW DOES CANADA FARE?

“ The WTA believes it is entirely feasible to ensure timely access to care for all Canadians that is comparable to that which is available to citizens in other countries. Waits would be measured in days or weeks rather than months and years. This progress would be achieved as part of a wider range of efforts to improve the overall quality of Canada's health care system. ”

— 2014 Wait Time Alliance Report Card

CANADA



UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

SCOTLAND



UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

NATIONAL HEALTH CARE SPENDING PER CAPITA (2011)

\$5,988 PER PERSON



\$3,839 PER PERSON
 (£2,116)



GOVERNMENT COMMITMENTS TO ACCESS ELECTIVE/ SCHEDULED CARE

Pan-Canadian government wait-time benchmarks/targets established for four areas, ranging from **4-26 weeks**.
(Only for the wait time period from the decision to treat to the start of treatment).

- Hip/knee replacement — 26 weeks
- Cataract — 16 weeks
- Radiation oncology (cancer) — 4 weeks
- Coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery — 26 weeks

18 WEEK REFERRAL TO TREATMENT STANDARD:
 This includes more of the patient journey, from receipt of a GP referral, including any diagnostic testing, up to the point at which a patient is admitted to hospital for treatment.



PATIENT WAIT-TIME GUARANTEE

NO NATIONAL GOVERNMENT GUARANTEES.



- However, each province has a guarantee for one procedure (e.g., within 26 weeks for CABG).

12 WEEKS TREATMENT TIME GUARANTEE (TTG)
 for planned inpatient or day-case treatment from decision to treat. This is supported by a Patients' Rights Act and Charter of Rights and Responsibilities.



ACCESS TO A FAMILY PHYSICIAN

NO NATIONAL GOVERNMENT BENCHMARK HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED.

- Only 41% of Canadians reported that they can get a same-day or next-day appointment to see a doctor or nurse when needed.
- WTA calls for same-day access.

48h



Target: Citizens can access the most appropriate member of their primary care team within **48 HOURS**.

ACCESS TO EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT (ED) CARE

NO NATIONAL GOVERNMENT ED TARGET HAS BEEN ADOPTED.



- See the 2014 report card for WTA ED targets.

Target: Over **90%** of patients are seen **within four hours** in the emergency department (i.e., admitted, transferred or discharged).



To see a complete list of medically-derived WTA benchmarks, visit waittimealliance.ca
 Governments are encouraged to adopt these, and to work with our members to improve Canadians' access to care.