



Home and Continuing Care in Canada

August 4, 2005

**Home and Continuing Care Unit
Health Policy Branch
Health Canada**

Health Canada's Role in Home and Continuing Care



Health Canada provides leadership and contributes to:

- ▶ Research
- ▶ Knowledge Dissemination
- ▶ Facilitates dialogue with provinces, territories, stakeholders and researchers
- **First Nations on Reserve and Inuit Communities- Health Canada's First Nations Inuit Health Branch delivers homecare**





Definitions in Canada.....



Continuing Care....

- Generally used to describe 'a system of service delivery' which includes all of the services provided by long term care, home care and home support.



Continuing Care



**Home
Support**

**Home
Care**

**Supportive
Housing**

**Long-Term
Facility**





Home Care in Canada.....

- an array of services which enables clients, incapacitated in whole or in part, to live at home, often with the effect of preventing, delaying, or substituting for long-term care or acute care alternatives.





Long Term Care

- Often used to indicate long term institutional care

Home Support

- Services generally provided by persons other than professionals, ex. Housekeeping, meals on wheels





Funding of Home and Continuing Care in Canada

- **In Canada, funding comes from both provincial/territorial governments as well as the federal government through general transfers for health and social services.**
- **The federal government also funds home care directly for Veterans and on First Nations reserves and in Inuit communities.**

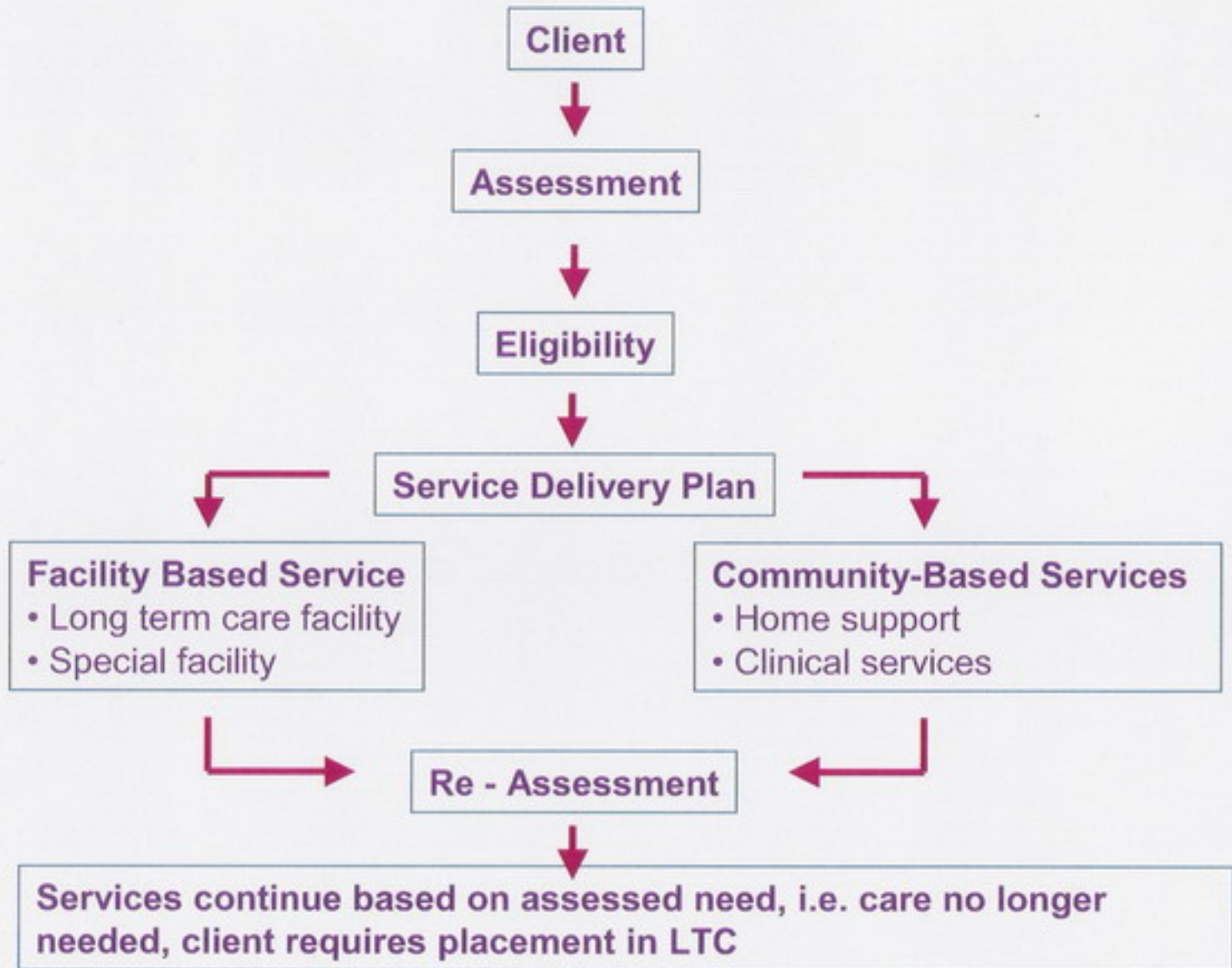


Delivery of Publicly Funded Home and Continuing Care



- Provinces and territories are responsible for the administration and delivery of most home care and continuing care services
- All provinces and territories have publicly funded home care programs
- Access, availability, and limits to service vary.

Movement through the system...





Purpose of Home Care...



Generally, the purpose of home care is to provide:

- **a substitution function**
- **a maintenance function**
- **a preventive function**



Service availability..a patchwork



**Available in all
Provinces and
Territories**

Assessment
Case coordination
Case management

**Available in
varying degrees
in all Provinces
and Territories**

Acute
LTC
Palliative
Nursing
Home Support
Respite
Meals on wheels

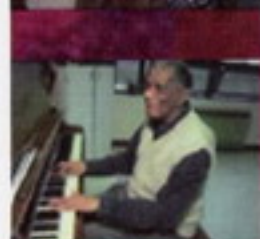
**Not available in
all Provinces and
Territories**

Therapies
Drugs
Medical
supplies
Equipment
Transportation



Characteristics of Home Care Clients

- ▶ **Recipients of home care are more likely to:**
- ▶ **be older (including over 30% over age 80)**
 - ▶ **live alone**
 - ▶ **have a low income**
 - ▶ **have two or more chronic health conditions**





Home care providers

Array of publicly contracted professionals, non-profit and private sector employees, contract workers and volunteers, including:

- Regulated professionals – nurses, physiotherapists and occupational therapists
- Unregulated workers – health care aides, home support workers and personal care workers





Drivers of Change in Home and Continuing Care

- Increasing demand for services-people want to be cared for at home
- Aging society
- Downsizing and shifts in other parts of health system-early discharge from hospital
- Availability of technology in the home
- Shortage of health human resources
- Increased expectations for family /informal caregivers

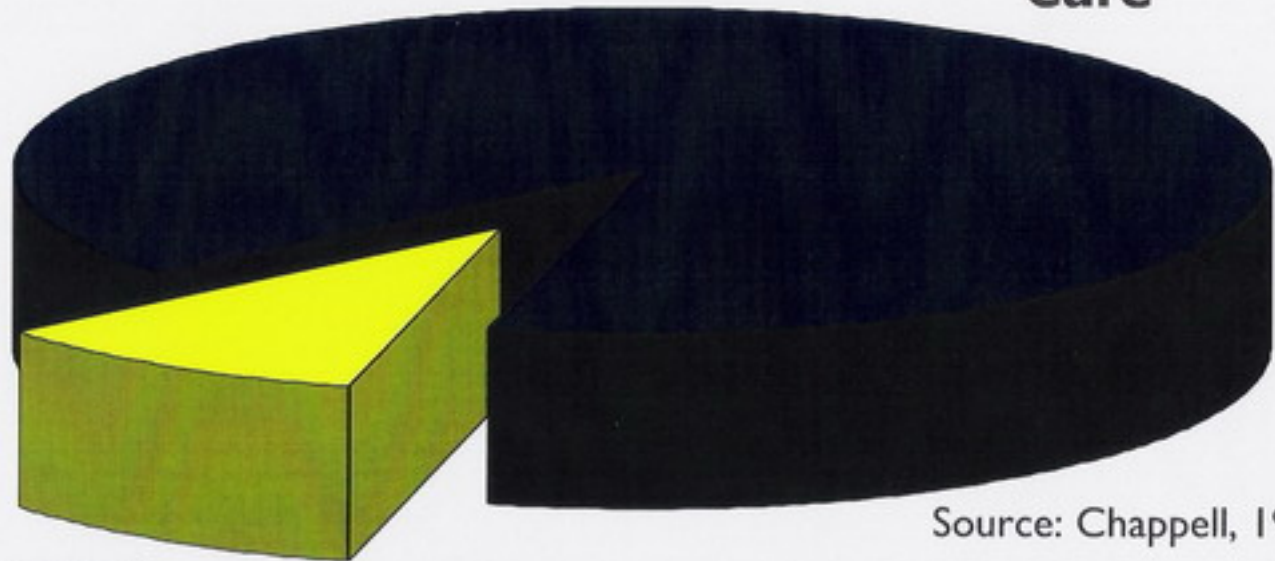


Family Caregivers



Providing 80-90% of care in the home
Key to the sustainability of the health care system

**Family
Care**



Source: Chappell, 1992

**Formal
Care**





In 2004, Prime Minister Martin
appoints Canada's first
Secretary of State for Families
and Caregivers,
Minister Tony Ianno



The Compassionate Care Benefit

- Six weeks of Employment Insurance to ensure eligible workers can take a temporary absence from work to provide care or support to a gravely ill or dying child, parent or spouse without fear of sudden income or job loss
- Began on January 4, 2004

• www.hrsdc.gc.ca





Ten Year Plan to Strengthen Health Care

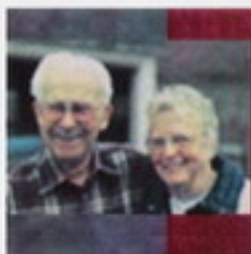


- **In September 2004, Prime Minister Martin and the provincial premiers and territorial leaders agreed on a ten-year plan for health care.**
- **\$ 41.3 B of new federal funding**

Our Current Policy Work- Focus On Vulnerable Populations



- Rural and Remote Communities-innovative practices
- Long Term Institutional Care
- Children and Home Care
- Support for Family Caregivers
- Role of Self Managed Care
- Supportive Housing
- Role of Telehomecare
- Ethical issues





Vision for Home and Continuing Care



- Integrated and coordinated services
- Services accessible to all Canadians regardless of where you live
- High quality, publicly funded services
- Sustainable and affordable system