Governments could save \$5 billion annually by allowing user charges for physician services in Canada

## **Description**

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Growth in public health spending is contributing to a fiscal sustainability crisis for provincial governments. Yet, the Canada Health Act (1984) prohibits supplementary funding mechanisms like user charges and extra-billing. The purpose of this study is to hypothetically estimate the potential for user charges, co-pays and extra billing to offset government health expenditures in Canada.

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