

Canada's health accord must prioritize system innovation

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To meet the future health care needs of Canadians, the federal and provincial governments should forge a new, flexible approach during health accord negotiations that allows for health system innovation, according to an editorial in *CMAJ* (*Canadian Medical Association Journal*) (pre-embargo link only).

A new health accord for Canada should be a partnership for wholesale change to the relationship between the federal government and the provinces, argues *CMAJ* Deputy Editor Dr. Matthew Stanbrook.

"A temporary tinkering with the health system, without a wholesale system change, will not deliver the health care improvements Canadians need," writes Stanbrook. "Instead, all parties involved in the health accord negotiations must commit themselves to establishing a new mechanism for cooperation on achieving far-reaching, innovative change at the system level."

Stanbrook calls for the federal and [provincial governments](#) to agree that federal funding beyond the Canada Health Transfer will be used to improve the overall [health care](#) system, without prespecified targets.

More information: *CMAJ*,
www.cmaj.ca/lookup/doi/10.1503/cmaj.161208

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