Canada’s leading thinkers are devising new approaches to health care funding and delivery so Canadians can live healthier lives.

Canadians routinely identify our publicly funded health care system as a core component of our national identity. But with costs climbing and fundamental debates unfolding over issues such as assisted dying, elder care and Indigenous health, Canada’s health care system needs to adapt to 21st-century realities. We need solutions from across academic disciplines. Researchers are examining the impact that social factors such as education and housing have on health. Other focus areas include new funding models, the role of technology and the effects poverty and inequality have on health outcomes.

We’re looking for ways to deliver 21st-century health care by:
- Preparing economic models to guide policy in areas such as home care
- Understanding the implications of an aging population for health care
- Reconciling competing visions of public and private funding models
- Working with Indigenous peoples to use traditional practices to improve health outcomes
- Examining the health and social implications of using medical marijuana
- Creating ethical frameworks to address assisted dying and palliative care
- Learning to integrate new technologies and Big Data into health care
- Sharing ways to reduce the impact of chronic disease
- Assessing the health care needs of new Canadians

SMART IDEAS FOR A BETTER TOMORROW
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AT WORK FOR CANADIANS

Neena Chappell, Canada Research Chair in Social Gerontology (retired), Professor Emeritus in Sociology and the Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health, University of Victoria

Dr. Chappell produces groundbreaking research on caregiving for seniors, dementia care and healthy aging. She is internationally known for her work on home care, supporting the case for providing more efficient and appropriate health care for an aging society. Her work is at the forefront of examining the integration of informal and formal care systems for seniors. She is currently studying caregiver perceptions of the effectiveness of medications for Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias.

François Baylis, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Bioethics and Philosophy, Dalhousie University

Dr. Baylis is a philosopher whose innovative work in bioethics spans many topics, including women’s health, and novel genetic and reproductive technologies. Her work challenges people to think broadly and deeply about the direction of health, science and biotechnology. Her current research focuses on pregnant women, assisted human reproduction and human gene editing. She contributes to national policy-making via government research contracts, membership on national committees and public education.