National Pharmacare

Rolling Stone or Mossy Boulder?
Historical perspective

- British North American Act: 1867
- Medicare Act: 1966
- Canada Health Act: 1984
### Number of plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>10</th>
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<th>7</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Assistance</td>
<td>No cost-sharing</td>
<td>No cost-sharing</td>
<td>$2 copayment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 65</td>
<td>Premiums, 30% co-insurance, $25 Max</td>
<td>$2 copayment after deductible, 4%* quarterly deductible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Over 65</td>
<td>30% co-insurance, $25 max</td>
<td>$2-6.11 co-payment, $0-100 deductible</td>
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$39.8 \text{ Billion}

\frac{\$388 \text{ public expenditure}}{\$909 \text{ total expenditure}} = 42.7\% \text{ publicly funded}
5.5% of Canadians report being unable to afford 1 or more drug in the last year.
Fall 2019 Minster of Health Mandate Letter:

“Lead work, with the support of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Seniors, to strengthen Medicare and renew our health agreements with the provinces and territories in four priority areas: ....

4) Continue to implement national universal pharmacare, including the establishment of the Canada Drug Agency, and implementing a national formulary and a rare disease drug strategy to help Canadian families save money on high-cost drugs.”
What are we trying to achieve?
Who?  
What?  
How should cost be shared?
**TYPE OF MODELS AND COVERAGE**

**UNIVERSAL PUBLIC COVERAGE**
- Comprehensive
- Essential medicines
- Income-based deductible

**TARGETED PUBLIC COVERAGE**
- Individual mandate
- Targeted
Aim 1: Improve access to medicines

Aim 2: Improve value for money

Aim 3: Improve patient and provider experience
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Public Comprehensive</th>
<th>Public Initials</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What's publicly covered?</td>
<td>Many medicines</td>
<td>Fewer medicines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who's publicly covered?</td>
<td>Everyone</td>
<td>Specific populations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public patient pays?</td>
<td>No cost sharing</td>
<td>Higher cost sharing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public investment?</td>
<td>Significant</td>
<td>Less significant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compulsory?</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disruptive?</td>
<td>Very</td>
<td>Not</td>
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Canada Pharmacare Act

Establishes criteria and conditions in respect of drug insurance plans established under the law of a province that must be met before a cash contribution may be made.
“We’ll continue to work with all Canadians, and provinces and territories, to ensure that people have access to the medications they need”
- Minister HajDu