



Ontario charges a monthly premium of \$16 for single persons and \$32 for families for both hospital and medical care. The Ontario plan requires compulsory payroll deductions in employee groups consisting of 15 or more persons. For other residents coverage is voluntary. This is the only semi-voluntary plan. In Alberta the joint premium charge for medical care and hospital insurance is \$6.40 a month for single persons and \$12.80 for families. Premium assistance is available in both Ontario and Alberta for certain residents with limited incomes, and premium exemption is provided for residents over 65 years of age.

Quebec, Alberta, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories levy authorized charges directly to patients for insured services. In Quebec, all in-patients in hospital centres for prolonged care as well as those in prolonged-care hospital centres for short-stay are charged \$6 a day with the exception of patients with limited resources and children under 18 years. In Alberta in-patients of general hospitals, other than newborn infants, are charged \$5 for the first day of care, while patients receiving auxiliary (chronic) hospital care are charged \$4 a day commencing with the 121st day of care. In British Columbia, in-patients (excluding newborn) pay \$4 a day and in the Northwest Territories, \$1.50.

In addition to emergency services for out-patients, most hospitals provide some ambulatory care, normally including radiology, laboratory and other diagnostic services. In larger hospitals, special ambulatory care units may be established for a wide range of conditions. Certain hospitals provide day and/or night care programs and hospital-based home care programs. In provinces where provincially operated ambulance services are not available, ambulance services may be hospital based.