

Ministry of Health

Follow-Up Questions from the September 7, 2017 Public Accounts Session

- 1) ***Question:*** *Sure. What is the spending gap per capita? Those are my questions (Page PA-499)*

Dr. Amrhein: *Is the first question: how does the percentage of provincial spending in health in Alberta compare with the national average?*

Mr. Panda: *Yeah, between Alberta and other Canadian jurisdictions.*

Answer:

- In 2016-17, health spending accounted for approximately 39% (i.e. \$21.4B of \$54.8B) of the provincial expense budget in Alberta. Nationally, the health spending average as a percentage of total expense budget is approximately 40%.

- 2) ***Question:*** *Similarly, if you can get the national average over our cost of care and cost-per-day stay and spending gap per capita – if I can get those answers later (Page PA-499)*

Answer:

- In 2015, the most recent year for which complete comparative data is available, the average cost of a hospital stay in Alberta was \$7,851, compared to \$5,789 nationally (information from Canadian Institute for Health Information).
- In 2016, the most recent year for which complete comparative data is available, total per capita provincial expenditure on health in Alberta was \$4,793, compared to \$4,095 nationally (information from the Canadian Institute for Health Information).

- 3) ***Question:*** *(in reference to “Health Information Exchange: Engaging Providers in Health Care Innovation” white paper): Maybe in the interests of time you could share that report with us and we could have it (Page PA-498)*

Answer:

- On February 14, 2017, the O’Brien Institute of Public Health hosted an eHealth Policy Symposium to present and discuss the white paper, *Health Information Exchange: Engaging Providers in Health Care Innovation*. The paper can be found on the O’Brien Institute for Public Health website at the following link:
<https://obrieniph.ucalgary.ca/files/iph/white-paper-health-information-exchange-engaging-providers-in-health-care-innovation-01.03.2017.pdf>.