



Values, health, and health care.

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Abstract: The National Forum on Health was established to provide advice to the federal government on future directions for health and health care in Canada. The forum was committed to base its assessments on the twin pillars of values and evidence. To clarify the value base for policy recommendations, the values committee of the forum reviewed all available data from opinion polls, surveys, and values research relating to Canadians and health issues for the last 25 years. Original research was developed using the focus-group method to analyse a structured set of questions presented in video format such as Stories of Choice. The results of the retrospective review and contemporary research confirmed the endurance of basic values such as equity, equality in accessibility, quality, effectiveness, efficiency, and compassion. It further identified emerging values regarding personal and public accountability, and broadening visions of health.

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