



Canadian Healthcare Challenges A Brief History

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History of Healthcare in Canada



- Pre-1966 Self-pay Fee for service
- 1966 the Medical Care Act, lobbied by Tommy Douglas and passed by Lester B Pearson's government, promised universal healthcare for all.

The Canada Health Act, CHA, 1984



- The Honourable Monique Bégin was tasked with this when serving as the Minister of Health and Welfare under Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.
- The goal of the Act is "to protect, promote and restore the physical and mental well-being of residents of Canada and to facilitate reasonable access to health services without financial or other barriers."
- The Provinces and Territories must comply with the CHA to receive federal health transfer payments.



Five Key Principles of the CHA

- Public Administration
- Comprehensiveness
- Universality
- Portability
- Accessibility

Public Administration

- All administration of provincial health insurance must be carried out by a public authority on a non-profit basis. They also must be accountable to the province or territory, and their records and accounts are subject to audits.

Comprehensiveness

- All necessary health services, including hospitals, physicians and surgical dentists, must be insured.
- Does not include medications, emergency transportation, physiotherapy and other services.

Universality

- All insured residents are entitled to the same level of health care.
- Here is injustice based on geography.
- Socialist ideals.
- Prevents 2 tier system, no legal choice for those willing to pay for service.

Portability

- A resident that moves to a different province or territory is still entitled to coverage from their home province during a minimum waiting period. This also applies to residents who leave the country.
- OHIP 212 day rule
- 183 day rule
- Promoting tourism to enhance our economy act of 2017

Accessibility

- All insured persons have reasonable access to health care facilities. In addition, all physicians, hospitals, etc., must be provided reasonable compensation for the services they provide.
- Again, geographic discrimination

Challenges

- Chaoulli v Québec
- Cambie Surgeries Corporation v Attorney General of British Columbia



<i>Chaoulli v Quebec (AG)</i>	
Supreme Court of Canada	
Hearing: June 8, 2004 Judgment: June 9, 2005	
Full case name	<i>Jacques Chaoulli and George Zeliotis v. Attorney General of Quebec and Attorney General of Canada</i>
<u>Citations</u>	2005 SCC 35
Prior history	Judgment for the Attorneys General in the Quebec Court of Appeal .
Ruling	Chaoulli appeal allowed

Dr. Brian Day, Orthopedic Surgeon, Former CMA President

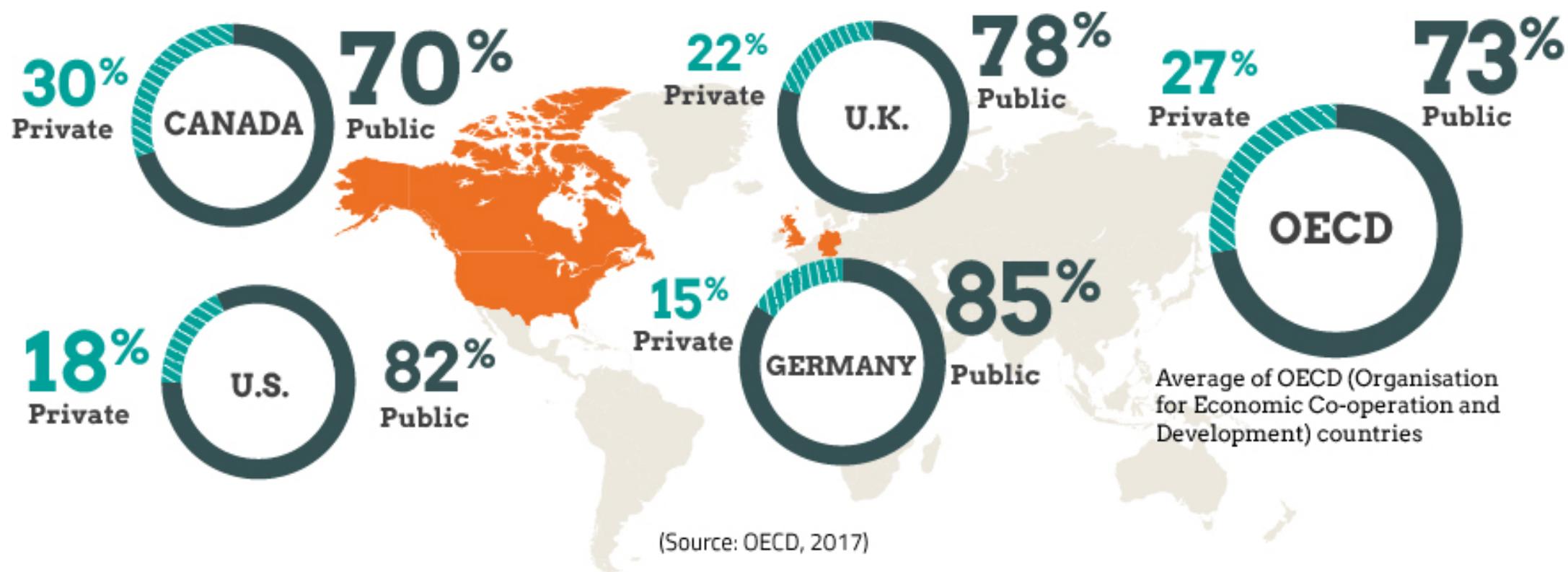


- “I have personally observed my patients suffering mentally and physically while they waited for medically necessary surgeries at public hospitals.”
- Dr. Day’s Cambie Clinic has been embroiled in a decade long battle against the Government of British Columbia in the BC Supreme Court challenging the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to allow more privatized health care.

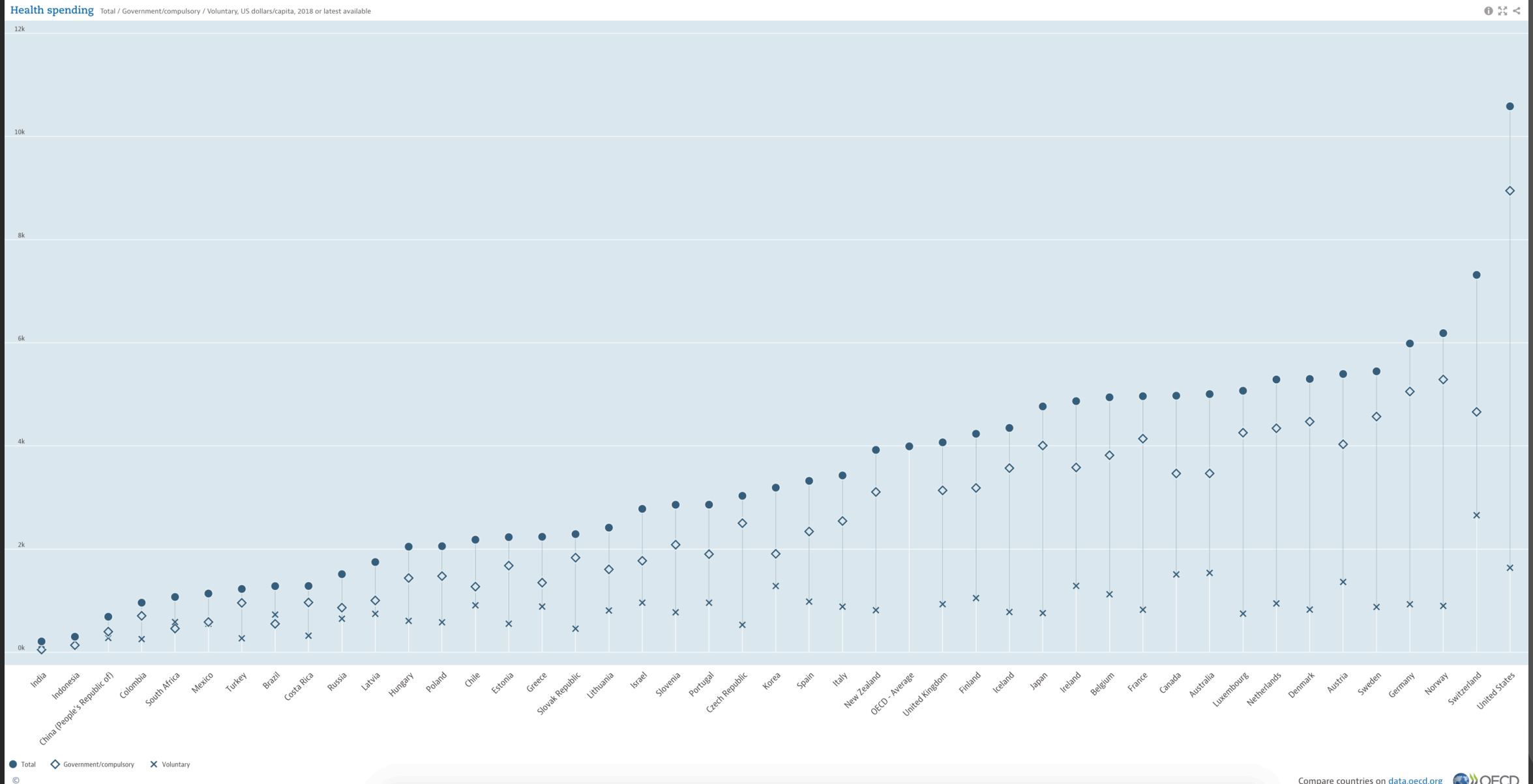
Socialized Medicine

- Greatest social determinant of health is wealth, economic stability
- Healthy wealthy are paying for the unhealthy unwealthy
- What about the wealthy unhealthy? What choices do they have?

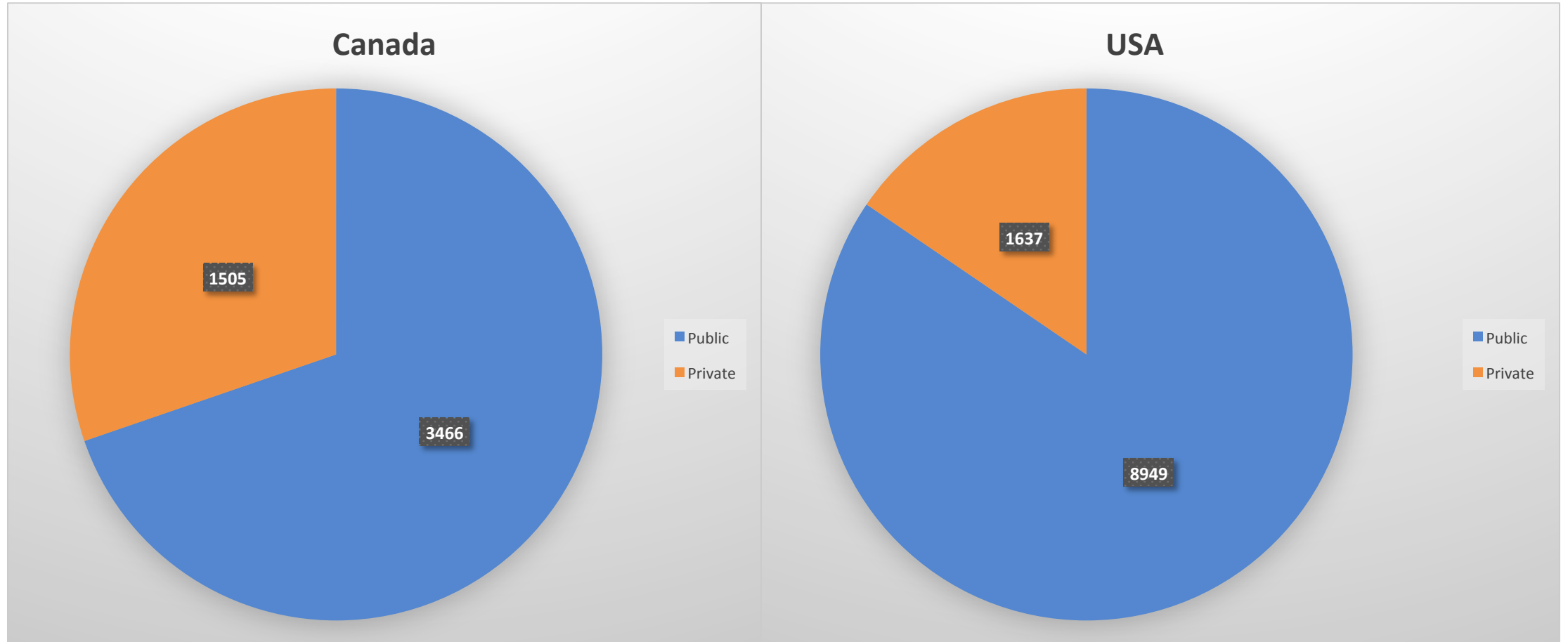
Private vs. public spending on health in different countries



Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) 2018 per capita Healthcare costs



Public vs Private Spending, OECD 2018



Rudy Giuliani's famous quip about Canadian health care:

- “If the United States adopts socialized Medicine, where will Canadians go to get decent health care?”

Canadian Healthcare Consumers in Arizona

- Over 1 million Canadian visits to Arizona annually.
- Most are older, in prime healthcare consumption years.
- Most are wealthier than average Canadians.
- Many able and willing to pay for orthopedic and other procedures.
- At risk of health crises needing urgent or emergent care and sometimes evacuation back to Canada.

Canada Clinic

- Currently 4 offices and an urgent care in the East Valley.
- Marketing to Canadian visitors to provide urgent and routine healthcare services in Arizona.
- Seeking Canadian Trained Physicians to join Virtual network of providers in Arizona.
- Willing to collaborate with other interested organizations.

Questions?

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