

Saturday June 7, 2014

Arthritis Consumer Experts – 2014 Election Questionnaire

Ontario NDP Response

1. What will your Government do to bring a standardized model of arthritis care for all Ontario residents?

The Ontario NDP supports efforts to standardize and improve arthritis care in the province. We believe that such a model should be developed by the experts in our health care system and we would work with them and interested stakeholders to determine methods to improve care throughout the province.

2. How will your government address the need to implement validated arthritis screening tests into Ontario's medical schools and health care system?

The Ontario NDP will ensure that Ontario's medical schools and health care system have the funding they need to update their practices on a frequent basis in order to ensure that Ontarians always receive cutting edge care. The Ontario NDP will invest to expand capacity in the health care system, including preventative care. We will open 50 new 24-hour Family Health Clinics to provide holistic, community-specific primary care, which will relieve pressure from hospitals and significantly reduce the number of Ontarians without access to primary care.

3. What will your government do to retain the province's rating and ensure Ontarians Living with arthritis, with the help of the doctors who treat them, are able to choose the medication most appropriate for their specific arthritis disease, family history and important risk factors?

The Ontario NDP will ensure that our healthcare system receives the funding it needs to continue approving medications as quickly and safely as possible. Furthermore, we believe that government also has a significant role to play in supporting health research and innovation. We will continue to fund the operating and infrastructure costs of innovative research, including clinical and biomedical research, through the Ontario Research Fund. We will continue to improve health care and the health outcomes of Ontarians by investing in policy relevant and applied health services research through the Health Research Strategy.

4. How will your government establish and enact better healthcare guidelines so we can prevent the direct and indirect costs of arthritis on the Ontario economy?

The Ontario NDP will work with Ontario's health care experts in government and civil society to continuously establish better healthcare guidelines, which will help Ontarians live healthier lives and benefit our economy.
