

SYSTEM BROKEN

Public Drug Coverage is Failing
Canadians with Mental Illness



Mood Disorders Society of Canada
Société pour les troubles de l'humeur du Canada

The Facts

Untimely Access

1 Unacceptable delays

2 Average time in 4 key provinces

3 Longer than other similar countries

1

Average "time-to-patient" from Health Canada approval to public reimbursement is over 2.5 years



2

Provincial listing agreements:



British Columbia
(962 days)



Alberta
(954 days)



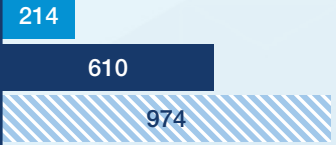
Ontario
(962 days)



Quebec
(907 days)

3

Canadians waited on average 1 year longer to access publicly funded medication than people in **Australia** (214 days) and **Scotland** (610 days)



Canadian Health Technology Assessment (HTA) bodies are more likely not to recommend medications be publicly reimbursed:

- 62% of Quebec and 54% in the rest of Canada funding recommendations for new mental illness medications **were negative**
- **Nearly 40% are not publicly reimbursed** in any of Canada's four most populous provinces
 - 62% not funded in Quebec
 - 54% not funded in British Columbia or Alberta
 - 46% not funded in Ontario
- **Less than a quarter (23%) of new medications are accessible** through public drug plans to majority of Canadians; **just under half (38%) not accessible at all**

An HTA will assess a medication's clinical effectiveness and cost effectiveness. In Quebec, this happens via the *Institut national d'excellence en santé et en services sociaux (INESSS)* and the rest of Canada via the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH)



Inequity of Access

1 Majority receive negative decisions

2 More negative decisions than non-oncology disorders

3 More negative decisions compared to other similar countries

1

2

3

54%

17%

In the past 10 years, 54% of assessments in Canada (excluding Quebec) for new medications for mental illnesses received a negative recommendation, while only 17% of all other non-oncology medications received a negative recommendation

The 62% of Quebec and 54% in the rest of Canada negative funding decisions compares to much lower rates in the UK (50%), Australia (33%), and Scotland (38%)

Mood Disorders Society of Canada believes that all stakeholders within the mental health care system must work together to dismantle barriers and empower equitable access to essential, modern medications for mental illness.

Be part of the solution. Help us make change happen at mdsc.ca