

Appendix 1

Hello, my name is Daniel Clark from Dr. Patrick McGrath's research group at the IWK Health Centre in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and I am conducting a study into the attitudes of public policy makers toward health research, as partial fulfillment for an Honours degree in psychology at Dalhousie University. The data collected from this study will be collapsed together with other responses that we receive. We are attempting to balance the sample for both regional and party representation. While we cannot guarantee your anonymity, the information you provide will be held confidential and never linked back to you specifically. It is our intention to publish the results of this study in an academic journal. Are you willing to answer approximately 15 minutes worth of questions?

1. To begin with, what do you believe is the most important issue on the national agenda? Is it...

Health care	1
Law and order	2
Border security/national defence	3
Child care	4
Promoting growth in industry and jobs	5
International trade	6
Other	7

2. There are many components to a health care system, on a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is not at all important and 10 is extremely important, how important do you believe it is for the health care system to invest in each of the following...

ROTATE STARTING POINT. START AT LINE MARKED WITH X

<input type="checkbox"/>	Having more doctors and nurses	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Investing in new technologies	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reducing waiting times	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increasing access to the elderly, poor and rural areas	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Building more hospitals	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renovating existing hospitals	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Funding health research	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Expanding home care coverage	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Increasing coverage of cutting-edge pharmaceuticals	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

3a. I would like you to think for a moment about scientific research. On a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 is not at all important and 10 is extremely important, how important do you believe it is for the Canadian government to be involved, at any level, in scientific research in Canada...

3b. I am going to read you 4 possible ways for the Canadian government to be involved in scientific research in Canada. Please tell me which 1 of the 4 you believe is the most appropriate.

- | | |
|---|---|
| They should provide funding for scientific research and have no further involvement – let the funding agencies decide on the best use of the money | 1 |
| They should provide guidance and money. Select worthwhile areas of research and invest in them. | 2 |
| They should choose a few specific goals and focus all energy and resources on achieving them (like insuring clean water for everyone, or curing cancer) | 3 |
| They should provide no funding for research and only lay down guidelines | 4 |

4a. We are now going to focus specifically on health research. The term health research covers quite broad territory, when I say health research, what comes to mind?

4b. What do you believe is the primary benefit of investing in health research....

4c. What do you believe is the second most important benefit from investing in health research...

4d. What do you believe is the third most important benefit from investing in health research...

5a. Who do you think the single largest funder of health research in Canada is. Is it...

The federal government	1
The provincial government	2
Universities	3
Private research foundations (like the Cancer Society	4
Businesses (like the pharmaceutical industry)	5

5b. If I were to tell you that in fact businesses are the single largest financial contributor to Canadian health research, do you think this would be a good thing, or a bad thing?

A good thing	1
A bad thing	2

5c. Why is that?

6a. Out of every tax dollar spent by all of the governments (both federal and provincial) in Canada, how many cents do you believe is spent on health research? (INTERVIEWER IF RESPONDENT IS UNSURE - THIS INCLUDES MONEY SPENT ON NATIONAL DEFENCE, ROAD BUILDING, EDUCATION AND JUSTICE - EVERYTHING THE GOVERNMENT SPENDS MONEY ON)

6b. And in your opinion is this...

Too much	1
Not enough	2
Just the right amount	3

7a. Out of every health care dollar spent in Canada (private and public). How many cents do you believe is spent on Health Research? (INTERVIEWER IF RESPONDENT IS UNSURE - THIS INCLUDES MONEY SPENT BY INSURANCE COMPANIES, GOVERNMENTS AND PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES)

7b. In your opinion is this...

Too much	1
Not enough	2
Just the right amount	3

8. Putting together all sources of funding (public and private), 3.5 cents from every health care dollar are spent on health care research. Do you believe that this is...

Too much	1
Not enough	2
Just the right amount	3

8b. As part of this, 1.3 cents from every government dollar is spent on health care research. Do you believe that this is...

Too much	1
Not enough	2
Just the right amount	3

9. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is no barrier and 10 is a huge barrier, to what degree do you believe that each of the following is a barrier to increased funding of health research...

ROTATE STARTING POINT. START AT LINE MARKED WITH X

<input type="checkbox"/>	We do not know where the money is going and how it is spent	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	The research being conducted is not a priority for the government	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Research is too expensive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	There are too many other competing priorities	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Research provides no real benefit to the health care system	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Investing in front-line health care is a better use of the money	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	We cannot be assured that the best science is being done	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	We do not know if the research will be used	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

10a. Where do you think health research is most often conducted? DO NOT READ LIST. RECORD ALL MENTIONS

Hospitals	1
Universities	2
Private labs	3
Government labs	4

10b. Have you ever heard of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research or CIHR?

Yes	1	
No	2	Skip to Q. 11

10c. What do you know about the CIHR? DO NOT READ LIST. RECORD ALL ANSWERS

10d. The CIHR is the primary federal government funding body for health research. Based on everything you have seen, heard about or experienced first hand from the CIHR, in your opinion, how good a job do they do; is it...?

Excellent	1
Very good	2
Good	3
Fair	4
Poor	5

10e. Based on what you have seen, heard or experienced from the CIHR, what do they do well?

10f. Based on what you have seen, heard or experienced from the CIHR, what do they do poorly?

11. I would like you to try to put yourself in the mind of the average voter. I am going to read you a list of issues, for each issue please tell me how important you think it is to the voter in deciding who to vote for in an election. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is the most important issue to the voter, and 1 is the least important issue to the voter.

ROTATE THE STARTING POINT. START AT LINE MARKED WITH X.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Health care	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Law and order	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Border security/national defence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Child care	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Promoting growth in industry and new jobs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	International trade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Funding health research	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

12. I am going to read you a list of countries, all of whom are a member of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Please tell me, on a per capita basis (per person) whether you think Canada spends more, less or the same than each country on health research.

	More	Same	Less
France	1	2	3
United States	1	2	3
Japan	1	2	3
Italy	1	2	3
Netherlands	1	2	3
Switzerland	1	2	3
Germany	1	2	3
United Kingdom	1	2	3
Sweden	1	2	3
Belgium	1	2	3

13. Would you like to see Canada play a larger role in health research compared to other countries, a smaller role, or is it unimportant how Canadian research stacks up internationally?

A larger role	1
A smaller role	2
It is not important	3

Finally I would like you to imagine that you are in charge of how all government money in Canada is spent (health care, defence... everything). After funding everything at today's levels you find out you have an extra \$100 million to spend on one initiative. I am going to provide you with a series of two choices each, out of those two choices please pick one to spend the extra money on.

INTERVIEWER, EACH PARTICIPANT SHOULD BE ASKED 10 OF THESE CHOICES. PLEASE START AT THE QUESTION INDICATED AND PROCEED FOR NO MORE THAN 10 QUESTIONS.

14-I.

Hiring more doctors and nurses	1
Increased funding for health research	2

14-II

Increased funding for health research	1
New equipment for the Canadian military	2

14-III

Increased funding for health research	1
Creating 50,000 new day care spots	2

14-IV

Expanding access to home care for the elderly	1
Increased funding for health research	2

14-V

Increased funding for health research	1
Buying 50 new MRI machines	2

14-VI

Training and putting 1000 new police officers on the street	1
Increased funding for health research	2

14-VII

Increased funding for health research	1
Building affordable housing for 2000 families	2

14-VIII

Purchase 200 clean diesel buses for local transit systems	1
Increased funding for health research	2

14-IX

Increased funding for health research	1
Reducing taxes	2

14-X

New equipment for the Canadian military	1
Creating 50,000 new day care spots	2

14-XI

Reducing taxes	1
New equipment for the Canadian military	2

14-XII

New equipment for the Canadian military	1
Purchase 200 clean diesel buses for local transit systems	2

14-XIII

Building affordable housing for 2000 families	1
New equipment for the Canadian military	2

14-XIV

New equipment for the Canadian military	1
Training and putting 1000 new police officers on the street	2

14-XV	Buying 50 new MRI machines	1
	New equipment for the Canadian military	2
14-XVI	New equipment for the Canadian military	1
	Expanding access to home care for the elderly	2
14-XVII	Hiring more doctors and nurses	1
	New equipment for the Canadian military	2
14-XVIII	Reducing taxes	1
	Creating 50,000 new day care spots	2
14-XIX	Creating 50,000 new day care spots	1
	Purchase 200 clean diesel buses for local transit systems	2
14-XX	Building affordable housing for 2000 families	1
	Creating 50,000 new day care spots	2
14-XXI	Creating 50,000 new day care spots	1
	Training and putting 1000 new police officers on the street	2
14-XXII	Creating 50,000 new day care spots	1
	Buying 50 new MRI machines	2
14-XXIII	Expanding access to home care for the elderly	1
	Creating 50,000 new day care spots	2
14-XXIV	Expanding access to home care for the elderly	1
	Reducing taxes	2
14-XXV	Purchase 200 clean diesel buses for local transit systems	1
	Expanding access to home care for the elderly	2
14-XXVI	Expanding access to home care for the elderly	1
	Building affordable housing for 2000 families	2
14-XXVII	Training and putting 1000 new police officers on the street	1
	Expanding access to home care for the elderly	2
14-XXVIII	Expanding access to home care for the elderly	1
	Buying 50 new MRI machines	2
14-XXIX	Buying 50 new MRI machines	1
	Training and putting 1000 new police officers on the street	2
14-XXX	Building affordable housing for 2000 families	1
	Buying 50 new MRI machines	2

14-XXXI	Buying 50 new MRI machines	1
	Reducing taxes	2
14-XXXII	Purchase 200 clean diesel buses for local transit systems	1
	Buying 50 new MRI machines	2
14-XXXIII	Training and putting 1000 new police officers on the street	1
	Building affordable housing for 2000 families	2
14-XXXIV	Purchase 200 clean diesel buses for local transit systems	1
	Training and putting 1000 new police officers on the street	2
14-XXXV	Training and putting 1000 new police officers on the street	1
	Reducing taxes	2
14-XXXVI	Building affordable housing for 2000 families	1
	Purchase 200 clean diesel buses for local transit systems	2
14-XXXVII	Reducing taxes	1
	Building affordable housing for 2000 families	2
14-XXXVIII	Purchase 200 clean diesel buses for local transit systems	1
	Reducing taxes	2
14-XXXIX	Reducing taxes	1
	Hiring more doctors and nurses	2
14-XL	Creating 50,000 new day care spots	1
	Hiring more doctors and nurses	2
14-XLI	Hiring more doctors and nurses	1
	Expanding access to home care for the elderly	2
14-XLII	Buying 50 new MRI machines	1
	Hiring more doctors and nurses	2
14-XLIII	Hiring more doctors and nurses	1
	Training and putting 1000 new police officers on the street	2
14-XLIV	Building affordable housing for 2000 families	1
	Hiring more doctors and nurses	2
14-XLV	Hiring more doctors and nurses	1
	Purchase 200 clean diesel buses for local transit systems	2

Do you have any other comments?

Thank you very much for your assistance. Would you like a copy of the results when the study is done?

Yes	1
No	2