



Financial Information

Using a leading edge funding/resource management model and guidelines, BC Renal Agency and its partners manage a provincial kidney care budget of \$157.5 million.

Funding for Renal Services

Funding for renal services comes from the BC Ministry of Health to the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), BCPRA and the regional health authorities:

- PHSA/BCPRA pays directly for items such as vendor contracts, medical and surgical supplies for community units, medications/renal formulary drugs, health authority patient activities, information system costs, and continuous quality improvement (CQI) change initiatives
- Health authority renal programs are allocated funding-per-patient based on BCPRA (PROMIS) data to provide direct patient care.

Patient-Focused Funding Model

BCPRA developed a funding/resource management model that ensures the processes used to fund BC's renal services are rigorous and fair. Unique in Canada, the model has attracted the attention of other provinces for its focus on the patient and its ability to accommodate changing healthcare needs.

Benefits of the model include:

- Accounts for all the variables that affect the cost of services, for instance the different roles of care providers and the time needed for clinical care
- Provides an accurate assessment of all costs rather than simply an estimate
- Provides for incentives to promote early intervention and patient self-care
- Ensures that all patients, irrespective of where they receive treatment, have access to resources they need (for instance nurse, dietitian, social worker)
- Promotes best practices
- Assists BCPRA and health authority renal programs with planning and with business case development – and facilitates creative solutions.

The success of our approach shows in the results: year after year, BCPRA and the health authority renal programs have delivered on budget and have expanded access to home-based dialysis, community and hospital dialysis, and chronic kidney disease clinics (which provide services to patients diagnosed with kidney disease who do not yet require dialysis).

Guidelines for Program Development

BCPRA has also developed provincial renal program guidelines, which provide a methodology and set of principles for health authorities and institutions to follow in the management and ongoing development of care programs. Marking a national first, these guidelines have been formally endorsed by the BC Ministry of Health. The guidelines support equitable distribution of high quality renal care to patients across BC, and guide prioritization for new program development. Such guidelines are critical in the context of increased requests for services in communities across BC and limited resources.

“BCPRA has been so instrumental to cope with growth, and to advocate for appropriate and adequate funding through data.”

—Renal Manager