



**2 in 3**

**Canadians support a new national homecare program that provides both services that are considered medically necessary, as well as physical care and supports that help people to live independently.**

For people living with arthritis, having access to a homecare program that allows people to live independently is critically important. Currently, most people living with arthritis must pay for the services that allow them to live at home out of their own pocket. This must change.

**Generally, homecare can be broken down into two types:**



The provision of medical care in the home (e.g., recovery from surgery), which allows people to enjoy the comforts of home, and reduces hospital costs. Currently, some of these services are covered by provincial health insurance because they are viewed as medically necessary.



The provision of physical care, supports, and therapies such as housecleaning, physical or exercise therapy, assistance with bathing and meal preparation that help people with a chronic illness that limits their mobility (e.g., severe arthritis) to live independently, and which can delay or prevent a move to a facility.



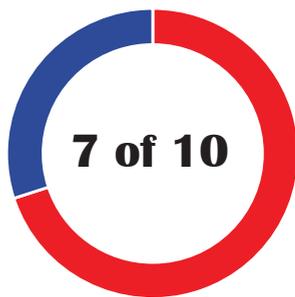
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For more information on this issue, or to learn more visit the Arthritis Alliance of Canada website

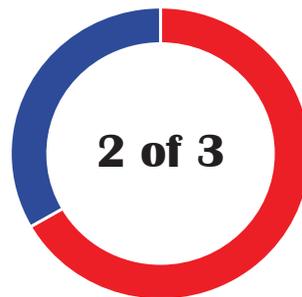
**The Arthritis Alliance of Canada is calling on governments to ensure that both services that are considered medically necessary, as well as physical care and supports that help people to live independently are included in government-funded homecare programs.**

More and more Canadians rely on health care delivered in the home and community, rather than in a hospital or other health care facilities, such as nursing homes. Today, federal and provincial homecare programs are a blend of health care services and social and support programs that differ from province to province.

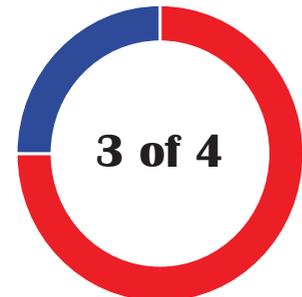
**In early 2016, the Arthritis Alliance of Canada commissioned public opinion research to explore Canadians' views on the topic of homecare. Here are the highlights of that research:**



Canadians agree “people living with a chronic illnesses that limits their mobility should not have to pay out of pocket for the supports and therapy they need to live independently.”



Canadians support a new national homecare program that covers both services that are considered medically necessary, as well as physical care, supports, and therapies that help people live independently.



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