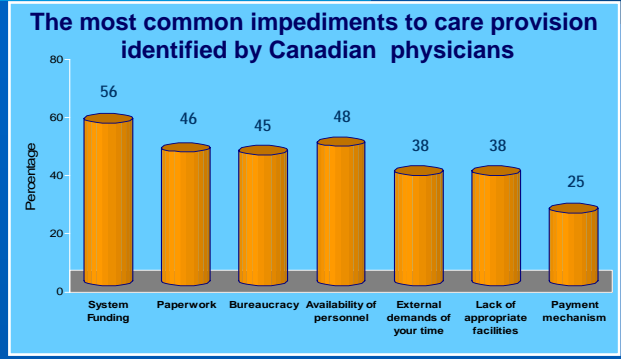


# Impediments to Delivering Care: Findings from Canada's 2007 National Physician Survey

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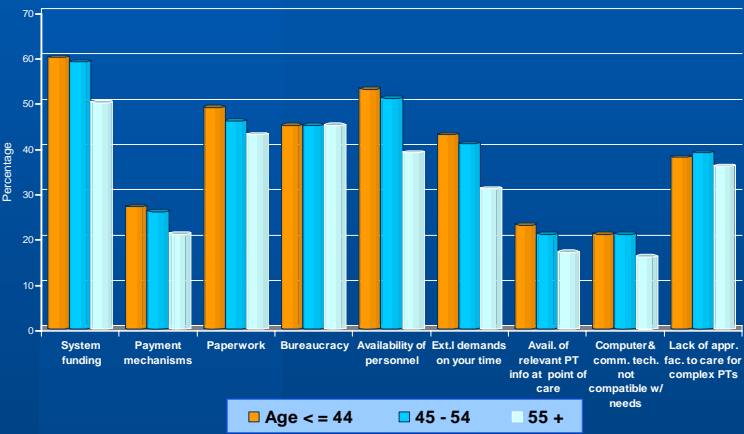
A partnership between the College of Family Physicians of Canada, the Canadian Medical Association and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.  
 www.nationalphysiciansurvey.ca

**Objective**  
 In light of medical workforce shortages in most jurisdictions in Canada, the 2007 NPS sought to describe impediments identified by physicians in providing care for their patients and to pin point variations by broad specialty group, age, geographic practice setting and levels of professional satisfaction.

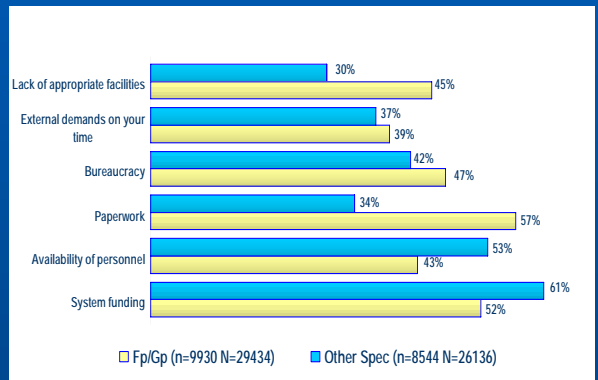


**Methodology**  
 Secondary data analysis was conducted using the 2007 National Physician Survey (NPS). The survey was completed by 10,270 family physicians and 8,969 specialists, representing 32% and 31% of all eligible respondents respectively.

**Variations By Age**  
 Younger physicians tend to identify greater impediments to care than older doctors.



**Variations by Broad Specialty Group**



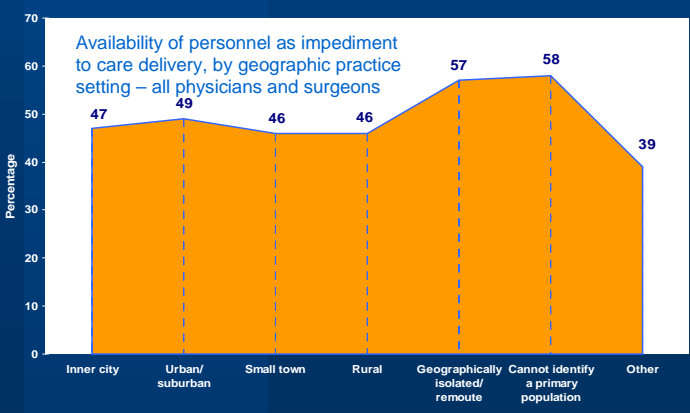
**Variations By Career Satisfaction Level**

There is a clear correlation between career satisfaction level and the level of dissatisfaction with system funding

Please rate your satisfaction with "Your current professional life"	% reporting system funding as an impediment
Very satisfied	46.8
Somewhat satisfied	58.1
Neutral	62.1
Somewhat dissatisfied	66.9
Very dissatisfied	78.1
System funding reported as an impediment - All Physicians	56.3

**Variations by Geographic Practice Setting**

Availability of personnel is seen as an impediment to a slightly lesser extent in small town/rural settings than in urban settings.



**Conclusions/Discussion**

Findings from the NPS debunk certain myths about generational, specialty-specific and geography-specific perceptions of barriers to practice. An understanding of the barriers identified by physicians will allow planners and policy makers to optimize the use of our current resources, and enhance their ability to recruit and retain physicians.