

Your Voice Matters

What we heard from Weyburn and Area

What made it difficult for you to access the care you needed?

Long Wait Times: Many participants mentioned that long wait times for appointments and procedures were a significant barrier to accessing necessary care, even for those with a family doctor.

"Trying to get to the doctor with the wait times was very frustrating."

Staff Shortages: A lack of available healthcare professionals was frequently stated. This shortage was seen in both emergency services and regular healthcare appointments. A high ratio of patients to healthcare professionals was noted.

"First of all, there is a shortage of staff for doctors and on top of that, these doctors keep on taking breaks a lot."

"There is a shortage of specialists to collaborate with and family doctors are very hesitant to provide referrals and I do not understand why."

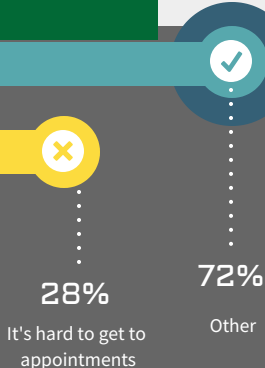
Employment and Healthcare Access: The need to take full days off work for healthcare appointments, especially for those traveling from rural areas to urban centers, was a significant concern, highlighting the intersection of employment and healthcare access.

"[...] we haven't seen our family doctor in ages so in that aspect of things the needs being met are low."

"Waiting times until there is an appointment takes way too long."

Why is it hard to manage your health?

28% of people who indicated that they have difficulty managing their health suggested that difficulty getting to an appointment was a contributing factor.



Access to Care

Responses included = 184
Responses collected August to December 2023

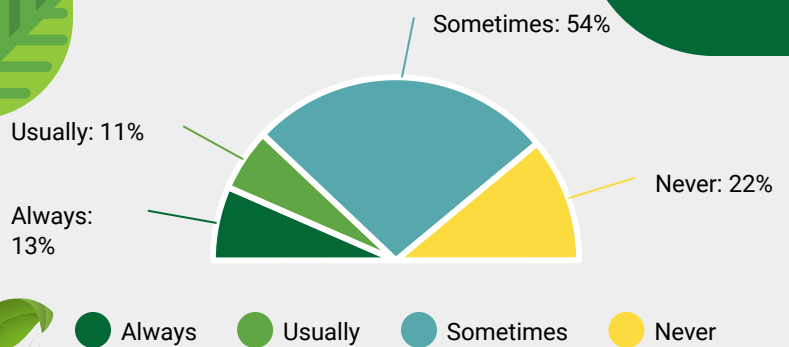
"When I need an urgent appointment, I shouldn't have to wait almost 4 months. This includes the mammograms and ultrasounds that I was told are being pushed back for almost a year, when they already were a year behind!"

Please share feedback that you feel would help the health system to provide the type of care that matters most to you

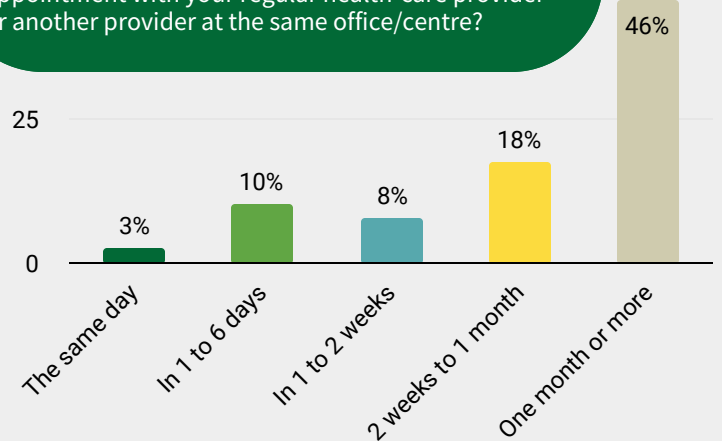
"All of my answers refer to our medical doctor in Regina, as we gave up on keeping a doctor in Weyburn. After the last 2 moved away, we transferred to a clinic in Regina. It is ridiculous that a city the size of Weyburn has no doctors accepting patients and if you need to see one, it is easily a 3-4 week wait. We can see our doctor in Regina within a week if necessary. I would hesitate to go to Weyburn ER unless it was full blown emergency as it seems they feel nobody should bother them."

"I needed an appointment to renew my depression and anxiety medication. I called and was booked in for the soonest appointment which was 2 1/2 months away. This is a normal wait time for this clinic, and in addition my appointments are often cancelled last minute and not rescheduled soon, but months away again."

How often did you have difficulty managing your health?



When you need immediate care for a health problem, how long do you have to wait before you can have an appointment with your regular health-care provider or another provider at the same office/centre?



What are we doing to help?

We have built an integrated care team focused on medically complex patients

We have obtained funding to hire an additional physician in Weyburn

We have hired a clinic nurse at Weyburn Primary Health Care Clinic to help alleviate workload demand

