Overview

• Medical Tourism – what is it?

• The domains of medical tourism
  – Health Professionals
  – Health Products
  – Patient Data
  – Patients

• Some Observations
Medical Tourism – What is it?

Tourism (defn) –
• the activity or practice of touring, esp. for pleasure.
• the promotion of tourist travel, esp. for commercial purposes

Medical Tourism –
• Pleasure travel + healthcare as an add on
• Travel to secure health care

What is happening?

Medical Tourism:
Global Competition in Health Care
• 2006 – grossed $60B worldwide
• 2012 – $100B – predicted
• Google – May 2007 800K hits
• Multiple companies facilitate on behalf of patients

Results 1 - 10 of about 31,300,000 for medical tourism

August 2009
From 800,000 in May 2007
Similar but Different

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Canada</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area (mi²)</td>
<td>3.8M</td>
<td>3.7M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popⁿ</td>
<td>32M</td>
<td>307M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># MDs</td>
<td>62K</td>
<td>700K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some Facts

- Number of Doctors
  - US: 700K
  - Canada: 62K

- Health Spending (% of GDP (1990 - 2004))
  - US: 15.3%
  - Canada: 11%
  - OECD: 8.9%

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Overall Ranking of Care in 6 Countries, 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Quality Care</th>
<th>Patient-Centered Care</th>
<th>Coordinated Care</th>
<th>Access</th>
<th>Safety</th>
<th>Equity</th>
<th>Long, Healthy, and Productive Lives</th>
<th>Health Expenditures per Capita, 2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$3,165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$6,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$2,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$2,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$3,005*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$2,876*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: 1=Highest ranking, 6=Lowest ranking.

2003 data


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The Domains of Medical Tourism

- Health Professionals
- Health Products
- Patient Investigations
- Patients Themselves
• Seizing the opportunity to combine travel with exotic work opportunities
• How qualified are the health care workers?
• Concept of neo-colonialism
• The bigger issues!!!

Health Human Resources

Physician Human Resources

Physicians in Ontario

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practice Certificates</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>20,133</td>
<td>23,266</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10.6M</td>
<td>12.8M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Access to Care – What does it mean?

- Number of doctors not likely to increase substantially (relatively)
- Younger doctors (and older doctors) tend to work less
- Burden of illness (baby boomers) likely to increase dramatically

Factor in the economics!!!

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Lipitor Potential Savings Up to $3,000 / Rx/yr

Price of a typical prescription in...

U.S.  |  Canada
-----------------|-----------------
$272 to $308  |  $159 to $199
$372 to $451  |  $198 to $224
$108 to $126  |  $62 to $81
$282         |  N/A
$128 to $150  |  $113 to $136

$433         |  $189
$210         |  

$145 to $177  |  $63 to $71
$222 to $248  |  $140 to $172
Issues of ‘Medical Tourism’ - Products

- Risk access to pharmaceuticals
  - Canada
    - Consumption of domestic supply
  - United States
    - Affordability
- Standard of Care issues – prescribing / dispensing
- Patient safety – reliability of on-line Rx’s
The Domains of Medical Tourism

• Health Professionals

• Health Products

• Patient Investigations

• Patients Themselves

HEALTH LAW, ETHICS, AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Perspectives on Medical Outsourcing and Telemedicine — Rough Edges in a Flat World?
Sanjoy N. Singh, J.D., and Robert M. Wachter, M.D.

However, digitized health care now permits the outsourcing of a range of medical services, from clinical diagnostics to direct care.
The “Dis-location” of U.S. Medicine — The Implications of Medical Outsourcing

Robert M. Wachter, M.D.

- Outsourcing will grow
- Will challenge traditional arrangements
- Will require consideration of ethical, legal, and quality standards
- Will be controversial

The Domains of Medical Tourism

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Patients as Medical Tourists

What’s happening and what are the issues?

- An evolving phenomenon
- Access – Access – Access – Access
- Quality / Patient Safety
- Recourse – Regulatory / Litigation
Medical Tourism – Access

- Cost differences (to patients) can be substantial (United States)
- Wait times may be problematic (Canada)
- Seeking immigration status for babies (access to citizenship)
- Legal / ethical barriers in home jurisdictions

America’s New Refugees — Seeking Affordable Surgery Offshore

Amy Melnick, M.D., M.P.H., and Mark Samet, M.D., M.B.A.

“...middle-income Americans evading impoverishment by expensive, medically necessary operations...”

NEJM 2006

Medical tourism: cost comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure</th>
<th>$U.S. Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>U.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart Bypass</td>
<td>130,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Deloitte 2009 survey
Medical tourism: The world is your hospital
Waiting too long for a medical procedure?

Med Offshor isn't just for companies

Medical Tourism – Common Procedures
- Cosmetic Surgery
- Dentistry
- Cardiac Surgery
  - Bypass – valvular
- Orthopedic/Spine Surgery
  - Joint replacements – discectomy ....
- Bariatric Surgery
- Reproductive System
- ... But.....Is it safe?

Case composite (from Canadian regulator)
- Patient received elective procedure off-shore (access issue in Canada) – arranged by Cdn physician who was in attendance
- Pt and family not clear about responsibility for care (thought Cdn physician would have responsibility)
- Post-op complications – to intensive care unit – died
- Responsibility of Canadian regulator?

What about recourse in the civil arena?
The President of Turkmenistan has opened a new cancer hospital in the Central Asian country by performing the clinic’s first operation himself.

HOWEVER......
“This has the potential to do to the US health-care system what the Japanese auto industry did to American (and Canadian) carmakers.”

Uwe Reinhardt
Healthcare Economist
Princeton University
Time Magazine 2006
• Google – 11M hits for baby tourism
• Seeking more advanced maternity services
  • And, 1st world citizenship
  • Often without covering cost
• Extensive market for 3rd world surrogate childbirth (mothers – 16x’s annual wage)
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Observations / Discussion Points
• Access to health care is an issue
• The potential impact of ‘Medical Tourism’ may not be appreciated
• How can regulators get ‘ahead of the curve’?
• The current health care system is not sustainable – do regulators have an obligation to speak out in the public interest?

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