VITALSIGNS DECEMBER 2018 Volume 3, ISSUE 3



THE PRICE OF HEALTH

Our island's poor health is costing us in lives and dollars. One fundamental way to address both of these issues is by changing the way we pay for care. Earlier this year the Minister formed a Health Financing Stakeholder Consultation Group to consider two options to restructure how we pay for healthcare, so we can achieve better outcomes and control costs. By streamlining how we pay for the health system, we can eliminate wasteful spending and better direct the dollars to the care persons need. It will also help move the care towards prevention and better management of conditions. That is why the Ministry is



focused on health financing reform: because to deliver better care at a better cost, we have to change how the money is spent. The reforms will help the Government

contain costs and improve healthcare access for all. Follow updates at www. gov.bm/bermuda-healthstrategy-goal-9

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EARLY YEARS



From birth the bond a family has with their baby is built on the security and safeguards the community can provide them. That is why the Ministry of Health has

committed to consulting on extending maternity leave from the guaranteed 8 weeks in the Employment Act to thirteen (13) weeks. Longer maternity leave has shown

to provide better cognitive and academic development for the child and extends the length of breast feeding. When the mother returns to work, the family should also feel secure that the person watching their children is a caring and qualified person. As the Ministry responsible for oversight of child care settings, we developed the Child Care Standards, have increased oversight of Day Care Centres and Home Providers and are looking to expand regulation of other settings such as camps, to ensure the safety and security of our children.

MIDWIFERY REGULATION

The Nursing Amendment Act 2018 aims to improve the regulation of midwives by transferring oversight of Midwives from the Bermuda Medical Council to the Bermuda Nursing and Midwifery Council and repealing the Midwives Act 1949. It ensures the development of a Code of Conduct, as well as a reregistration process inclusive of continued education and minimum practice hours.

NUTRITION ON MENUS

Do you know how many calories is in the mac n' cheese from your favourite restaurant? Soon you will. The Ministry will be working with food establishments to add calorie and other nutritional information to their menus. Research has shown that if persons know how many calories are in their food they are more likely to make healthier choices.

VACCINES WORK!

Headlines from other countries say it all—diseases we thought were almost eliminated or reduced to minimal numbers are back. Diseases like the measles have surged by nearly a third last year partly because an increasing number of children were not vaccinated. As a community that travels a lot and receives many visitors, we are opening ourselves up to the potential for measles to visit us here. To protect ourselves, our family and our community, we all need to get vaccinated. This includes getting the Flu Vaccine and following the schedule of vaccines for our children. It takes a whole community to protect us from these diseases; and there is a solution. Vaccines work!

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