

## Ontario is National Leader in Reducing Health Wait Times

*McGuinty Government's Wait Time Investments Validated By Alliance Report Card*

NEWS

June 18, 2009  
2009-nr-056

Ontario is again a national leader in reducing wait times for five priority health services, according to a new annual report card issued by the Wait Time Alliance (WTA).

For the second consecutive year, the WTA gave Ontario the highest grades - straight As - for meeting performance targets in reducing wait times in five areas: hip replacements, knee replacements, cataract surgery, radiation oncology and cardiac services. BC was the only other province with similar grades. The report card indicates that Ontario improved performance in almost all categories.

This is the fourth annual report card from the WTA, which is comprised of several national medical specialty societies, including the Canadian Medical Association, the Canadian Cardiovascular Society and the Canadian Association of Radiologists, whose members are directly involved in providing care to patients.

### QUOTES

"I am pleased to see continued reductions in wait times for key procedures in Ontario and very proud of our expansion of the Wait Times Strategy last fall. Our goal has always been to improve timely access to health care and indicators like this report card show Ontario is heading in the right direction."

- David Caplan, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

### QUICK FACTS

Since 2005, wait times in Ontario have decreased by:

- 66.2 per cent for cataract surgery
- 27 per cent for cancer surgery
- 57 per cent for knee replacement
- 52.7 per cent for hip replacement
- 12 per cent for MRIs and 53 per cent for CT scans
- 46 per cent, for angioplasty and nine per cent cardiac bypass surgery

### LEARN MORE

Find out more about [wait times](#) for health services in Ontario.  
[View the WTA report.](#)