Family Physician Workforce

• Comprehensive family medicine = family physicians providing “cradle to grave” primary care

• The delivery of a broad range of primary care services to a defined population ("panel”/”roster”) on a continuous basis
  ✓ Associated with improved health equity, health outcomes, and health system costs

• Distinct from:
  ▪ Episodic primary care (e.g., walk-in clinic)
  ▪ Focused scopes of family physician practice (e.g., sports medicine, ER, hospitalist, etc.)
  ▪ Other primary care practitioners (e.g., primary care NPs, PAs)
Declining Practice of Comprehensiveness

Proportion of Ontario Family Physicians Practicing Comprehensive Family Medicine Over Time

The shift away from comprehensive FM is occurring across all FP ages/career stages.

Due to the pandemic and changes in services for in-person visits family physicians were billing for, we note the number of current family doctors practicing family medicine may be a slight underestimation, however, we believe this to be the most accurate number possible. It is clear we are seeing a steady decline in family doctors choosing comprehensive family medicine since 2008.

An Aging Comprehensive FP Workforce Poised to Retire

- 3 near-retirement FP age groups: 55+, 65+, 70+

Declining Interest Among Medical School Graduates in Family Medicine

- Lowest in 15 years

Source: CaRMS R-1 Data & Reports (2009-2023)