

Re: Canadian doctors coming to the US

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.med/2004-08/2692.html>

From: dahmd (dahmd_at_cfl.rr.com)

Date: 08/23/04

Date: Mon, 23 Aug 2004 03:00:41 GMT

"George Conklin" <nilknoc@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:h49Wc.8336\$2L3.2236@newsread3.news.atl.earthlink.net...
>
> "dahmd" <dahmd@cfl.rr.com> wrote in message
> news:Iu7Wc.38093\$PG2.4088446@twister.tampabay.rr.com...
>>
>> "George Conklin" <nilknoc@earthlink.net> wrote in message
>> news:JkdVc.3559\$2L3.2637@newsread3.news.atl.earthlink.net...
>>>
>>> "Steven Bornfeld" <dentaltwinnospam@earthlink.net> wrote in message
>>> news:412530B4.7080106@earthlink.net...
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> Howard McCollister wrote:
>>>>> "fresh~horses" <fresh~horses@despammed.com> wrote in message
>>>>> news:abf8de5b.0408190942.3459afc9@posting.google.com...
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>>> Physicians do not pay the whole cost of their educations. The tax
>>>>>> payer picks up the heft of the tab.
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>> The typical medical student will graduate from medical school with
>> about
>>>>> \$120,000 in debt for tuition and fees.
>>>
>>> True, but this does not count the \$1 million the public has invested
> in
>>> each medical student.
>>>
>>
>> I gotta have a reference on this one. When I was in med school the
state
>> legislature spent less than 100K on each student. Considering the free
> care
>> we provided during residency, it probably was a wash, although,

sincerely,

> I

> > appreciate the expenditure.

> >

> > Ashley

> >

> >

>

> The calculations were done by Eastman Kodak when they stated that medical

> training added 17% to the hospital bills upfront, plus much less efficiency

> because training costs money well beyond free care. Then there is the

> Medicare subsidy to hospitals which is a direct cost.

>

> As for Canada, they have to invest a lot of students who leave the

> country. They call it the brain drain. It is especially acute for nations

> like India where there are few doctors and a lot of people and not much

> cash. We should at least train the physicians we need and not give the cost

> to someone else.

>

> As for medical education, it ought to be free to the student and that

> should reflect itself in the fees charged to patients. No med student

> should graduate with huge debts.

>

I haven't seen these data, although it might be that the Kodak people are analyzing resident expenditures. Medical students don't cost much for hospitals (because students pay tuition and don't receive a salary), although at many hospitals they do a lot of work that would require paid employees otherwise. For example, during my internship they couldn't have had more than 2 transport staff for the entire hospital, because students and interns transported patients everywhere. We did all the IV's, blood cultures, and "after hours" lab draws and paperwork. I would agree that at some hospitals residents may cost the institution, although they rarely analyze the cost of hiring hospitalists to be "in house" to run codes or the cost of private physicians leaving the medical staff because they would have to take much more ER call if there were no residency to absorb the non-paying patients.

Ashley