

Respecting the choice to age together:

A 21st Century Health Quality Challenge



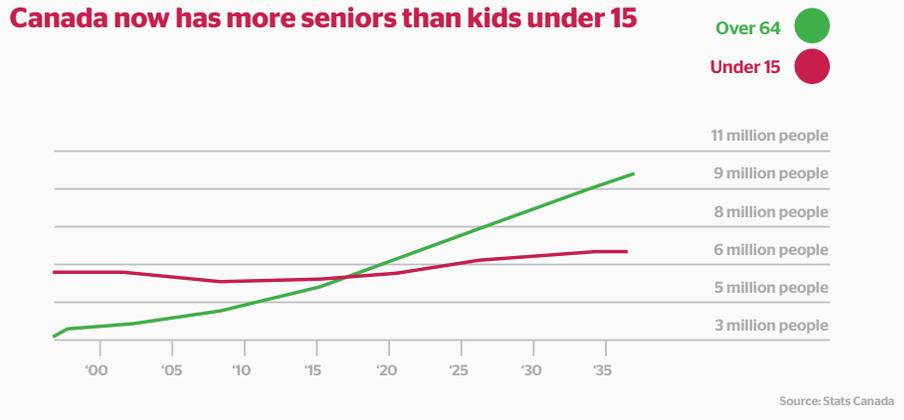
Technology Assists Couples to Stay Together in Residential Care

The +65 Canadian population is now greater than the population under the age of 15, and is alarmingly growing four times faster than any other age group (Statistics Canada, 2015).

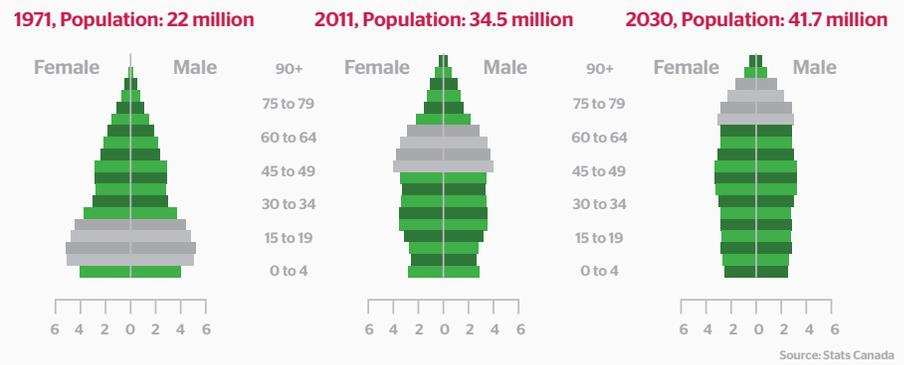
This shift in population age structure is forcing health systems to search for innovative means to improve the appropriateness, access and quality of care for our rapidly expanding elder population.

Given the increase in aged care demand being driven by these shifting demographics and the resulting stress on the supply of services, Canadian health systems are looking for ways to improve the dynamics between supply and demand in services such as residential and home care services - while at the same time delivering an optimal quality of life for each client.

Canada now has more seniors than kids under 15



Changes in the age structure of the population



The Emerging Need

The growing Senior population has many individual clinical, demographic and religious needs to be addressed in delivering the most appropriate services in the community. This makes referral management a very complex process. Given increasing life spans, **one critical need growing in prominence is a couple's choice to continue their life journey together** when it is time to move to long term care homes.

The Reality

All would agree that managing this social need and respecting elder couples' choice is critical. Unfortunately, the reality of system pressures around referral to limited resources for specific individual care needs often trumps the desire of married couples to remain together. When working to place a married couple together – factors such as waitlist status, varying clinical

care needs for each individual and available resources quickly make these couple placements exponentially more difficult. If one factor cannot be met for either individual then the couple is often separated, as each spouse may need to accept the available, but separate placement in order to ensure his or her care needs are safely met.

The Solution: Strata PathWays™

To address this, residential care placement teams are using Strata PathWays™, an intelligent electronic referral system used to increase the efficiency of residential care placements. Strata PathWays™ addresses the challenge of complex placements by leveraging intelligent web-based technology supported by

15 years of specialized patient flow experience. Intelligent business logic provides real-time analysis of spousal unification scenarios based on the needs of each individual, as well as calculated availability or wait times for each home. **PathWays™ offers the 'matching' logic to ensure that every fit is the right one – including keeping loved ones together.**



The Results:

Since 2007, PathWays™ has had **2,284 referral applicants** indicating the need for spousal unification. **84% were placed successfully** by leveraging Strata Health's proprietary referral intelligent matching

algorithms, dynamic priority codes and waitlist logic. Even where joint placements were **not** immediately achievable – the plight of the impacted seniors is highlighted within Strata's live dashboards for special health system focus.

Next Steps:

Every health system is unique. The Strata Health team would like to learn more on your current needs and be your partner in change. For further information, contact dialogue@stratahealth.com

The Challenge:

2,284

Couple unification applicants since 2007

The Result:

84%

Applicants were successfully placed with their partners

