What can Canada learn from European healthcare?

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How it all started

- The Stockholm Healthcare Revolution 1990-
- DRG (pay for performance), purchaser–provider split, competition for contracts, enterprised hospitals.
- Better productivity, waiting lists disappeared.
- Choice, waiting time guarantee, mobility.
- Internal markets and choice require consumer information!
- To impact reform in Scandinavia, UK (Canada?)

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"When performance is measured, performance improves…"

"When performance is measured and reported back, the rate of improvement accelerates."

Pearson's Law

Thus there is a clear and present need for a coordinated central measurement of performance.
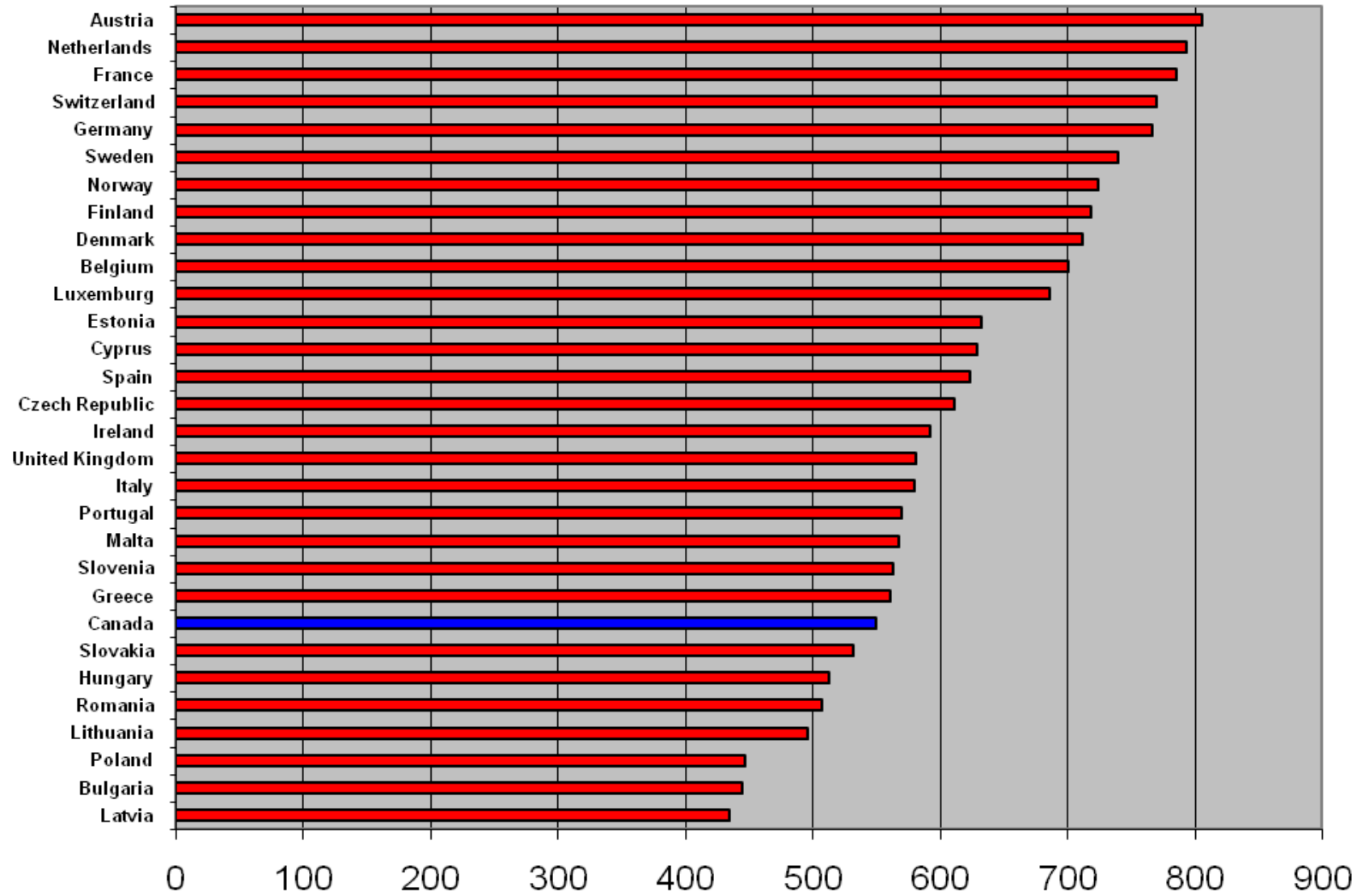
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2008 Euro-Canada Health Consumer Index
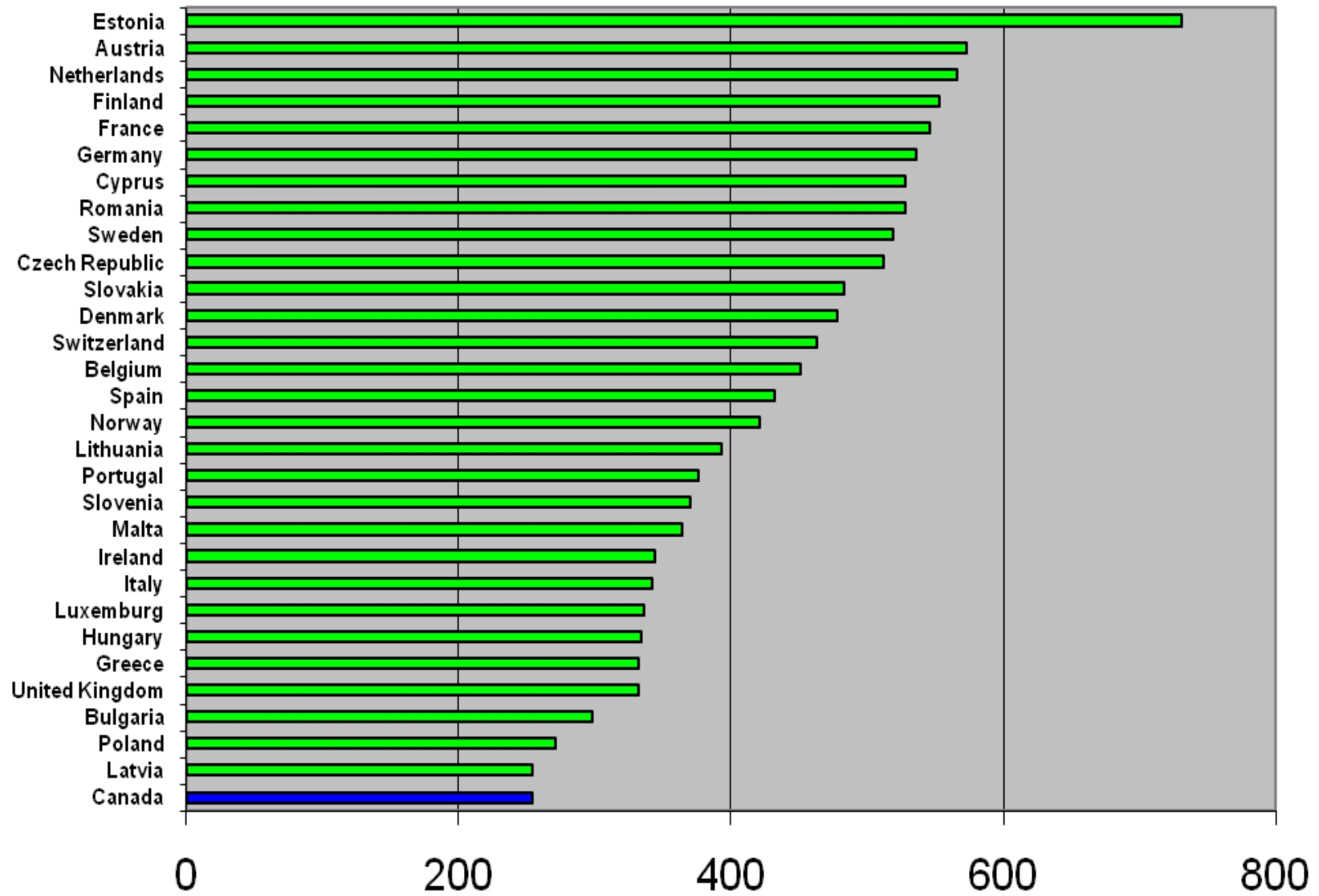
- Overall picture of healthcare systems from the customer/patient's POV

- Concentrates on indicators reflecting properties and performance of healthcare systems

- All 27 EU member states + Switzerland, Norway & Canada

- 27 indicators in five sub-disciplines

- Examines Canada in the context of countries sharing a commitment to universally accessible healthcare.

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Canada in Total Index Score

Country	Score
Austria	800
Netherlands	790
France	785
Switzerland	770
Germany	765
Sweden	740
Norway	725
Finland	720
Denmark	710
Belgium	700
Luxemburg	685
Estonia	630
Cyprus	625
Spain	620
Czech Republic	610
Ireland	590
United Kingdom	585
Italy	580
Portugal	570
Malta	565
Slovenia	560
Greece	555
Canada	550
Slovakia	530
Hungary	510
Romania	505
Lithuania	490
Poland	445
Bulgaria	440
Latvia	435

Best value for money where?

Country	Value
Estonia	~730
Austria	~570
Netherlands	~570
Finland	~555
France	~550
Germany	~535
Cyprus	~530
Romania	~530
Sweden	~520
Czech Republic	~510
Slovakia	~485
Denmark	~480
Switzerland	~470
Belgium	~450
Spain	~430
Norway	~420
Lithuania	~390
Portugal	~375
Slovenia	~370
Malta	~365
Ireland	~345
Italy	~340
Luxemburg	~335
Hungary	~335
Greece	~335
United Kingdom	~330
Bulgaria	~300
Poland	~275
Latvia	~260
Canada	~255

Why? Canadian outcomes (in short)

- Cardiac outcomes are excellent, and other treatment outcomes are average

- Cataract surgery is accessible, in an otherwise stingy system

- Waiting times place Canada at the very bottom

- Medicines coverage is very poor compared to Europe

- No culture of "Patients' Rights"

- Overall, poor value for money.

(Full outcomes as www.healthpowerhouse.com, www.fcpp.org).

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What to learn?

- The "Bismarck advantage": a split between purchaser and provider with multiple payers, introducing choice and competition
- Performance-based payment for hospitals – rational incentives
- A Patients' Rights Law with practical guarantees
- Improved access to medicines
- Public outcomes comparisons.

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Is Canada that different from Europe?

- Waiting?

- User-friendliness?

- Choice?

- Quality?

- Information?

We don´t think so!

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