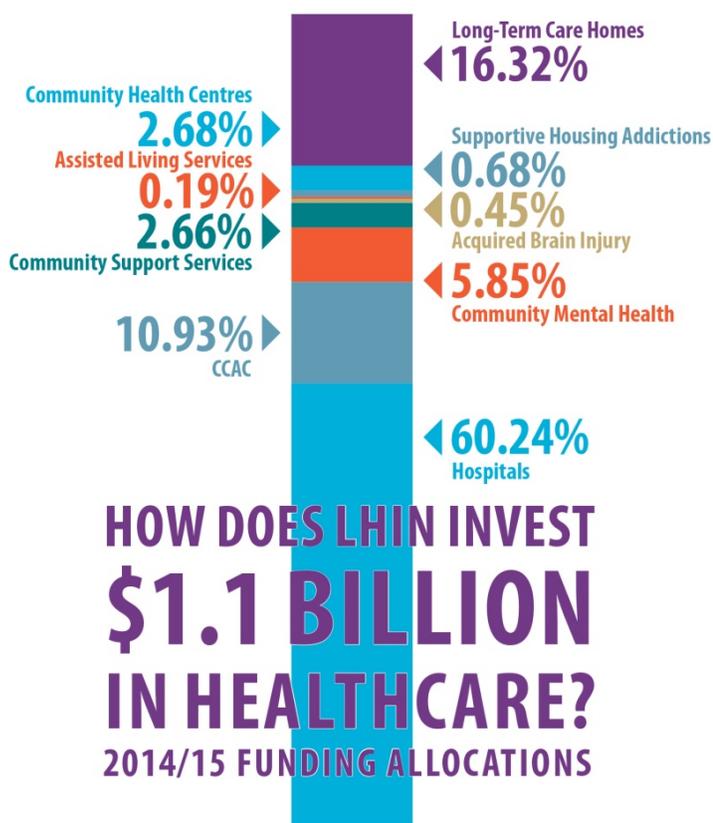
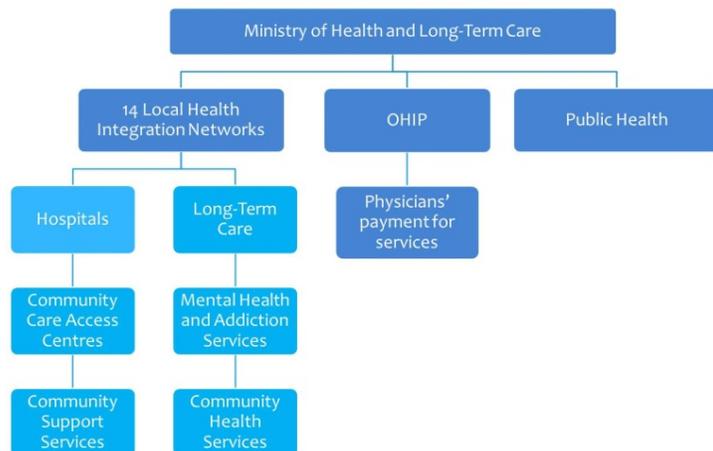


**Structure**

The Ontario health care system is a complex network of different health care organizations and providers, working together to meet the health care needs of Ontarians.

The **Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC)** provides overall direction and leadership for the system. The ministry is responsible for:

- Overall strategic direction and provincial priorities for the health system;
- Developing legislation, regulations, policies, and directives to support those strategic directions;
- Monitoring overall performance of Ontario’s health system;
- Establishing levels of funding for the health care system;



The 14 **Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs)** in Ontario were formed in 2006 in order to move health care administration from the provincial level to the local level. In addition to allocating funds to health care providers across the region, the LHINs also work with each provider to plan, engage and make decisions at a local level, with the goal to improve the health care system.

LHINs are responsible for: hospitals, long-term care homes, Community Care Access Centres, Community Support Services, Community Health Centres and Addictions & Mental Health Agencies. *They do not have responsibility for: physicians, Public Health, ambulance services, or provincial networks (e.g., Cancer Care Ontario).*

The South East LHIN is responsible for investing \$1.1 billion in health care funding in its region, which stretches from Brighton to Prescott, north to Smith Falls and back to Bancroft.

## Oversight

Each of Ontario's health care organizations has its own Board of Directors, responsible for strategic planning; quality of care; financial oversight; management performance; evaluation and board effectiveness.

So while the MOHLTC provides the strategy and oversight at the provincial-level, the LHIN is the regional-level oversight and strategy, and the Board of Directors of each health service provider is the organizational-level oversight and strategy.

All hospitals and LHINs sign a Hospital Service Accountability Agreement that enforces accountability for the way provincial tax dollars are used, the number of patients receiving care, and the quality of care delivered.