



BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Changes in the volume and cost of Take Home Medications (THM) for cancer drug therapy dispensed from FY06 to FY13 in the BC Provincial Oncology Drug Program

Susan Walisser¹, Fung M¹, Heather Logan²,
Scott Livingstone^{2,3}, Max J Coppes^{1,2}

¹BC Cancer Agency

²Canadian Association of Provincial Cancer Agencies

³Saskatchewan Cancer Agency

May 12, 2014



BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Disclosures

- No real or apparent conflicts of interest



BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Introduction

- **The availability and use of THM, principally oral chemotherapy, is growing rapidly.**
- **Self administration of chemotherapy offers numerous benefits to patients.**
- **At the same time however, it transfers much responsibility from trained healthcare professionals to patients and their families.**



BC Cancer Agency

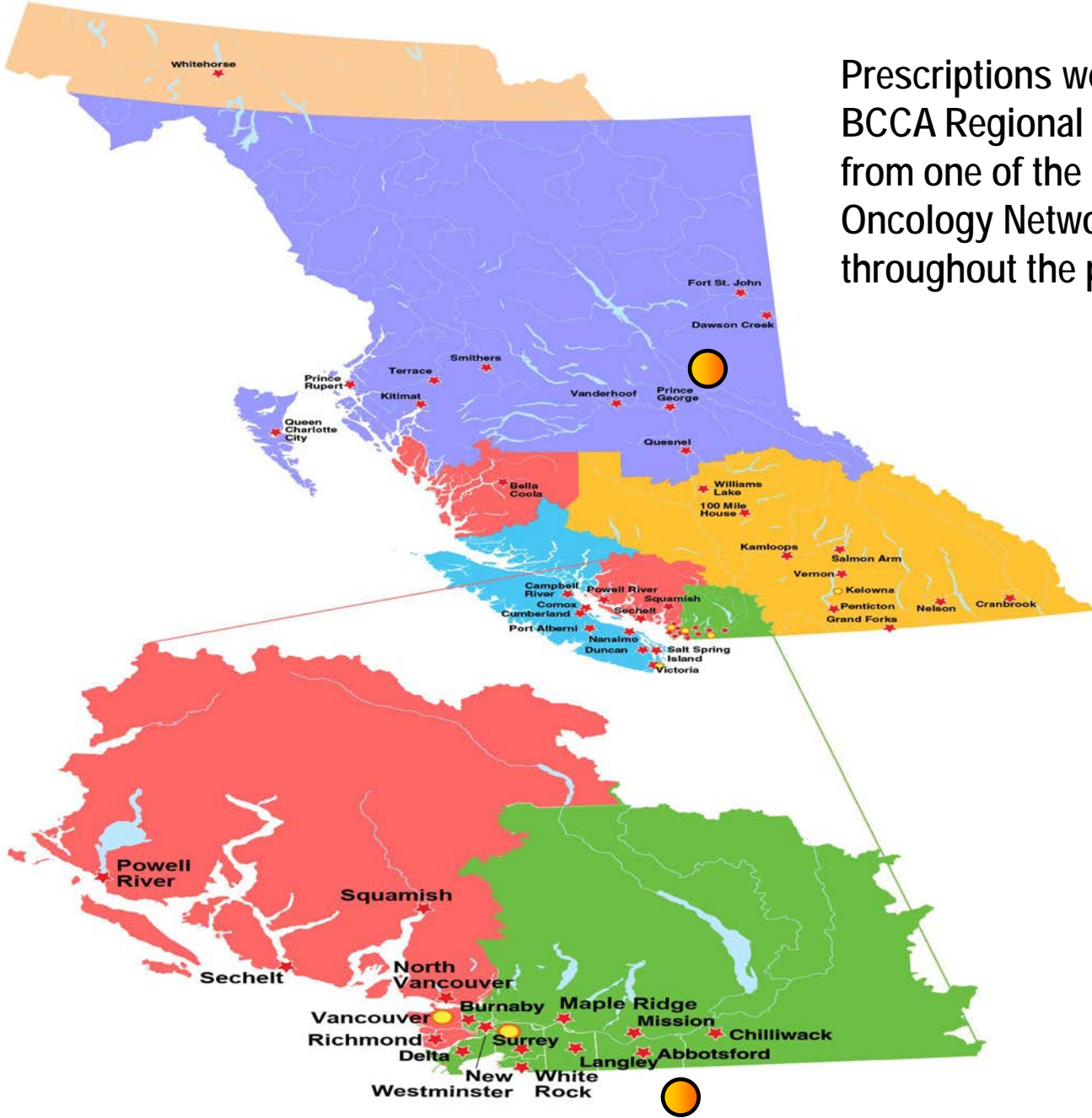
CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Overall research goal

- **To assess the quality and safety of prescribing, dispensing, administering, and monitoring of take home cancer drugs**
 - **Hypothesis**
 - **Take home medication usage and cost have increased in our (BC) population over the past 8 years**

Prescriptions were filled at a BCCA Regional Cancer Centre or from one of the Communities Oncology Network centres located throughout the province.





BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Methodology

- **All prescription data from April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2013 (FY06 to FY13) were extracted from BCCA's Pharmacy Data Warehouse.**
- **Drugs with a route of "IV" were excluded**
- **The data was divided into 2 categories: ORAL (all po drugs) and OTHER (eg SC, IM, Topical etc) combined to be THM**
- **THM's included drugs on the BCCA Drug Benefit List, Used withing the context of a clinical trial or accessed through Health Canada's Special Access Program**



BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Methodology

- **THMs included drugs that had been dispensed in either an inpatient or outpatient setting**
- **The patient count is a unique count of all patients treated in the province regardless of the number of drugs dispensed or if they had drugs dispensed at more than one site**
- **Data was extracted using protocol codes to determine FY14 costs by TG**

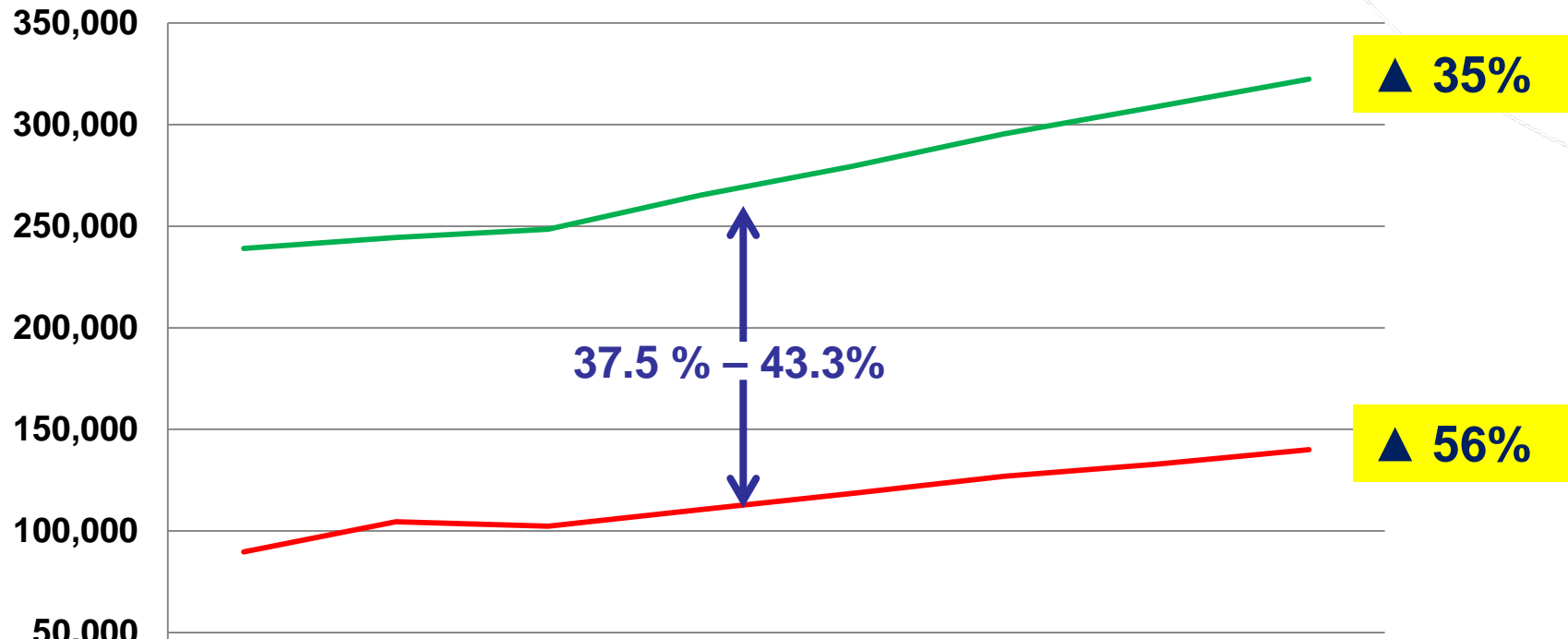


BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Volume of THM Prescriptions



	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13
— THM	89,697	104,55	102,36	110,47	118,45	126,91	132,89	140,01
— Total	238,98	244,29	248,42	265,15	279,37	295,35	308,75	322,31

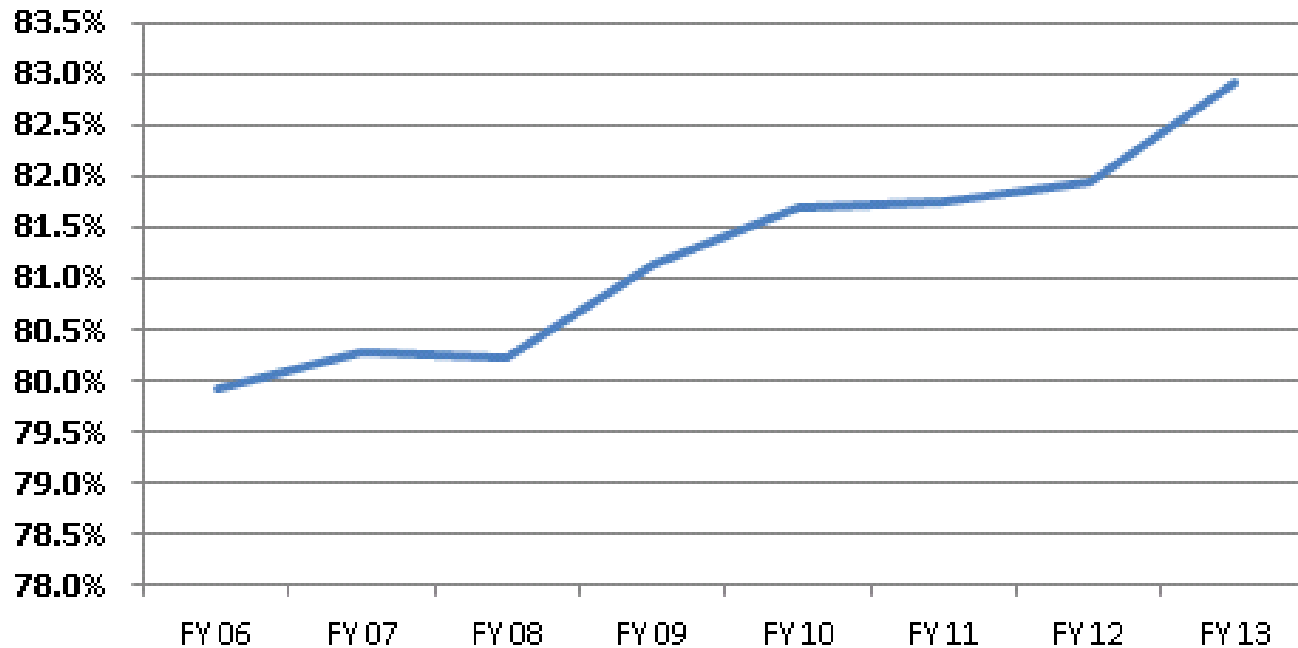


BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

% THM that is Oral



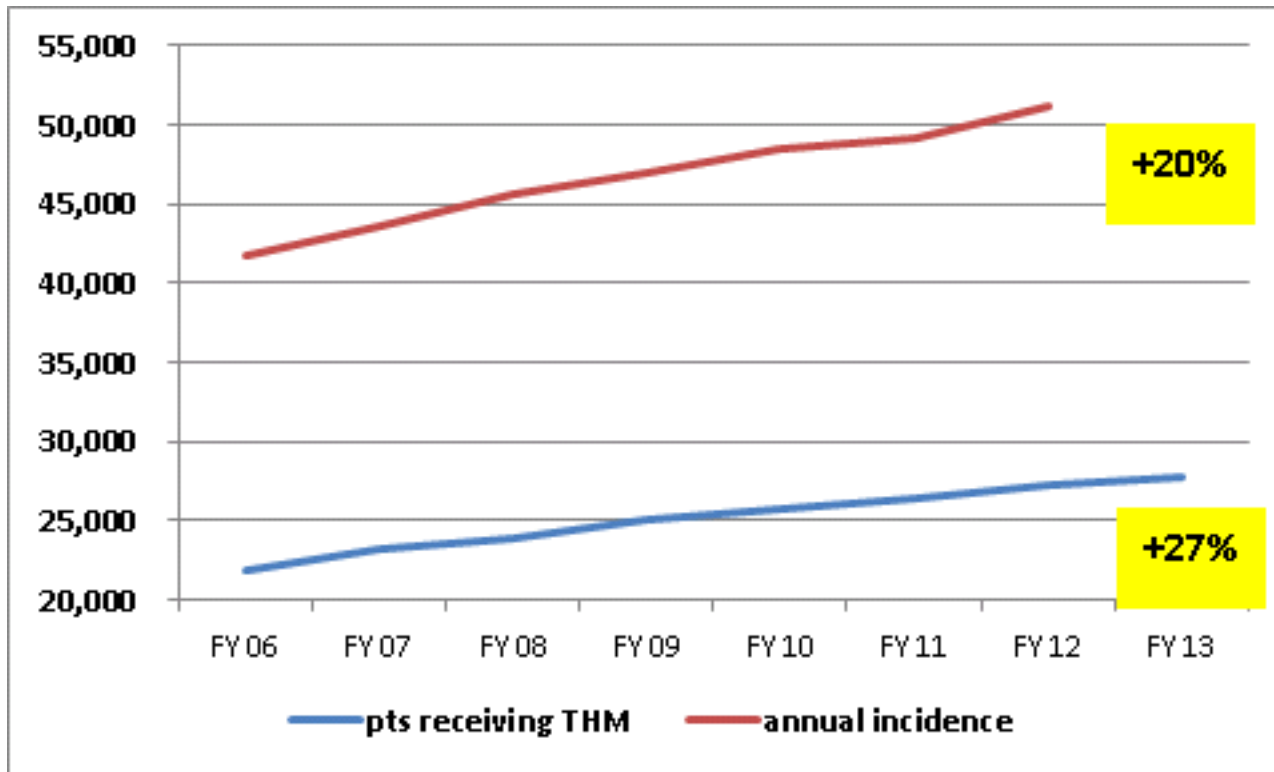


BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Number of patients treated with THM



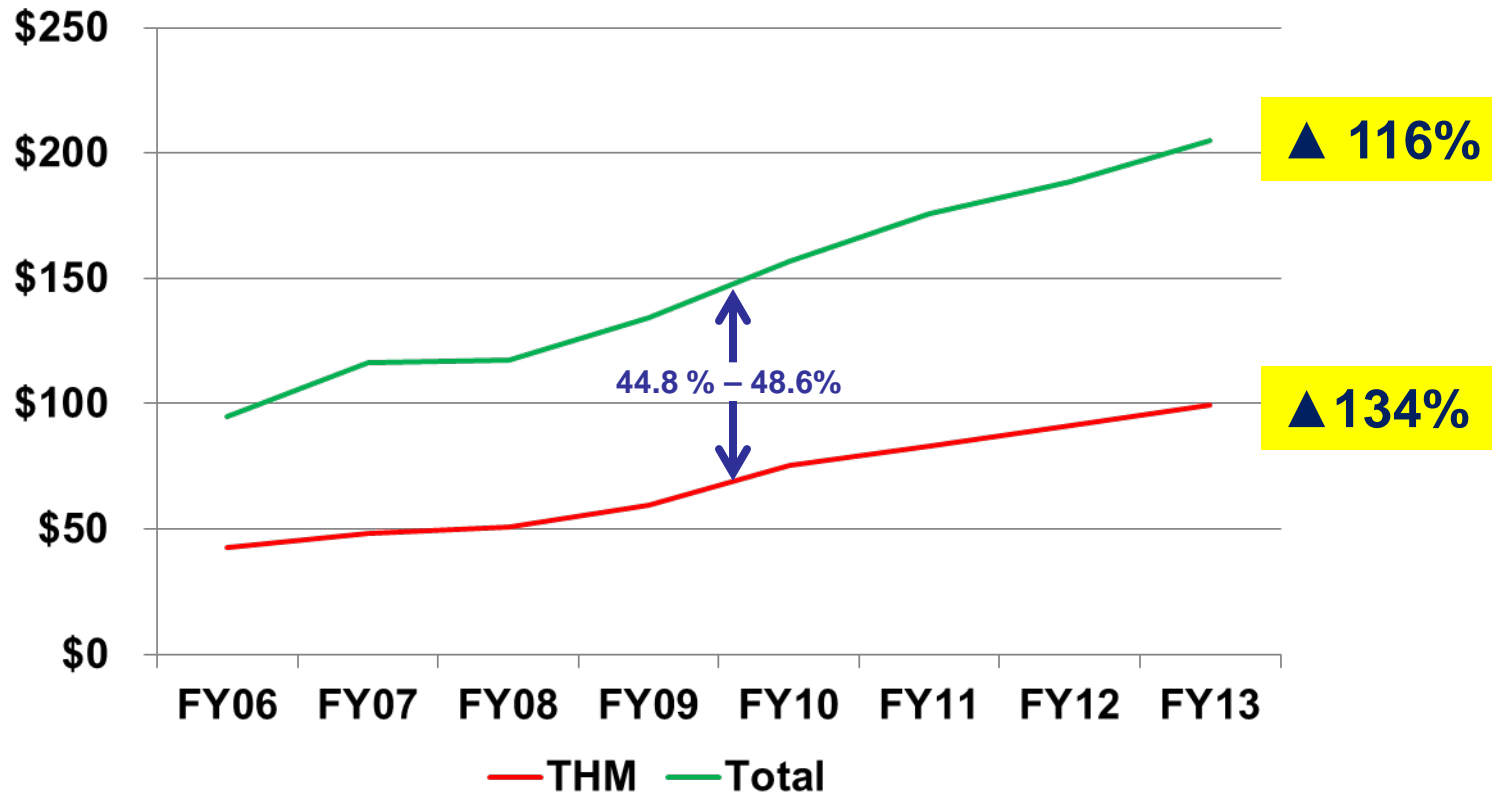


BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

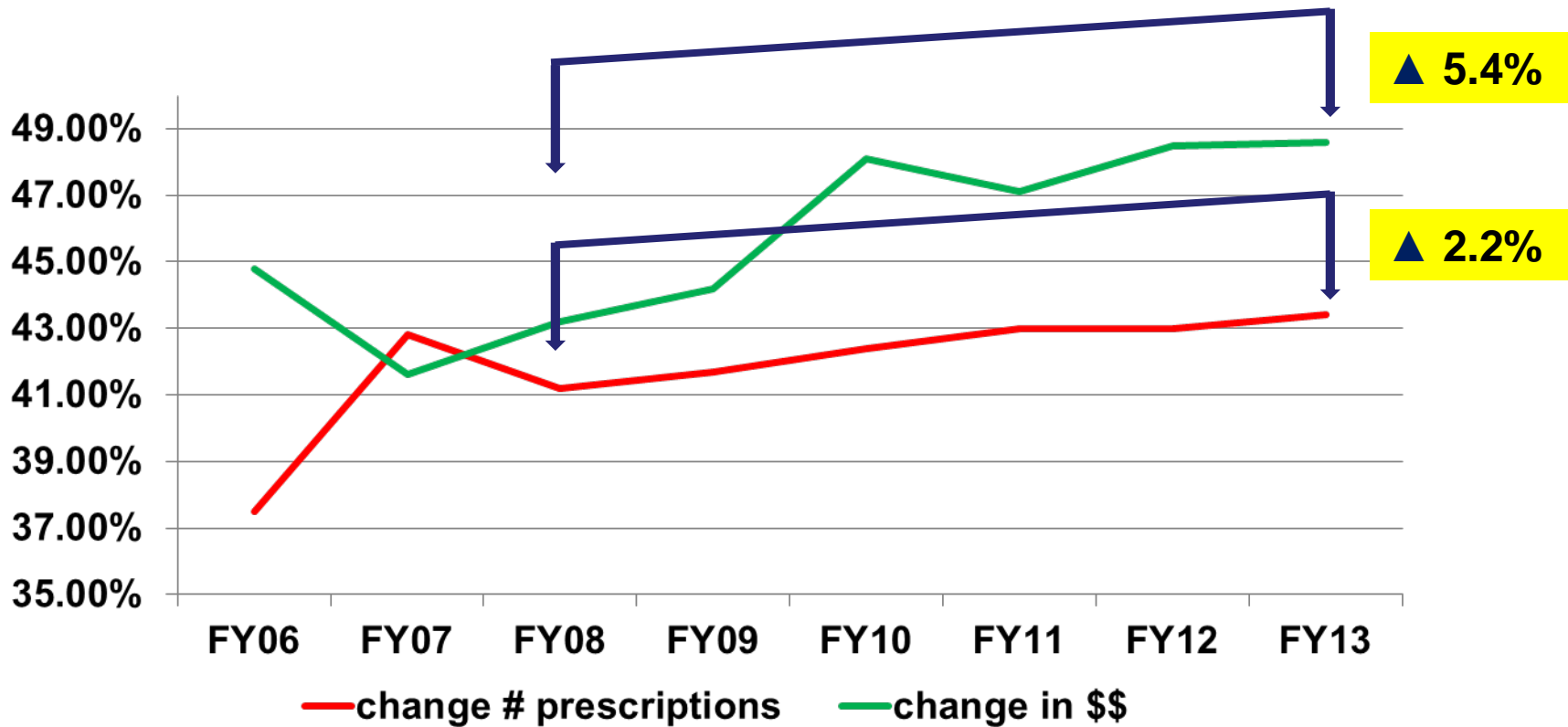
An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Cost of THM Prescriptions





Change in # of THM prescriptions vs cost of THM prescriptions



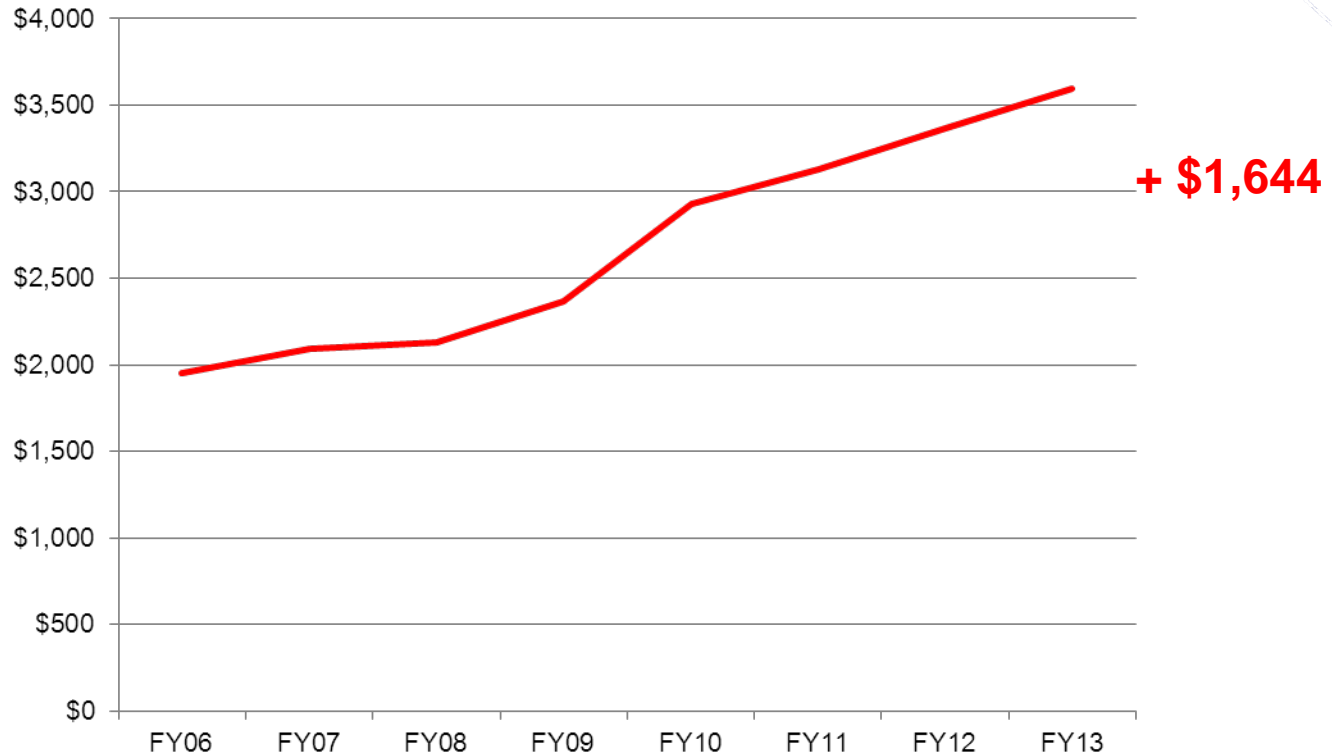


BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Average Cost/Patient for THM





BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

THMs FY13/14

Tumor Group	TOTAL RX COUNT	TOTAL \$
Gastrointestinal	13,333	\$ 8,981,723
Breast	49,363	\$ 4,103,204
Lung	2,663	\$ 5,259,882
Genitourinary	32,921	\$ 27,963,415
T4	98,280	\$ 46,308,224
TOTAL THMs	322,317	\$99,633,044
	31%	47%



BC Cancer Agency

CARE + RESEARCH

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority

Conclusions

- **Over the course of 8 years:**
- **# of THM prescriptions has increased by 56% to 140,016**
- **# of patients treated with THMs has increased by 27% to 27,715**
- **% of THMs that are oral has increased 3%**
- **The number of unique THM drugs has increased 65.5% to 119**
- **Cost of THM prescriptions has increased by 134% to \$99,633,044 (range of 4.8% - 27.1% per year)**
- **The average cost of THM per patient has increased by 84% to \$3595**