Canada considers genetic non-discrimination law

Physicians and patient advocacy groups say they support a proposed change to the Ontario Human Rights Code aimed at protecting people's genetic information from being used by insurance companies and employers.

People will avoid getting genetic tests that could detect a predisposition for potentially life-threatening diseases and will not participate in research and clinical trials if they have to disclose the results, especially to insurers, the Coalition for Genetic Fairness said on Monday.

"We know that science has outperformed legislation and it is time that we caught up and protected individuals," said Bev Heim-Myers of the Huntington Society of Canada, one of 16 patient groups in the coalition.

Read the full, original story here: <u>Advocates back Ontario bill aiming to safeguard genetic data</u> from insurance firms