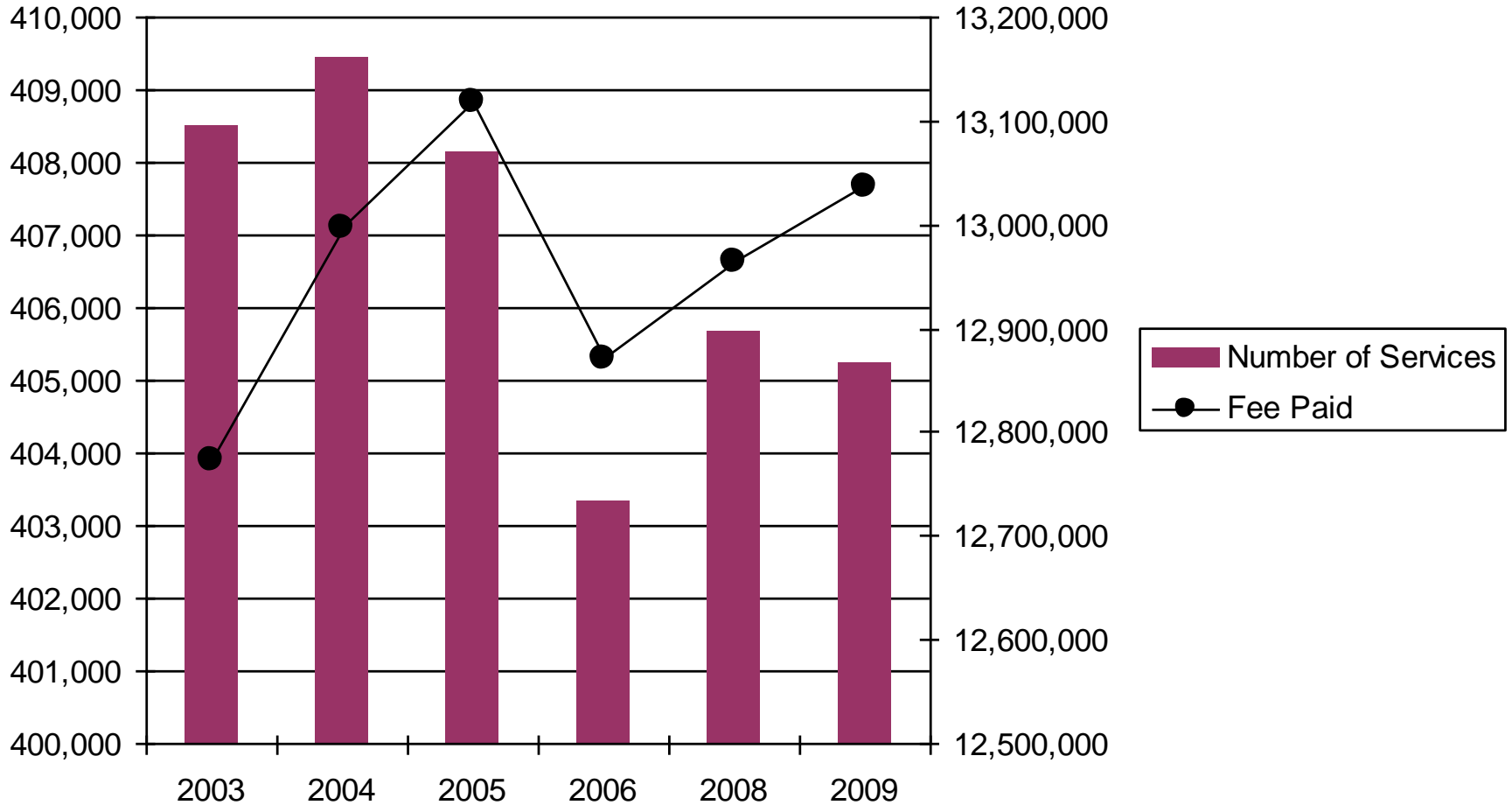


# Encouraging Optimal Use of Diagnostic Imaging for Low Back Pain

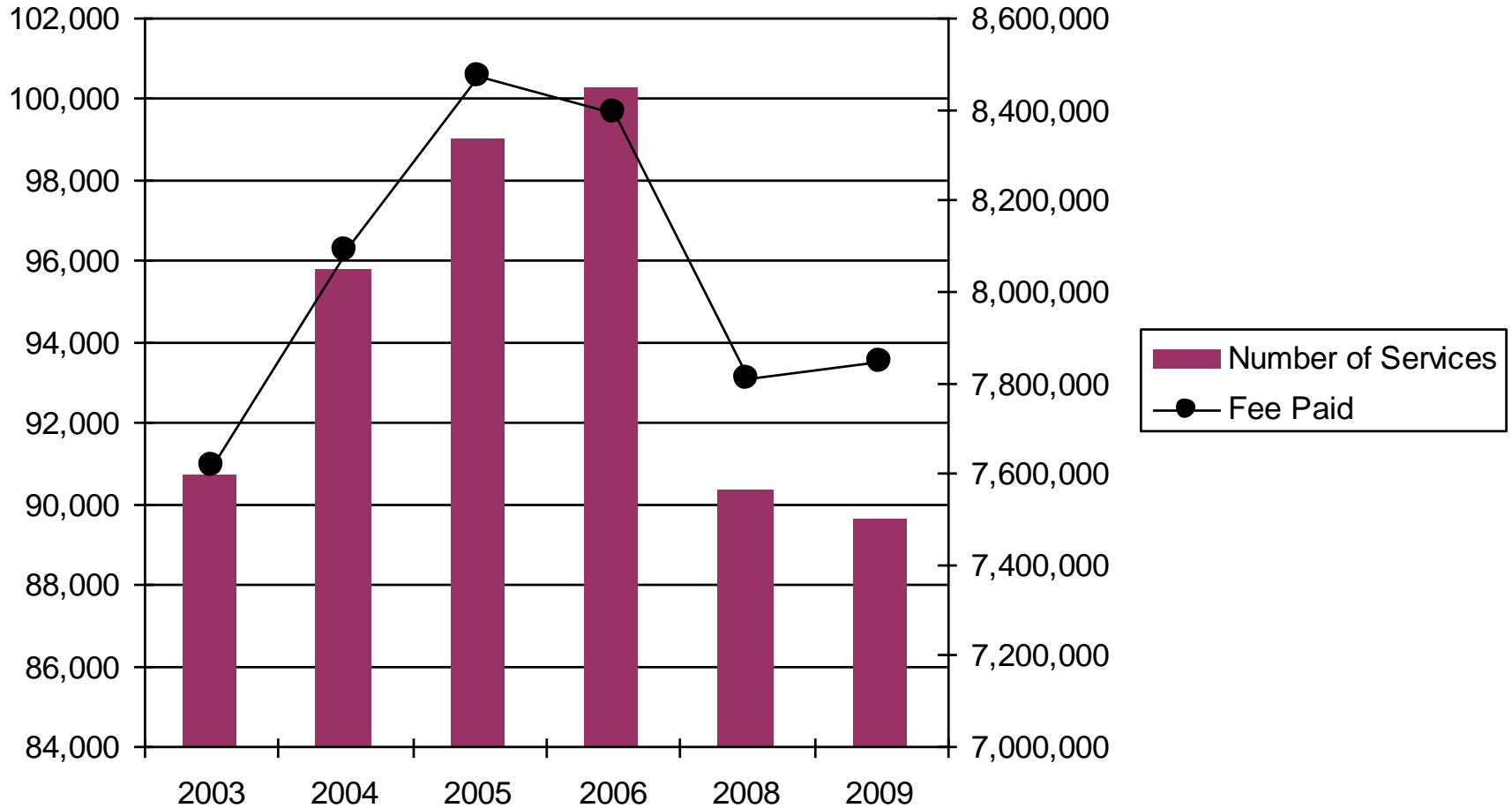
Institute for Health Economics Workshop  
Edmonton, Alberta  
October 26 & 27, 2010

Tai Huynh, Director, Excellent Care for All Strategy  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

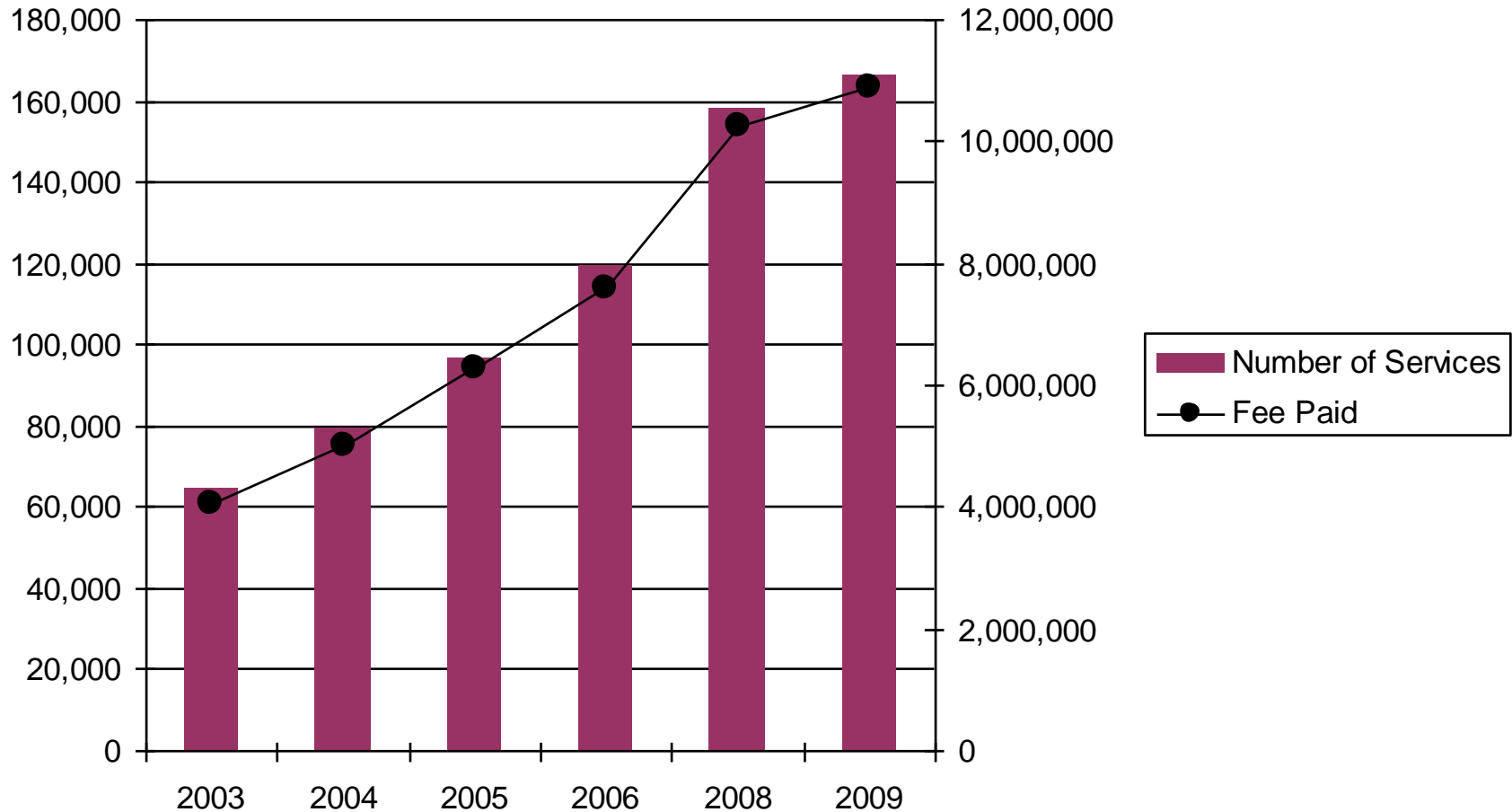
# Lumbar X-Ray



# Lumbar CT



# Lumbar MRI



# Select MOHLTC-Supported Activities

- 2001: GAC endorsed guidelines for management of acute LBP
- 2002: ICES investigative report examining use of guidelines in acute LBP
- 2004: Ontario Wait Times Strategy
- 2009: Online decision support tool for referring physicians
- 2010: *Excellent Care for All Act*
- 2010: Inter-provincial collaboration on CPGs, evidence-based care standards and best practices

# The Excellent Care for All Strategy

## 1. Organization

- The *Excellent Care for All Act*, 2010 (Bill 46)
  - ECFFA became law on June 8th, 2010
  - Establishes a number of requirements for health care organizations, starting first with hospitals

## 2. System

- Foundational elements
  - Expanded mandate and capacity of the Ontario Health Quality Council to promote evidence-based health care
  - Shift to patient-based payment for hospital services
- Near-term initiatives
  - Evidence-based changes to select OHIP insured services
  - Quality improvement initiatives targeting readmission reduction

# Expanded role of the Ontario Health Quality Council

- Current functions
  - Monitor and publicly report on system performance
  - Support quality improvement
- New functions
  - Promote evidence-based care:
    - Recommendations on standards of care based on clinical practice guidelines and protocols
    - Corresponding recommendations on funding for health care services and medical devices
  - Quality improvement plans:
    - Province-wide comparison of and reporting on quality indicators associated with QIPs submitted by health care organizations