



CMA Statement on Racism

Racism is a structural determinant of health and drives health and social inequities. The recent incidents of anti-Black violence, racism, and discrimination in the US and Canada shed light onto the structural inequities and racism that exists within the medical profession and the health system

The profession of medicine is grounded in respect for all people. This commitment recognizes that everyone has equal and inherent worth, the right to be valued and respected, and the right to be treated with dignity.

It's critical that our medical culture – and society more broadly – upholds these values. But today, we're reminded that there's much more to do as a profession, and as a global community, to get us there.

Earlier this year, we launched our first-ever [policy on equity and diversity in medicine](#) to help break down the many broad and systemic barriers that remain, to reduce discrimination and bias within our profession, and to create physically and psychologically safe environments for ourselves and our colleagues.

Alongside this policy comes a commitment to holding ourselves accountable to recognizing and challenging behaviours, practices, and conditions that hinder equity and diversity, including racism.

Instances of racism, intolerance, exclusion, violence and discrimination have no place in medicine, and no place in our society. Today, we stand alongside all those who have been affected by these appalling and inexcusable actions and beliefs.

Dr. Sandy Buchman
President, Canadian Medical Association