Streamlining patient flow from primary to specialty care: a critical requirement for improved access to specialty care

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11299

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2020-02-29

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2014-10-25

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance

CMA POLICY

STREAMLINING PATIENT FLOW FROM PRIMARY TO SPECIALTY CARE: A CRITICAL REQUIREMENT FOR IMPROVED ACCESS TO SPECIALTY CARE

Abstract

Many physicians believe that inaccurate, improper or delayed referrals of patients to specialists are among the primary reasons for the high volume of patients who have difficulty accessing or waiting for appointments to see subspecialists. There are at least two common reasons for delays in specialty care: the inability to access the right specialty and the delays in the appointment process. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) believes that the patient experience may be improved through the use of electronic medical records (EMRs) and computerized physician order entry (CPOE) systems to improve the efficiency of the system. The CMA policy on “Streamlining patient flow from primary to specialty care: a critical requirement for improved access to specialty care” discusses the importance of these technologies in improving patient care and satisfaction.

Policy

The CMA policy on “Streamlining patient flow from primary to specialty care: a critical requirement for improved access to specialty care” highlights the importance of electronic medical records (EMRs) and computerized physician order entry (CPOE) systems in improving patient care and satisfaction. The policy recommends the implementation of these technologies to enhance the efficiency of the system and reduce delays in specialty care.

Recommendations

The CMA policy recommends the implementation of electronic medical records (EMRs) and computerized physician order entry (CPOE) systems to improve the efficiency of the system and reduce delays in specialty care. The policy also suggests the use of these technologies to improve patient satisfaction and promote a better patient experience.

Conclusion

The CMA policy on “Streamlining patient flow from primary to specialty care: a critical requirement for improved access to specialty care” underscores the importance of electronic medical records (EMRs) and computerized physician order entry (CPOE) systems in improving patient care and satisfaction. The policy recommends the implementation of these technologies to enhance the efficiency of the system and reduce delays in specialty care.

Documents
Achieving Patient-Centred Collaborative Care

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy9060

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2019-03-03

DATE
2007-12-01

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Principles for health system governance

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10320

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
LAST REVIEWED  2019-03-03
DATE  2011-10-23
REPLACES  Regionalization (Update 2001)
TOPICS  Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Operational principles for the measurement and management of wait lists

(Update 2011)

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10322

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

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2019-03-03

DATE
2011-10-23

REPLACES
Operational principles for the measurement and management of waiting lists

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Policy Summary: Managing the Public–Private Interface to Improve Access to Quality Health Care

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy8826

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2018-03-03

DATE
2007-05-29

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Joint position statement: Principles to guide health care transformation in Canada

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10218

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2018-03-03

DATE
2011-07-27

REPLACES
PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE HEALTH CARE TRANSFORMATION IN CANADA

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Health and health care for an aging population
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11061

POLICY TYPE       Policy document
LAST REVIEWED    2018-03-03
DATE             2013-12-07
REPLACES         PD00-03 - Principles for medical care of older persons
TOPICS           Health care and patient safety
                  Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents

Health and Health Care for an Aging Population

Policy Summary of The Canadian Medical Association
December 2013

Health and Health Care for an Aging Population

Policy Summary of
The Canadian Medical Association
December 2013
Ensuring equitable access to health care: Strategies for governments, health system planners, and the medical profession

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11062

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2018-03-03

DATE
2013-12-07

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
The future of medicine
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy209

POLICY TYPE: Policy document
LAST REVIEWED: 2017-03-04
DATE: 2000-08-12
TOPICS: Health systems, system funding and performance
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

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### The future of medicine

#### CMA POLICY

#### THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE

- To achieve the future of the medical profession,
  - Continuity of care and cohesion: all patients should have a primary care provider who is knowledgeable about their medical history and continued care will be provided.
  - Health care professionals will be given the time to provide high-quality care.

#### Definitions

- Continuity of care: a situation in which a patient is assigned to a primary care provider who is knowledgeable about their medical history and continued care will be provided.

- Cohesion: health care professionals who are given the time to provide high-quality care.

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CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
Improving efficiency in the Canadian health care system

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11525

POLICY TYPE  Policy document  
DATE  2015-05-30  
TOPICS  Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Health in all policies
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11527

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2015-05-30

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents

CMA POLICY

HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES

Policy document

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TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance