Environmentally Sustainable Health Systems in Canada

RATIONALS

The Canadian Medical Association calls on federal, provincial and territorial governments, as well as public health and community organizations, to prioritize health equity, access to health services, and environmental sustainability in the development and implementation of health systems and policies. This is essential to address the growing environmental crisis and improve health outcomes for all Canadians.

Public health systems and policies must be designed and implemented in a way that supports environmental sustainability, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the conservation of natural resources, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles. This will require a comprehensive approach that includes the development of new policies, the integration of existing policies, and the adaptation of existing systems.

In addition, public health systems and policies must be designed and implemented in a way that supports population health and health equity. This includes the provision of high-quality, accessible and affordable health care services to all Canadians, regardless of their socio-economic status, location or other characteristics.

To achieve this goal, the Canadian Medical Association calls on all levels of government to:

- Develop and implement policies and programs that support environmental sustainability and population health.
- Invest in infrastructure and services that promote sustainable and equitable health care delivery.
- Support research and innovation in the field of environmental health and public health.
- Engage and involve all stakeholders in the development and implementation of policies and programs that support environmental sustainability and population health.
CMA Recommendations on Canada’s First National Adaptation Strategy: Addressing the health impacts of climate change
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14484

POLICY TYPE          Parliamentary submission
DATE                2022-06-23
TOPICS              Population health, health equity, public health
                     Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents

CMA Recommendations on Canada’s First National Adaptation Strategy:
Addressing the health impacts of climate change

June 23, 2022
CMA Letter to the Council of the Federation regarding the Council of the Federation meeting and Canada’s health funding priorities (health workforce, primary care, labour mobility)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14486

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-06-22

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources

Documents
CMA Recommendations on Vaccine Equity and Intellectual Property

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14476

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-05-13

TOPICS
Ethics and medical professionalism
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14475

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2022-05-09
TOPICS  
Health systems, system funding and performance
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health

Dr. Kathleen Smart
President of the Canadian Medical Association

May 9, 2022

Thank you for inviting me.
Appearance before the Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs (INAN): Administration and accessibility of Indigenous Peoples to the Non-Insured Benefits Program

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14474

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-05-03

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Appearance before the Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs (INAN): Administration and accessibility of Indigenous Peoples to the Non-Insured Benefits Program

Dr. Alisa Lafontaine
President-elect of the Canadian Medical Association

May 4, 2022

(Check legal use on delivery)
Health Human Resource Policy Recommendations: Summary. Briefing to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14473

POLICY TYPE          Parliamentary submission
DATE                2022-04-14
TOPICS              Health systems, system funding and performance
                     Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Appearance before the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14472

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-03-28

TOPICS
Health human resources
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents

Appearance before the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

Dr. Katherine Smart
President of the Canadian Medical Association
March 28, 2022

Check legal and policy issues.
Federal Policy Options to Advance Pan-Canadian Licensure
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14471

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2022-02-22
TOPICS  Health systems, system funding and performance
  Health human resources
  Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

CMA submission

Federal Policy Options to Advance Pan-Canadian Licensure

Improving health care by reducing interprovincial and interterritorial barriers
February 22, 2022
## Study on Canada’s Health Workforce

**https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14469**

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<td>2022-02-16</td>
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| **Topics**           | Health systems, system funding and performance  
                       Health human resources  
                       Ethics and medical professionalism |

### Documents

**Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health:**

Study on Canada’s Health Workforce

Dr. E. Kirk Lahey
President of the Canadian Medical Association
February 15, 2022
Credit: apart from source
Recommendations for federal action to address Canada’s health care crisis

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14468

POLICY TYPE: Parliamentary submission

DATE: 2022-02-15

TOPICS: Health systems, system funding and performance
        Health human resources
        Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Study on Bill S-209, An Act respecting Pandemic Observance Day
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14467

POLICY TYPE            Parliamentary submission
DATE                    2022-02-09
TOPICS                  Health care and patient safety
                        Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Appearance before the Senate
Standing Committee on Social
Affairs, Science and Technology

Study on Bill S-209, An Act
respecting Pandemic
Observance Day

Dr. J. L. Fralic
President of the Canadian Medical Association

February 09, 2022

(Initialed and signed)
CMA Submission to the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities’ study of Bill C-3, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Canada Labour Code
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14464

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2021-12-15

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
CMA Submission to the Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology’s study of Bill C-3, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Canada Labour Code

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14462

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2021-12-10

TOPICS
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Canadian Medical Association input in advance of the World Health Assembly Special Session

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14461

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2021-11-17

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
New Criminal Code offence to protect health workers from threats and violence, including online
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14463

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2021-11-16

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Canada’s doctors and nurses urgently calling for federal measures to address
Canada’s health workforce crisis
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14460

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2021-11-09

TOPICS
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Vaccine certificates
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14448

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2021-08-21

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Vaccine certificates

Policy position recommendation

1. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) recommends that governments take steps to ensure equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines, including:
   a. Establishing a national vaccine distribution plan that prioritizes vulnerable populations and ensures that vaccines are provided to all regions of the country.
   b. Ensuring that vaccine distribution is based on need, not on ability to pay.
   c. Developing a transparent and accountable process for vaccine allocation.

2. The CMA supports the use of vaccine certificates as a means of facilitating the safe and efficient movement of people across borders.

3. The CMA believes that vaccine certificates should be voluntary and should not be used as a means of discrimination or stigmatization.

4. The CMA recommends that governments work with public health and medical professionals to develop guidelines for the use of vaccine certificates.

5. The CMA supports the development of a global framework for vaccine certificates that is transparent, voluntary, and based on scientific evidence.

6. The CMA encourages the use of digital technologies to facilitate the issuance, verification, and acceptance of vaccine certificates.

The CMA recommends that governments and public health authorities work together to develop and implement effective strategies for vaccine equity and access.
Global vaccine equity

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14451

POLICY TYPE Policy document
DATE 2021-08-21
TOPICS Ethics and medical professionalism
Population health, health equity, public health

Global vaccine equity

Full policy recommendation:

1. Lessons from the pandemic create an opportunity to advance global health equity and protect against future pandemics. The world’s governments must work together to ensure that global health equity is a priority for health care systems and policies.

2. The pandemic has highlighted the importance of equitable access to vaccines, therapeutics, and other health care resources. This is especially true for low-income and middle-income countries, which have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

3. The pandemic has also highlighted the importance of global health systems, which are essential for responding to health crises and protecting health care workers and the public.

4. The pandemic has highlighted the importance of strong leadership and international cooperation in responding to health crises.

5. The pandemic has also highlighted the importance of social determinants of health, including poverty, inequality, and structural racism, which are major contributors to health inequities.

6. The pandemic has highlighted the importance of health care workforce preparedness and resilience, including the need for adequate training, resources, and support for health care workers.

7. The pandemic has also highlighted the importance of health equity, which is essential for responding to health crises and protecting health care workers and the public.

8. The pandemic has highlighted the importance of global health systems, which are essential for responding to health crises and protecting health care workers and the public.

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15. The pandemic has also highlighted the importance of social determinants of health, including poverty, inequality, and structural racism, which are major contributors to health inequities.

16. The pandemic has highlighted the importance of health care workforce preparedness and resilience, including the need for adequate training, resources, and support for health care workers.

17. The pandemic has also highlighted the importance of health equity, which is essential for responding to health crises and protecting health care workers and the public.