Environmentally Sustainable Health Systems in Canada

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14489

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2022-10-22

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

Documents

Environmentally Sustainable Health Systems in Canada

RATIONALS

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) supports the principle of environmentally sustainable health systems that promote the health of people and the communities in which they live, while concurrently reducing environmental impacts from the sector.

This policy recognizes the urgent need to address the climate crisis as a global health crisis and to promote solutions that are equitable, intergenerational, and just.

Health systems and health care are essential components of a sustainable society, promoting the health and well-being of people and the environment. They have a unique role to play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adapting to climate change impacts, and mitigating the health consequences of climate change.

The CMA encourages all levels of government to incorporate environmental sustainability into health system planning and implementation, including:

- Developing and implementing strategies and policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from health care operations and services.
- Promoting the use of renewable and sustainable energy sources in health care facilities.
- Incorporating environmental sustainability into health care planning and design.
- Investing in research and innovation to develop and implement sustainable health care solutions.
- Educating health care providers and staff about the importance of environmental sustainability.

The CMA also supports initiatives that promote public health and environmental stewardship, such as healthy eating, active living, and reducing waste.

The CMA encourages all levels of government to work collaboratively to address the environmental challenges facing the health care sector and to develop strategies that support the transition to a sustainable and healthy future.
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 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

CMA Recommendations on Vaccine Equity and Intellectual Property

House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Development
May 11, 2022
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. Alika Lafontaine
President-elect of the Canadian Medical Association
May 4, 2022
Draft copy not final
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...
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
Disclosure of COVID-19 Vaccination Status by Physicians

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) advocates for the voluntary disclosure of COVID-19 vaccination status by physicians to patients. This policy aims to enhance patient trust and informed decision-making.

1. The CMA encourages physicians to inform their patients about their COVID-19 vaccination status in a respectful and transparent manner. This disclosure can be made during routine consultations or at the time of vaccination.

2. Physicians may choose to disclose their COVID-19 vaccination status through a variety of methods, such as during appointments, on digital platforms, or in written communications.

3. It is important for physicians to discuss the benefits and potential risks of COVID-19 vaccination with their patients, as well as any contraindications or personal health circumstances that may influence the patient’s decision.

4. Physicians should maintain confidentiality and respect patient autonomy when discussing vaccination status, ensuring that patient information is protected and used only for the purpose of patient care.

5. The CMA recognizes that disclosure of vaccination status can also contribute to public health by increasing awareness and promoting vaccination rates.

6. Physicians are advised to consult local public health guidelines and regulations regarding the disclosure of vaccination status, as well as any specific requirements related to patient privacy and confidentiality.

7. The CMA supports the ongoing education of healthcare providers on the importance of transparency and informed consent in healthcare decisions, including the topic of vaccination.

The CMA encourages all healthcare providers to consider these recommendations when discussing COVID-19 vaccination status with their patients, fostering an environment of trust and collaboration in the healthcare setting.
COVID-19 Vaccine Global Intellectual Property Policy

Policy position recommendation

1. The CMA encourages governments of the world to participate in the global dialogue to help shape a global solution to the international intellectual property considerations in designing strategies for COVID-19 vaccines.

2. The CMA encourages governments to pursue patent or other intellectual property rights on COVID-19 vaccines that will enable equitable access to these vaccines.

3. If necessary, the CMA encourages governments to use the provisions of the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights to ensure that intellectual property rights do not impede the availability of COVID-19 vaccines.

4. The CMA encourages governments to voluntarily license or make available COVID-19 vaccine intellectual property rights on reasonable and nondiscriminatory terms to support the availability of these vaccines.

5. The CMA encourages governments to support research and development into technologies that can reduce the costs of producing and distributing COVID-19 vaccines.

6. The CMA encourages governments to promote transparent and accountable decision-making processes in the development and implementation of COVID-19 vaccine intellectual property policies.

The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change - Policy brief for CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14458
The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change – Policy brief for Canada, October 2021
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14455

POLICY TYPE Policy endorsement
DATE 2021-10-20
TOPICS Population health, health equity, public health

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
Mandatory COVID-19 vaccination of health care workers

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14449

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2021-08-21

TOPICS
Health human resources
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Vaccine acceptance
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14450

Policy document

2021-08-21

Health care and patient safety

Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
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

Documents
Return to school during COVID-19

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14452

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2021-08-21

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents

1. To slow the spread of COVID-19, infection control measures must be put in place. These include mask-wearing, physical distancing, handwashing, and contact tracing. School closures and remote learning should be considered as a last resort measure.

2. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) recommends that schools implement strict infection control measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These measures should include:
   a. Physical distancing of at least 2 meters between students and staff.
   b. Mask-wearing indoors, except for active physical education and for students with medical exemptions.
   c. Regular handwashing and sanitizing of surfaces.
   d. Enhanced air circulation and ventilation.
   e. Limiting the number of students and staff in each classroom.
   f. Regular testing of students and staff for COVID-19.

3. The CMA also recommends that schools work closely with public health authorities to ensure that all school operations are in line with public health guidelines.

4. In the event of a COVID-19 outbreak, schools should follow the guidance provided by public health authorities to protect the health and safety of all students and staff.

5. The CMA encourages schools to implement flexible learning options to accommodate students who are unable to attend school in-person due to COVID-19-related restrictions.

6. The CMA recommends that schools provide support and resources to students who are experiencing mental health challenges during the pandemic.

7. The CMA supports the implementation of vaccination programs in schools to help protect the health and well-being of all students.
Interchangeability of vaccines (vaccine mixing)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14453

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2021-08-21

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Firearms Control (Update 2021)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14401

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
DATE  2021-07-15
REPLACES  Firearms control (Update 2001)
TOPICS  Population health, health equity, public health
Health care and patient safety

Documents
Policy Brief: CSAM-SMCA in Support of the Decriminalization of Drug Use and Possession for Personal Use
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14443

POLICY TYPE  Policy endorsement
DATE  2021-06-24
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents