A medical industry perspective – supporting small business, the economic engine of Canada
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13731

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2017-10-02

TOPICS
Physician practice, compensation, forms

Documents
Third-party forms (Update 2017)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy3643

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2017-05-27

REPLACES
Third-party Forms: The Physician’s Role (Update 2010)
Short-Term Illness Certificate

TOPICS
Physician practice, compensation, forms

DOCUMENTS

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RATIONAL

In Canada's managed health care system, third-party forms are a vital means for physicians to communicate patient health information to insurers, employers, or other entities to process claims and payments. This policy outlines the principles and practices that should guide the use of third-party forms by physicians. These forms are critical for ensuring timely and accurate communication of patient health status to third-party payers.

SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to all physicians practicing in Canada. It offers guidance on the appropriate use of third-party forms and their implications for patient care. It emphasizes the importance of maintaining patient confidentiality and the need for physicians to act in the best interests of their patients.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. The physician's primary responsibility is to provide quality care for their patients. Third-party forms serve as an important tool in this process but should not compromise patient confidentiality or medical judgment.

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Footnotes:

1. Third-party forms are used by insurance companies to process claims for medical services. They are designed to provide a clear and concise summary of the patient's health status, including diagnosis, treatment, and any medications prescribed.

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Acknowledgments:

This policy was developed with input from various stakeholders, including physicians, insurance companies, and patient groups. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) acknowledges the contributions of all those who have helped shape this policy.

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References:

[Provide references for further reading or related policies here.]

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The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) emphasizes the importance of physicians using third-party forms effectively and responsibly. This policy serves as a guide for ensuring that these forms are used in a manner that supports patient care while respecting confidentiality and legal requirements.