Disclosure of COVID-19 Vaccination Status by Physicians

Copyright © Canadian Medical Association
April 2021

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2021-10-22

TOPICS
Physician practice, compensation, forms

Disclosure of COVID-19 Vaccination Status by Physicians

In the context of COVID-19, the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) recommends that physicians disclose their vaccination status to patients. This recommendation is based on principles of transparency, informed consent, and respect for patient autonomy.

1. **Disclosure of Vaccination Status:** Physicians should disclose their vaccination status to patients at the time of initial consultation or at any subsequent encounter. This disclosure should include whether the physician has received and completed the COVID-19 vaccination series.

2. **Reasons for Disclosure:** The purpose of disclosing vaccination status is to inform patients of their physician’s actions in keeping with public health guidelines. It is not intended to influence patient decisions or judgments about their care.

3. **Confidentiality:** Physicians should maintain the confidentiality of their vaccination status information, ensuring that it is shared only with patients as directed in this policy.

4. **Consent and Consent Forms:** When appropriate, consent should be obtained from patients to discuss their vaccination status. Consent forms should be used to document this discussion, ensuring that patients are aware of their physician’s vaccination status.

5. **Documentation:** Records of consent forms, discussions, and vaccination status should be maintained in the patient’s medical record.

6. **Confidentiality of Patient Information:** Physicians must ensure the confidentiality of patient information, including vaccination status, in accordance with the Personal Health Information Protection Act and other relevant legislation.

7. **Training and Education:** Physicians should be provided with training and education on the disclosure of vaccination status to patients. This includes understanding the recommended policies and guidelines from public health authorities.

8. **Patient Protection:** Physicians should take reasonable steps to protect patients from harm, ensuring that their vaccination status is disclosed in a manner that does not cause distress or harm to patients.

9. **Compliance:** Compliance with this policy is mandatory and will be monitored by the CMA. Non-compliance may result in disciplinary action.

10. **Review and Update:** This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness.

The CMA encourages physicians to engage in open and honest discussions with patients about their vaccination status, emphasizing the importance of vaccination in preventing the spread of COVID-19 and protecting public health.

By implementing these recommendations, physicians can contribute to the collective effort to achieve herd immunity and protect the health of patients and their communities.
COVID-19 Vaccine Global Intellectual Property Policy
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14458

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
DATE     2021-10-22
TOPICS  Physician practice, compensation, forms

COVID-19 Vaccine Global Intellectual Property Policy

Policy position recommendation

2. The CMA recommends the Government of Canada, supporting a temporary multilateral waiver of certain intellectual property (IP) rights under the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement) to facilitate access to medical countermeasures to COVID-19.
3. The CMA supports including a mechanism in any such waiver that provides the opportunity for the TRIPS Council to review and modify the waiver, including its duration, scope, and application.
4. The CMA supports including in the waiver a mechanism that ensures the equitable distribution of medical countermeasures to COVID-19.

Introduction

In response to a global health crisis, the international health community, led by the World Health Organization (WHO), has taken unprecedented action to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Access to medical countermeasures, such as vaccines and therapeutics, is essential to control the spread of the virus and prevent unnecessary deaths.

The CMA recognizes the importance of ensuring equitable access to medical countermeasures. It is committed to supporting the development and deployment of effective vaccines and therapeutics to combat COVID-19.

The CMA recommends that the Government of Canada take the following steps to address the COVID-19 global health crisis:

1. Support a Temporary Multilateral Waiver
2. Establish a Mechanism for Review and Modification
3. Ensure Equitable Access to Medical Countermeasures

The CMA believes that these measures will help address the global health crisis and contribute to the equitable distribution of medical countermeasures to COVID-19.

The CMA encourages all parties involved to work together to ensure that medical countermeasures are accessible and affordable to all.

CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association