CMA Code of Ethics and Professionalism

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13937

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
DATE  2018-12-08
REPLACES  Code of ethics of the Canadian Medical Association (Update 2004)
TOPICS  Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Management of physician fatigue
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11127

POLICY TYPE  Policy document

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TOPICS  Health human resources

Documents
Physician health
PHYSICIAN HEALTH

BACKGROUND TO CMA POLICY

1. The state of current and physician health

Eyes firmly fixed on the horizon, the CHART the physician’s well-being can be a daunting task. The demands of patient care, the pressures of time constraints, and the stress of managing a practice can all contribute to physician burnout. This burnout can manifest in various ways, including physical and mental health issues, decreased job satisfaction, and an increased risk of leaving the profession. To address these issues, the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) has developed this policy document to provide guidance on how to support the health and well-being of physicians.

2. The importance of physician health

Physicians are among the most vulnerable to burnout due to the demands of their profession. They are expected to maintain high levels of performance while dealing with complex medical conditions and emotional challenges. This policy document aims to promote a culture of physician well-being that includes recognizing the signs of burnout, providing support mechanisms, and encouraging preventive measures.

3. The role of the CMA in supporting physician health

The CMA is committed to ensuring the health and well-being of physicians. This policy document outlines strategies and recommendations to promote a supportive environment that values and respects the well-being of physicians. It highlights the importance of regular check-ins, access to mental health services, and opportunities for professional development.

4. Conclusion

Physician health is a critical concern for the CMA. By implementing the policies outlined in this document, we can work towards creating a safer and healthier workplace for all physicians. It is essential to prioritize the well-being of healthcare providers, as their health and well-being have a direct impact on the quality of care they provide.

5. Recommendations

- Regularly assess the well-being of physicians to identify early signs of burnout.
- Provide access to mental health services and resources.
- Encourage physicians to take time off and engage in activities that promote well-being.
- Foster a culture of open communication and support.
- Develop and implement comprehensive support programs for physicians.
GLODING PRINCIPLES

A greater understanding of patient health

- To achieve a greater understanding of patient health, we must recognize and address the broader social determinants of health, including economic factors, access to healthcare services, and the environment. This requires collaboration across sectors and a focus on population health approaches.

Physician health as a quality indicator

- Physician health and well-being are critical to the provision of high-quality care. Physicians who are physically, emotionally, and mentally healthy are better equipped to provide compassionate and effective care for their patients. To ensure optimal patient outcomes, physicians must prioritize their own health and well-being.

Physician health as a shared responsibility

- Physician health is a shared responsibility among physicians, healthcare organizations, and the broader society. Physicians need support and resources to manage stress and maintain wellness, including access to mental health services, opportunities for self-care, and a work environment that promotes health and well-being.

In conclusion, achieving a greater understanding of patient health requires a comprehensive approach that addresses the social determinants of health and recognizes the importance of physician health as a quality indicator. By prioritizing both patient and physician health, we can strive to improve the health of populations and the well-being of those who serve them.