Authorizing Cannabis for Medical Purposes
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11514

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2020-02-29

DATE
2015-02-28

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

CMA POLICY

Authorizing Cannabis for Medical Purposes

The legalization of cannabis for recreational use is expected to affect the way Canadians use this drug. In October 2018, the federal government announced plans to legalize cannabis for recreational purposes. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) has repeatedly called for harm reduction policies for cannabis users, including support for research, education, and public health measures.

While acknowledging the unique needs of patients suffering from serious, chronic illnesses, and the need for further research, CMA endorses the following principles:

- Cannabis should be regulated under the same framework as other pharmaceuticals.
- Professional education and training are essential for healthcare providers.
- Patients should have access to professional cannabis advice.
- The availability of cannabis should be balanced with public health concerns.
- Public awareness and education are crucial.

The CMA encourages further research into the effects of cannabis on health and well-being, and supports policies that protect public health and safety.

CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
Bill C-2 An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Respect for Communities Act)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11519

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2015-05-14
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Bill C-45: The Cannabis Act
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13861

POLICY TYPE: Parliamentary submission
DATE: 2018-04-18
TOPICS: Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Canada’s lower-risk cannabis use guidelines (LRCUG)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13726

POLICY TYPE: Policy endorsement
DATE: 2017-05-26
TOPICS: Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
Canadian Medical Association submission to the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce: Higher rate now: Why excise tax on tobacco is long overdue for an increase

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11129

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2014-05-15
TOPICS  Health care and patient safety
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Cannabis for Medical Purposes
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10045

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2019-03-03

DATE
2010-12-04

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

CMA POLICY
Cannabis for Medical Purposes

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA), recognizing the urgency of requirements of those individuals suffering from terminal illness or chronic disease for which conventional treatments have not been effective and for whom continued suffering is intolerable,

Ponders the rapid number of users, generally related to the lack of evidence to support claims of the therapeutic benefits of cannabis, makes the following recommendations:

1. Increase support for the advancement of scientific knowledge about the medical use of cannabis. The CMA recommends the government adopt appropriate scientific criteria; to support research into the efficacy of the drug, its interactions and the mechanisms of its effect;

2. Apply the same regulatory oversight and monitoring procedures to cannabis as are applied to all other prescription-controlled drugs.

3. Increase support for the participation of medical practitioners in research on cannabis.

The CMA looks forward to the possibility of a controlled trial to establish the efficacy of cannabis for medical purposes, especially in palliative care.
CMA Presentation to the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology - Prescription Drugs: Clinical Trials and Approval
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10437

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2012-05-09

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

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
CMA Response: Health Canada’s Medical Marijuana Regulatory Proposal
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10702

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2013-02-28

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

CMA Response: Health Canada's Medical Marijuana Regulatory Proposal
Submitted to the Office of Controlled Substances
Health Canada

February 20, 2013

A healthy population is a client medical problem like any other, as such it is a primary medical responsibility
CMA response to patented medicines regulations consultations
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13690

POLICY TYPE
Response to consultation

DATE
2017-06-28

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
CMA’s Recommendations for Bill S-5: An Act to amend the Tobacco Act and the Non-smokers’ Health Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13641

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2017-04-07

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

CMA Submission:
CMA’s recommendations for Bill S-5: An Act to amend the Tobacco Act and the Non-smokers’ Health Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts

Submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology

April 7, 2017
CMA’s Recommendations for Bill S-5 An Act to amend the Tobacco Act and the Non-smokers’ Health Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13918

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission

DATE  2018-02-15

TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Health care and patient safety

Documents
CMA’s Response to Health Canada’s Public Consultation Guide to New Authorities in reference to Bill C-17, Protecting Canadians from Unsafe Drugs Act (Vanessa’s Law)

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11599

POLICY TYPE  Response to consultation
DATE  2015-06-08
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
CMA's Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health: Drug Shortages

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10382

POLICY TYPE: Parliamentary submission
DATE: 2012-03-29
TOPICS: Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
CMA’s Submission to the Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology as part of its study on prescription pharmaceuticals: Federal levers to address unintended consequences of prescription pharmaceuticals and support public health, quality care, and patient safety

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11125

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2014-03-26
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
CMA submission to the study of Bill C-37
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13617

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission
DATE
2017-04-06
TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents