Principles for the protection of patient privacy

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13833

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2017-12-09

REPLACES
PD11-03 Principles for the Protection of Patients’ Personal Health Information

TOPICS
Health information and e-health
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Charter of Shared Values: A vision for intra-professionalism for physicians

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13858

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
DATE  2017-12-09
REPLACES  CMA Charter for Physicians (Update 1999)
TOPICS  Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Physician health
PHYSICIAN HEALTH

BACKGROUND TO CMA POLICY

1. The role of mental and physical health

Mental health problems and substance use disorders are the leading causes of disability and are among the most prevalent health problems. The prevalence of mental health problems and substance use disorders in Canada is significantly higher than in other countries. The burden of mental health problems and substance use disorders is particularly high among people with low income, education, and social disadvantage. The burden of mental health problems and substance use disorders is also higher among people who are members of visible minority groups, and women.

2. The role of physical health

Physical health problems are the leading cause of disability and are among the most prevalent health problems. The prevalence of physical health problems is significantly higher than in other countries. The burden of physical health problems is particularly high among people with low income, education, and social disadvantage. The burden of physical health problems is also higher among people who are members of visible minority groups, and women.

3. The role of professional health

Professional health is the ability to function effectively in a professional setting and to perform professional duties in a manner that is consistent with the ethical and professional standards of the profession. Professional health is essential for the provision of quality health care and for the maintenance of patient safety.

4. The role of social and economic determinants

Social and economic determinants of health are the factors that shape the distribution of health and illness in society. These factors include factors such as income, education, employment, social support, and neighborhood environment. The role of social and economic determinants of health is to shape the distribution of health and illness and to influence the determinants of health and illness.
Advance care planning

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13694

POLICY TYPE Policy document
DATE 2017-05-27
REPLACES Advance care planning (2015)
TOPICS Ethics and medical professionalism
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Direct-to-consumer genetic testing
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13696

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
DATE  2017-05-27
TOPICS  Ethics and medical professionalism

CMA POLICY

DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER GENETIC TESTING

See also: Background to CMA Policy on Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Testing

Rationale

When appealing to in vitro genetic testing through direct-to-consumer companies, patients and their physicians may be exposed to data that are potentially misleading or incorrect, as well as to data that are not necessarily relevant or appropriate to their clinical situation.

1. Direct-to-consumer genetic testing is not currently regulated in Canada. In contrast, direct-to-consumer testing of this kind is available in the U.S., where several companies are offering genetic testing services. The benefits of this approach include increased patient awareness of genetic conditions and the prompt diagnosis of genetic diseases.

2. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) encourages patients to consult with their family doctors before undergoing direct-to-consumer genetic testing. This helps to ensure that the testing is appropriate for the patient's medical condition and that the results will be used to improve patient care.

3. It is important for patients to understand the limitations of genetic testing results. Genetic testing is limited by the precision of the testing methods and the accuracy of the laboratory results. It is also important to consider the ethical implications of genetic testing, including patient privacy and confidentiality.

4. The CMA recommends that patients only undergo genetic testing under the guidance of a healthcare professional, such as a genetic counselor or physician. This helps to ensure that the testing is conducted in a medical setting, with appropriate follow-up care and support.

5. Direct-to-consumer genetic testing should be used as an additional tool in the diagnosis and management of genetic diseases. It should not replace the need for a comprehensive medical evaluation and consultation with a healthcare professional.

6. The CMA encourages healthcare providers to educate their patients about the limitations of genetic testing and to ensure that patients understand the potential implications of genetic testing results.

7. The CMA supports the development of guidelines for the safe and ethical conduct of direct-to-consumer genetic testing in Canada.

8. The CMA recommends that direct-to-consumer genetic testing companies be required to provide accurate and clear information about the limitations of their testing services.

9. The CMA encourages the development of regulatory frameworks to ensure the safe and ethical conduct of direct-to-consumer genetic testing in Canada.

10. The CMA recommends that patients be educated about the potential ethical, social, and economic implications of direct-to-consumer genetic testing.

Background to CMA Policy

DIRECT-TO-CONSUMER GENETIC TESTING

See also: CMA Policy on Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Testing

Background to CMA Policy

Direct-to-consumer genetic testing (DTG) involves the use of genetic testing services offered to the public by companies that are not affiliated with healthcare professionals. This type of testing is not currently regulated in Canada, and there is a lack of oversight to ensure its accuracy and reliability.

1. Direct-to-consumer genetic testing allows patients to access genetic test results directly, without consulting with a healthcare professional.

2. The results of DTG tests may be used to inform medical decisions, which can have significant implications for a patient's health.

3. DTG companies may offer genetic testing services for a variety of conditions, including cancer, heart disease, and inherited disorders.

4. DTG testing may be available through mail order, online, or in-person visits.

5. DTG testing may be conducted using a variety of testing methods, including DNA analysis and protein analysis.

6. DTG testing may be used to inform medical decisions, including diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease.

7. DTG testing may be used to inform family planning decisions, including the decision to have children or not.

8. DTG testing may be used to inform personal decisions, including the decision to participate in certain activities or to avoid certain activities.

9. DTG testing may be used to inform legal decisions, including the decision to participate in certain legal activities or to avoid certain legal activities.

10. DTG testing may be used to inform social decisions, including the decision to participate in certain social activities or to avoid certain social activities.

11. DTG testing may be used to inform economic decisions, including the decision to participate in certain economic activities or to avoid certain economic activities.

12. DTG testing may be used to inform educational decisions, including the decision to participate in certain educational activities or to avoid certain educational activities.

13. DTG testing may be used to inform occupational decisions, including the decision to participate in certain occupational activities or to avoid certain occupational activities.

14. DTG testing may be used to inform recreational decisions, including the decision to participate in certain recreational activities or to avoid certain recreational activities.

15. DTG testing may be used to inform leisure decisions, including the decision to participate in certain leisure activities or to avoid certain leisure activities.

16. DTG testing may be used to inform political decisions, including the decision to participate in certain political activities or to avoid certain political activities.

17. DTG testing may be used to inform religious decisions, including the decision to participate in certain religious activities or to avoid certain religious activities.
Medical assistance in dying

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13698

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2017-05-27

REPLACES
EUTHANASIA AND ASSISTED DEATH (UPDATE 2014)

TOPICS
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Federal Monitoring and Reporting Regime for MAID
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13853

POLICY TYPE  Response to consultation
DATE          2017-05-15
TOPICS        Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

CMA Submission
Federal Monitoring and Reporting
Regime for MAID

Submission to Health Canada

May 15, 2017
The future of medicine
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy209

POLICY TYPE  
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED  
2017-03-04

DATE  
2000-08-12

TOPICS  
Health systems, system funding and performance
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

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CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
Corporate privacy policy respecting the collection, use and disclosure of personal information (Update 2012)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10633

POLICY TYPE       Policy document
LAST REVIEWED     2017-03-04
DATE              2012-10-20
REPLACES          Corporate Privacy Policy Respecting the Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Information (Update 2007)
TOPICS            Ethics and medical professionalism