CMA Statement on the Governance of Health Information: A patient-partnered health information governance framework

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14485

WHAT IT IS
The purpose of this statement is to advance the development of a patient-partnered health information governance framework aligning principles of health information governance with patient partnership frameworks underpinning health systems and health service delivery. The framework’s development and implementation would contribute to an integrated approach that captures the patient partnerships existing across the health system.

WHY IT MATTERS
The framework would serve the collective goal of transforming health information systems to support equitable, safe and patient-centered care.

1. More, and by the patient and their own choice, of data (not just to support quality health care, but also for the patient).
2. More and richer health system data to support patient care and population health needs.
3. More trust and transparency in health information systems.
4. More collaboration among stakeholders to improve health information governance.
5. More patient involvement in health information governance.

This framework represents an evolution in health information governance, one that recognizes the role of health information in improving patient health outcomes and in the delivery of high-quality, patient-centered care.

While the focus of this statement is on health information governance, the principles could also be applied to other aspects of health care delivery, such as clinical practice and health system management.
Virtual Care in Canada: progress and potential. Report of the Virtual Care Task Force
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14470

**Policy Type:** Policy endorsement  
**Date:** 2022-02-26  
**Topics:** Health information and e-health

**Documents**

![Virtual Care in Canada: Progress and Potential Report](image_url)
Study on Bill S-209, An Act respecting Pandemic Observance Day
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14467

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-02-09

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Appearance before the Senate
Standing Committee on Social
Affairs, Science and Technology

Study on Bill S-209, An Act
respecting Pandemic
Observance Day

Dr. Jürgen ingen-HOUS
President of the Canadian Medical Association

February 04, 2022
10:15 am EST
CMA Submission to the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities’ study of Bill C-3, An Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Canada Labour Code

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14464

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2021-12-15

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Vaccine acceptance

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14450

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2021-08-21

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents

Vaccine acceptance

Policy document

DATE
2021-08-21

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Health care and patient safety
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents

Vaccine acceptance

Policy document

DATE
2021-08-21

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Return to school during COVID-19

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14452

POLICY TYPE: Policy document
DATE: 2021-08-21
TOPICS: Health care and patient safety

Documents

Return to school during COVID-19

Key policy recommendation:

1. The government should ensure that vaccination rates are high in all regions to reduce the risk of transmission.
2. Schools should implement strict hygiene and distancing measures to prevent the spread of the virus.
3. Local and provincial health authorities should provide clear guidance on when to return to school and under what conditions.
4. Increased access to testing and contact tracing is necessary to identify and isolate cases promptly.

The Canadian Medical Association recommends that all provinces and territories adopt these measures to ensure the safe return to school during the COVID-19 pandemic.
Interchangeability of vaccines (vaccine mixing)

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14453

**POLICY TYPE**  
Policy document

**DATE**  
2021-08-21

**TOPICS**  
Health care and patient safety  
Population health, health equity, public health

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Interchangeability of vaccines (vaccine mixing)

**Policy position/Recommendations**

1. The CMA supports the recommendation made by the Federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) that the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines be considered interchangeable, including interchangeability of Vials-AF: However, based on the available evidence, it is unknown whether the Pfizer-BioNTech can be considered interchangeable with the Moderna vaccine. There is an urgent need for thorough and comprehensive evidence to inform the interchangeability of vaccines.

2. The CMA supports the recommendation made by the Federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) that the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines be considered interchangeable, including interchangeability of Vials-AF: However, based on the available evidence, it is unknown whether the Pfizer-BioNTech can be considered interchangeable with the Moderna vaccine. There is an urgent need for thorough and comprehensive evidence to inform the interchangeability of vaccines.

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In support of the CMA's policy, the following statement is made:

"The CMA supports the recommendation made by the Federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) that the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines be considered interchangeable, including interchangeability of Vials-AF: However, based on the available evidence, it is unknown whether the Pfizer-BioNTech can be considered interchangeable with the Moderna vaccine. There is an urgent need for thorough and comprehensive evidence to inform the interchangeability of vaccines."
Firearms Control (Update 2021)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14401

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2021-07-15

REPLACES
Firearms control (Update 2001)

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health
Health care and patient safety

Documents
Digital Health Care and Competition – a perspective from The Canadian Medical Association

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14444

POLICY TYPE: Parliamentary submission
DATE: 2021-06-25
TOPICS: Health information and e-health

Documents
Enhancing equitable access to virtual care in Canada: Principle-based recommendations for equity
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14447

POLICY TYPE  Policy endorsement
DATE  2021-04-30
TOPICS  Population health, health equity, public health
  Health information and e-health

Documents
The Canadian Interdisciplinary Palliative Care Competency Framework
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14439

**POLICY TYPE**  
Policy endorsement

**DATE**  
2020-12-05

**TOPICS**  
Health care and patient safety
Population health, health equity, public health

**Documents**

![The Canadian Interdisciplinary Palliative Care Competency Framework](https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14439)
Committee Appearance – Justice and Human Rights: Bill C-7 – Amending the Criminal Code Regarding Medical Assistance in Dying
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14374

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2020-11-05
TOPICS  Health care and patient safety

Documents

Committee Appearance – Justice and Human Rights:
Bill C-7 – Amending the Criminal Code Regarding Medical Assistance in Dying
November 5, 2020
CMA Pre-budget Submission
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14259

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2020-08-07

TOPICS
Physician practice, compensation, forms
Health information and e-health
Health care and patient safety
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
CMA Statement on Racism
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14245

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2020-06-02

TOPICS
Ethics and medical professionalism
Health care and patient safety

Documents
Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic: Federal measures to recognize the significant contributions of Canada’s front-line health care workers
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14211

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2020-05-28
TOPICS  Health care and patient safety

Documents
Framework for Ethical Decision Making During the Coronavirus Pandemic

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14133

POLICY TYPE  Policy document

DATE  2020-04-01

TOPICS  Ethics and medical professionalism
     Health care and patient safety

Documents

CMA POLICY

Framework for Ethical Decision Making During the Coronavirus Pandemic

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) is committed to ensuring medical decision-making is based on ethical principles and values. The CMA recommends that medical professionals and institutions consider the following framework when making decisions during the COVID-19 pandemic:

1. **Patient Safety and Well-being:** Prioritize the safety and well-being of patients, including the provision of appropriate medical care and support to prevent complications and reduce the risk of transmission.
2. **Public Health:** Consider the impact of medical decisions on public health, including the spread of the disease and the burden on healthcare resources.
3. **Equity and Fairness:** Ensure that medical decisions are made in a manner that is fair and equitable, taking into account the unique needs and circumstances of individual patients.
4. **Transparency and Communication:** Maintain open and transparent communication with patients, families, and the public, providing clear information about the reasons behind decisions and the options available.
5. **Respect for Autonomy:** Respect patients' autonomy and make decisions that are consistent with their values and preferences, taking into account any advance directives or existing preferences.
6. **Education and Support:** Provide ongoing education and support to healthcare providers to ensure they are equipped with the knowledge and skills to make ethical decisions during this unprecedented time.

These principles should guide medical professionals and institutions in making decisions that are in the best interest of patients and the public.
Emergency federal measures to care for and protect Canadians during the COVID-19 pandemic

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14132

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2020-03-16
TOPICS  Health care and patient safety

Documents
Appropriateness in health care

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11516

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2020-02-29

DATE
2014-12-06

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety

Documents

CMA POLICY

Appropriateness in Health Care

Summary:
This policy discusses the concept of appropriateness in health care and advances the importance of patient safety. This policy also includes a discussion on the ethical implications of appropriateness.

Recommendations:
1. Physicians and hospitals should ensure that patients receive appropriate care.
2. Health care administrators should develop policies to ensure appropriate care.
3. Healthcare providers should be educated on the concept of appropriateness.

Introduction:
In health care, appropriateness refers to the use of medical services that are consistent with best evidence-based practice, and are within the best economic value. Appropriate care is offered in a timely manner, and is evidence-based. This policy is intended to guide healthcare providers in making appropriate decisions for patient care.

Policy:
- The Canadian Medical Association recommends that healthcare providers follow the principles of appropriateness in their practice.
- Healthcare professionals should be educated on the concept of appropriateness and how to apply it in their clinical decision-making.
- Health care administrators should develop policies to ensure that appropriate care is provided to patients.

Endorsement:
The Canadian Medical Association Endorses this policy.

The policy is consistent with the principles of the Canadian Medical Association Code of Ethics and the Canadian Medical Association Policy on Appropriate Health Care.
Guiding principles for the optimal use of data analytics by physicians at the point of care

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11812

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
LAST REVIEWED  2020-02-29
DATE  2016-02-27
TOPICS  Health information and e-health

Documents

Guiding Principles for the Optimal Use of Data Analytics by Physicians at the Point of Care

Executive Summary

Data-driven medicine and artificial intelligence are increasingly used to inform patient care. A variety of policies are in place to ensure appropriate use of technology, including the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) policy on the appropriate use of artificial intelligence and machine learning in patient care. This policy provides recommendations on the optimal use of data analytics by physicians at the point of care.

The optimal use of data analytics by physicians at the point of care is guided by principles that balance the benefits of using data with the potential risks and limitations. These principles include

1. Patient privacy and confidentiality
2. Data quality and integrity
3. Ethical considerations
4. Transparency
5. Accessibility and feasibility

These principles are intended to ensure that data analytics are used in a manner that respects patient privacy, promotes patient safety, and is aligned with ethical standards. The policy also recommends

- Physicians should be aware of the risks and limitations of data analytics and should engage in continuous learning to stay up to date with advancements in the field.
- Physicians should consider the potential benefits and risks of using data analytics in clinical decision-making and be mindful of the limitations of the data.
- Physicians should ensure that data analytics are used in a transparent manner and that patients are informed of the use of their data.

The CMA POLICY statement is available at the following link:

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11812