Environmentally Sustainable Health Systems in Canada

RATIONALS

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) strongly supports environmentally sustainable health systems in Canada. This is critical for ensuring the health and well-being of all Canadians, as well as for the preservation of the environment and natural resources. Our position is consistent with the principles of sustainability, which call for the equitable distribution of natural and social resources, and the protection of the environment.

We recognize that health systems are complex and dynamic, and that they are shaped by a wide range of factors, including economic, social, and environmental conditions. As such, we believe that it is essential to integrate sustainability considerations into the design, delivery, and evaluation of health services. This will require a comprehensive approach that takes into account the needs of all stakeholders, including patients, health care providers, and the environment.

We also recognize that sustainability is not a static concept, but rather a process of continuous improvement. This means that we must be prepared to adapt our approaches to the changing needs of society and the natural environment. We must also be prepared to work collaboratively with other stakeholders, including governments, businesses, and civil society organizations, to achieve our goals.

We believe that a sustainable health system is one that is resilient, efficient, and equitable. Resilience refers to the ability of the system to adapt to changes and disturbances, while efficiency refers to the ability to deliver high-quality care at a reasonable cost. Equitability refers to the ability of the system to ensure that all Canadians have access to the care they need, regardless of their socioeconomic status.

We urge policymakers and health care providers to take a leadership role in promoting sustainable health systems. This will require a commitment to transparency, accountability, and public engagement. It will also require a focus on innovation and collaboration, and a willingness to learn from the experiences of other countries and communities.

We believe that a sustainable health system is one that is responsive to the needs of all Canadians, and that it is essential to work together to achieve this goal. We commend the efforts of those who are already taking action, and we urge others to join them in this important work.
CMA 2023 Pre-budget Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14490

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-10-06

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
CMA Recommendations on Canada’s First National Adaptation Strategy: Addressing the health impacts of climate change
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14484

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-06-23

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health
Health systems, system funding and performance

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
Appearance before the Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs (INAN): Administration and accessibility of Indigenous Peoples to the Non-Insured Benefits Program
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14474

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-05-03

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
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. J. Wilson
President of the Canadian Medical Association

February 09, 2022
(Canada)
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
New Criminal Code offence to protect health workers from threats and violence, including online
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14463

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2021-11-16

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health
Ethics and medical professionalism
The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change – Policy brief for Canada, October 2021
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14455

POLICY TYPE  Policy endorsement
DATE  2021-10-20
TOPICS  Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Vaccine certificates
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14448

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
DATE      2021-08-21
TOPICS   Population health, health equity, public health
          Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Mandatory COVID-19 vaccination of health care workers

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14449

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2021-08-21

TOPICS
Health human resources
Population health, health equity, public health

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
Global vaccine equity

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14451

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
DATE  2021-08-21
TOPICS  Ethics and medical professionalism
  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
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents

Return to school during COVID-19

Policy Recommendation

1. The Ontario Ministry of Education (OMOE) requires school boards to develop and implement plans for the safe return of students and staff. These plans should include measures to ensure physical distancing, frequent handwashing, and the use of masks. The Ministry should provide guidance to school boards on how to implement these measures, including the use of technology to support contact tracing.

2. The Ministry of Education should consider establishing a centralized database to track COVID-19 cases in schools, to allow for more effective contact tracing and to inform public health officials.

3. The Ministry of Education should work with the Ministry of Health to develop protocols for the safe return of students and staff, including the use of technology to support contact tracing.

4. The Ministry of Education should consider providing additional funding to school boards to support the implementation of these measures.

5. The Ministry of Education should consider providing additional training to teachers and staff on how to implement these measures, including the use of technology to support contact tracing.

6. The Ministry of Education should consider providing additional support to school boards to develop and implement plans for the safe return of students and staff, including the use of technology to support contact tracing.

7. The Ministry of Education should consider providing additional support to school boards to develop and implement plans for the safe return of students and staff, including the use of technology to support contact tracing.
**Interchangeability of vaccines (vaccine mixing)**

Interchangeability of vaccines (vaccine mixing)

Policy position recommendation:

1. The CMA recognizes the need to evaluate the interchangeability of vaccines, including evaluating the interchangeability of vaccines in terms of efficacy, safety, and cost-effectiveness. The assessment should be based on robust evidence from clinical trials and observational studies.

2. The CMA recommends that national agencies and regulatory bodies consider the interchangeability of vaccines when establishing vaccination schedules and guidelines. This includes considering the interchangeability of vaccines for different indications and age groups.

3. The CMA encourages collaboration between researchers, regulatory agencies, and healthcare providers to conduct ongoing research on the interchangeability of vaccines to ensure the best possible outcomes for patients.

**Interchangeability of vaccines (vaccine mixing)**

Policy position recommendation:

1. The CMA recognizes the need to evaluate the interchangeability of vaccines, including evaluating the interchangeability of vaccines in terms of efficacy, safety, and cost-effectiveness. The assessment should be based on robust evidence from clinical trials and observational studies.

2. The CMA recommends that national agencies and regulatory bodies consider the interchangeability of vaccines when establishing vaccination schedules and guidelines. This includes considering the interchangeability of vaccines for different indications and age groups.

3. The CMA encourages collaboration between researchers, regulatory agencies, and healthcare providers to conduct ongoing research on the interchangeability of vaccines to ensure the best possible outcomes for patients.

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CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14443

POLICY TYPE
Policy endorsement

DATE
2021-06-24

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
The Future of Care for Canada's Older Adults

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14441

POLICY TYPE                Parliamentary submission
DATE                      2021-06-23
TOPICS                    Population health, health equity, public health

Documents

The Future of Care for Canada's Older Adults

Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities