Standing Committee on Health’s study on violence faced by healthcare workers
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14052

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Health care and patient safety
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Health human resources
Physician practice, compensation, forms

Documents
Scopes of practice
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy1237

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

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Health human resources

CMA POLICY

MANAGEMENT OF PHYSICIAN FATIGUE

Overview

Fatigue is a complex phenomenon that involves both physical and psychological aspects, and is a common problem among healthcare providers, including physicians. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) recognizes the importance of addressing physician fatigue to ensure patient safety and well-being. This policy outlines the CMA's position on the management of physician fatigue and provides guidance for healthcare organizations to implement strategies to mitigate its effects.

Definition

Physician fatigue is defined as a state of physical, emotional, or mental exhaustion or muscle fatigue resulting from prolonged or repeated stress. It can manifest as decreased performance, increased risk of medical errors, and reduced patient safety.

Prevalence and Consequences

Physician fatigue is prevalent in healthcare settings, with studies estimating that up to 80% of healthcare providers experience fatigue to some degree. The consequences of physician fatigue include decreased job satisfaction, increased burnout, decreased collaboration, and reduced patient satisfaction.

Management Strategies

Effective management of physician fatigue involves a combination of individual and organizational strategies. Individual strategies include promoting healthy lifestyle choices, providing opportunities for rest and recovery, and implementing stress management techniques. Organizational strategies include implementing flexible work arrangements, providing access to support services, and fostering a culture of wellness.

Conclusion

Physician fatigue is a significant concern that requires attention from healthcare organizations. The CMA encourages healthcare providers to prioritize the management of physician fatigue and to implement strategies that promote well-being and patient safety.

References

PHYSICIAN RESOURCE PLANNING

(Updated 2015)

The purpose of this policy statement is to define the key elements required to project, evaluate, plan, and implement a physician resource planning system that can support the needs of Canada's health care system. It is important to recognize that physician resource planning is a complex and dynamic process that involves the coordination of multiple stakeholders, including policymakers, health care providers, and patients. The following sections provide an overview of the key elements required to develop a comprehensive physician resource planning system.

Introduction

The purpose of this policy statement is to define the key elements required to project, evaluate, plan, and implement a physician resource planning system that can support the needs of Canada's health care system. It is important to recognize that physician resource planning is a complex and dynamic process that involves the coordination of multiple stakeholders, including policymakers, health care providers, and patients. The following sections provide an overview of the key elements required to develop a comprehensive physician resource planning system.

1. Physician resource planning requires a collaborative approach to identifying and meeting the needs of the patient population.
2. Data collection and analysis are essential to inform planning decisions.
3. Strategic planning must be integrated with the overall health care delivery system.
4. Planning models should consider the impact on patients and the health care system as a whole.

Implications

These policy implications provide guidance for those responsible for implementing physician resource planning systems.

2. Data collection and analysis should be ongoing and integrated into routine operations.
3. Planning should be informed by evidence-based practices and be tailored to specific regions.
4. Planning models must be regularly reviewed and updated to reflect changes in the health care system.

Conclusion

The implementation of a comprehensive physician resource planning system requires a commitment from all stakeholders to ensure that the needs of patients are met and the health care system operates efficiently and effectively.