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

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
Taking action on drug shortages during Covid-19 – open letter
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14261

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2020-08-13
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
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

Authorizing Cannabis for Medical Purposes

The legalization of cannabis for recreational purposes varies across countries, and this has raised significant public health concerns. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) supports a balanced approach to cannabis regulation that prioritizes public health and addresses concerns related to consumption and its impact on individuals and society.

Authorizing cannabis for medical purposes is a complex issue that requires careful consideration. The CMA recognizes the potential benefits of medical cannabis, such as pain relief and treatment for certain medical conditions, but also acknowledges the risks associated with its use. Therefore, the CMA supports evidence-based policies that promote safe and responsible access to cannabis for medical purposes.

The CMA encourages the following measures to enhance the safety and effectiveness of medical cannabis:

1. Establishing clear and evidence-based criteria for patient eligibility and prescription.
2. Ensuring access to high-quality, standardized cannabis products.
3. Monitoring the impact of medical cannabis on public health, particularly in vulnerable populations.
4. Providing comprehensive education for healthcare providers and patients.
5. Conducting ongoing research to better understand the effects of cannabis on health.

The CMA believes that a well-regulated approach to medical cannabis can contribute to improved health outcomes and reduce the burden of certain diseases. However, it is crucial to address concerns related to public health and safety, and to ensure that the benefits of medical cannabis are balanced against the potential risks.

The CMA continues to monitor developments in this area to inform its policy positions and to support the health and well-being of Canadians.
Health Canada consultation on reducing youth access and appeal of vaping products
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14078

POLICY TYPE: Response to consultation
DATE: 2019-05-24
TOPICS: Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
Population health, health equity, public health

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), has repeatedly recognized the urgency of addressing the needs of individuals suffering from terminal illnesses or chronic diseases for whom conventional treatments have not been effective and in some cases not even available (1).

Finding that a number of cases, particularly related to the indication of chronic pain, continue to be cited as reasons for cannabis use, the CMA reiterates that illegal use continues to be a public health problem with a high potential for harmful consequences (2).

The CMA supports using cannabis for the relief of certain symptoms associated with advanced illnesses, which can be prescribed by doctors and included in the system of medical assistance in dying. However, in the absence of a legal system that meets the appropriate standards, the CMA recommends that the government seriously consider the creation of such a system, where cannabis use for medical purposes is permitted, accompanied by adequate controls and regulations.

The CMA endorses the following recommendations:

1. Increase support for the advancement of scientific knowledge about the medical use of cannabis. The CMA recommends that the federal government support research programs that focus on evidence-based efficacy and safety, and that such research be conducted in a manner that respects patient privacy and confidentiality.

2. Apply the same regulatory oversight and monitoring tools to cannabis as to other prescribed compounds, such as codeine and benzodiazepines, designed to prevent the public from being exposed to potentially harmful products.

3. Increase support for palliative care initiatives for patients suffering from advanced illnesses, and the development of guidelines by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, the Medical College of Ontario and the College of Family Physicians of Ontario for the safe use of cannabis for medical purposes.

The CMA is concerned about the potential for the diversion of cannabis for recreational use and the negative impact of legalization on the public health system. Therefore, the CMA recommends that the government carefully consider the potential consequences before legalizing cannabis for medical purposes.
Medication use and seniors (Update 2017)

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10151

POLICY TYPE          Policy document
LAST REVIEWED       2019-03-03
DATE                2011-05-28
REPLACES            Medication use and seniors
TOPICS              Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Health Canada consultation on edible cannabis, extracts & topicals
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14020

POLICY TYPE
Response to consultation

DATE
2019-02-20

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

Documents
### Health Canada consultation on Canadian drugs and substances strategy

[https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14017](https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14017)

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

### Documents

CMA response:

**HEALTH CANADA CONSULTATION ON CANADIAN DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES STRATEGY**

November 1, 2018
Health Canada consultation on tobacco products regulations (plain and standardized appearance)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13930

POLICY TYPE: Response to consultation
DATE: 2018-09-06
TOPICS: Health care and patient safety, Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Support life-saving supervised consumption and overdose prevention sites: open letter to Premier Doug Ford and Health Minister Christine Elliott
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/pol icy13931

POLICY TYPE
Policy endorsement

DATE
2018-08-30

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
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Documents
Health Canada consultation on restriction of marketing and advertising of opioids
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13921

POLICY TYPE  Response to consultation
DATE  2018-07-18
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Consultation on proposed front-of-package labelling
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13882

POLICY TYPE Response to consultation
DATE 2018-04-23
TOPICS Health care and patient safety
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

Dear Dr. Kemp:

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) has been a strong advocate for comprehensive and effective public health measures to address the harms associated with cannabis use, including through the development and implementation of policies on pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, and drugs.

CMA supports the implementation of the proposed label on the upper left side of the packaging, ensuring that all the necessary health warnings and safety information are clearly visible to the consumer. This will help promote a safer use of cannabis by reducing the likelihood of adverse health outcomes and ensuring that consumers are aware of the risks and benefits associated with its use.

The CMA believes that comprehensive public health measures, including education, awareness campaigns, and support services, are essential to address the harms associated with cannabis use. Further, the CMA supports the development of policies and regulations that promote responsible use, such as limits on the possession of cannabis and restrictions on the sale and distribution of cannabis products.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

CMA President
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

Documents

CMA Submission:
Bill C-45: The Cannabis Act

Submission to the Senate Standing Committee, Science & Technology

April 18, 2018
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
Proposed approach to the regulation of cannabis

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13838

POLICY TYPE  Response to consultation
DATE  2018-01-19
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Excise duty framework for cannabis products
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13799

POLICY TYPE Response to consultation
DATE 2017-12-07
TOPICS Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents