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

We are writing to urge the federal government to take action to address drug shortages in Canada during the challenging times we face.

As you know, pharmaceutical shortages are ongoing and have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in the suspension of many drug imports and the sharing of drug supplies among provinces.

The shortages are impacting patients who rely on these medications.

We urge the federal government to take immediate action to ensure adequate supply of essential medications across the country.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Canadian Medical Association

[Letterhead]

Aug 13, 2020

[Letterhead]
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

CMA POLICY

Authorizing Cannabis for Medical Purposes

The legalization of cannabis for recreational use in Canada effective October 17, 2018, and proposals to authorize its recreational use for adults for any purpose, have been the subject of significant public discussion in Canada. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) is monitoring the impact of these changes on public health and patient care.

Cannabis is a psychoactive drug that acts directly on the brain and has significant and complex effects. Cannabis use can result in drug dependence, drug-seeking behaviour, withdrawal symptoms, health and social problems, including harm to a fetus and negative effects on health and social functioning of users and their family members.

Cannabis has no known medical indication. The use of cannabis for medical purposes is not supported by evidence of efficacy and is not considered safe for use outside the context of clinical trials.

The CMA policy on cannabis is consistent with the policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. The policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario states, in part, the following:

- Scope of Practice in the practice of medicine, and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is responsible for the education and regulation of the practice of medicine in the province.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, in conjunction with the College of Psychologists of Ontario, has developed a guideline for the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.

The CMA policy on cannabis is consistent with the policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. The policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario states, in part, the following:

- Scope of Practice in the practice of medicine, and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is responsible for the education and regulation of the practice of medicine in the province.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, in conjunction with the College of Psychologists of Ontario, has developed a guideline for the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.

The CMA policy on cannabis is consistent with the policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. The policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario states, in part, the following:

- Scope of Practice in the practice of medicine, and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is responsible for the education and regulation of the practice of medicine in the province.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, in conjunction with the College of Psychologists of Ontario, has developed a guideline for the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.

The CMA policy on cannabis is consistent with the policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. The policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario states, in part, the following:

- Scope of Practice in the practice of medicine, and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is responsible for the education and regulation of the practice of medicine in the province.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, in conjunction with the College of Psychologists of Ontario, has developed a guideline for the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.

The CMA policy on cannabis is consistent with the policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. The policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario states, in part, the following:

- Scope of Practice in the practice of medicine, and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is responsible for the education and regulation of the practice of medicine in the province.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, in conjunction with the College of Psychologists of Ontario, has developed a guideline for the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.

The CMA policy on cannabis is consistent with the policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario. The policy of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario states, in part, the following:

- Scope of Practice in the practice of medicine, and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is responsible for the education and regulation of the practice of medicine in the province.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, in conjunction with the College of Psychologists of Ontario, has developed a guideline for the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.
- The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario has established policies on the use of opioids for pain management and the treatment of opioid dependence.
- The CMA recommends that practitioners use evidence-based guidelines to assess the need for treatment for opioid dependence and that practitioners be trained in the use of evidence-based treatments for opioid dependence.