Health Care Coverage for Migrants: An Open Letter to the Canadian Federal Government

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/polic13940

POLICY TYPE
Policy endorsement

DATE
2018-12-15

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

Documents

Health Care Coverage for Migrants: An Open Letter to the Canadian Federal Government

November 2018

To the Honourable Jane Philpott, Minister of Health

The Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship

C. F. Tunney Building, 311 Wellington St. W., Ottawa, On, Canada K1A 0M8

Dear Minister Philpott, Minister Hussen,

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) is deeply concerned about the health and well-being of migrants in Canada, particularly those who are vulnerable to poor health outcomes due to their sociocultural background. We urge the federal government to ensure that all migrants, regardless of their immigration status, have access to comprehensive health care.

Health care coverage for migrants is a fundamental human right. Universal health care is a cornerstone of Canada’s health system, and it is essential that this principle extends to all members of our society, regardless of their immigration status. The current system of providing healthcare to migrants is fragmented and inadequate, leading to disparities in health outcomes.

We, therefore, call upon the federal government to take immediate action to provide health care coverage for all migrants in Canada. This includes ensuring that all migrants have access to essential health services, regardless of their immigration status. We urge the government to work with provinces and territories to develop a comprehensive approach to addressing the health needs of migrants.

We also call upon the government to invest in research and evaluation to better understand the health needs of migrants and to develop evidence-based policies and practices.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

Health Canada’s consultation on new health-related labelling for tobacco

CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
Health Canada’s consultation on new health-related labelling for tobacco products
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13939

POLICY TYPE  Response to consultation
DATE  2018-12-14
TOPICS  Health care and patient safety
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents

CMA Code of Ethics and Professionalism
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13937

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
DATE  2018-12-08
REPLACES  Code of ethics of the Canadian Medical Association (Update 2004)
TOPICS  Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
CMA CODE OF ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM

The CMA Code of Ethics and Professionalism provides ethical and professional guidelines for members of the medical profession. The Code emphasizes the importance of maintaining high professional standards, promoting the best interests of patients, and upholding the public’s trust in medical practitioners. The following is a brief overview of the Code's key principles and how they apply to medical practice.

A. VIRTUES EXEMPLIFIED BY THE ETHICAL PHYSICIAN

Compassion
Compassion is the cornerstone of medical practice. It involves an empathetic understanding of a patient’s condition and a commitment to providing care that is attentive and caring. Compassion also includes the provision of emotional support and encouragement to patients during challenging times.

Honesty
Honesty in communication with patients is essential to building trust and maintaining the integrity of the medical profession. It involves being truthful and transparent in all aspects of medical practice, from patient consultations to the dissemination of research findings.

Integrity
Integrity is the foundation of ethical behavior. It involves adhering to professional standards and demonstrating a commitment to patients and the community. It is also important in maintaining confidentiality and avoiding conflicts of interest.

Providence
Providence involves providing care that is compassionate, effective, and evidence-based. It emphasizes the importance of staying current with medical knowledge and utilizing the latest research and technologies to improve patient outcomes.

B. VIRTUES EXEMPLIFIED BY THE PROFESSIONAL PHYSICIAN

Compassion
Compassion is equally important for professional physicians. It involves understanding the needs of patients and providing care that is attentive and caring. It also includes being empathetic and understanding during challenging times.

Integrity
Integrity is the cornerstone of professional practice. It involves maintaining high standards of professionalism, avoiding conflicts of interest, and adhering to ethical guidelines. It is also important in maintaining confidentiality and promoting the best interests of patients.

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Health Canada consultation on Canadian drugs and substances strategy

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14017

**POLICY TYPE**
Response to consultation

**DATE**
2018-12-04

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

**Documents**
Lancet Countdown 2018 Report: Briefing for Canadian Policymakers
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14435

POLICY TYPE: Policy endorsement
DATE: 2018-11-01
TOPICS: Population health, health equity, public health

Documents

Lancet Countdown 2018 Report: Briefing for Canadian Policymakers
November 2018
Open letter to Ontario Minister of Health about the newly proposed “Consumption and Treatment Services” model
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy3932

POLICY TYPE
Policy endorsement

DATE
2018-10-31

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Meeting the demographic challenge: Investments in seniors care
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13924

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2018-08-03

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Canada's Food Guide
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13920

POLICY TYPE Response to consultation
DATE 2018-06-06
TOPICS Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Climate Change and Human Health

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy9809

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2018-03-03

DATE
2010-06-09

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Lessons from the frontlines: A collaborative report on Pandemic H1N1
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy9840

POLICY TYPE            Policy document
LAST REVIEWED         2018-03-03
DATE                  2010-08-26
TOPICS                Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Ensuring equitable access to health care: Strategies for governments, health system planners, and the medical profession

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11062

POLICY TYPE: Policy document
LAST REVIEWED: 2018-03-03
DATE: 2013-12-07
TOPICS: Health systems, system funding and performance
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents

CMA POSITION STATEMENT
ENSURING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO CARE: STRATEGIES FOR GOVERNMENTS, HEALTH SYSTEM PLANNERS, AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

In recent years, ensuring equitable access to effective and comprehensive health care services has become a strategic priority for the federal, provincial, and territorial health ministers in Canada. This new focus has resulted in increased investments in health care services, including an increase in the number of doctors and nurses. However, while these investments have been significant, they have not been sufficient to meet the needs of all Canadians.

The lack of sufficient resources to address the health care needs of all Canadians has led to significant disparities in health outcomes. These disparities are often the result of socio-economic factors, such as income, education, and employment. These factors can lead to higher rates of illness and mortality, as well as lower quality of life.

To address these disparities, it is necessary to ensure that all Canadians have access to effective and comprehensive health care services. This requires a multi-faceted approach that includes investments in health care infrastructure, workforce development, and health promotion and disease prevention.

In conclusion, ensuring equitable access to health care is a critical issue that requires the attention of all levels of government. It is essential that we continue to work together to address the needs of all Canadians and provide them with the care they deserve.
The built environment and health
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11063

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
LAST REVIEWED  2018-03-03
DATE  2013-12-07
TOPICS  Population health, health equity, public health

Documents