MEDICATION USE AND SENIORS (UPDATE 2017)

The Canadian Medical Association recommends the following principles to guide the care of seniors:

1. Medication safety and effectiveness:
   a. All medications should be prescribed with a clear indication of the patient's condition and the expected benefit.
   b. Prescriptions should be reviewed for clarity, completeness, and consistency.
   c. Medications should be prescribed in the lowest possible dose to minimize adverse effects.
   d. Regular medication reviews are important to assess the need for ongoing therapy.

2. Adherence and patient engagement:
   a. Regular medication reviews should be conducted to assess adherence and potential barriers.
   b. Education and support for patients and caregivers are crucial.
   c. Medication management tools, such as pill organizers and electronic reminders, should be considered.

3. Support for decision-making:
   a. Health professionals should provide clear and concise information about medications.
   b. Patients should be involved in decisions about their treatment.
   c. Information about medications should be provided in accessible formats.

4. Cost considerations:
   a. The cost of medications should be considered in the context of overall health care expenditures.
   b. Assistance programs, such as pharmacists' medication reviews, should be accessible to seniors.
   c. Opportunities for cost savings, such as bulk purchases, should be explored.

5. Healthcare systems:
   a. Healthcare systems should be designed to support seniors' medication needs.
   b. Access to medications should be prioritized for seniors.
   c. Healthcare professionals should be trained to address the specific needs of seniors.

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
CMA Presentation to the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology - Prescription Drugs: Clinical Trials and Approval
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10437

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2012-05-09

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
CMA’s Submission to the Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology – Prescription Pharmaceuticals in Canada: The Post-Approval Monitoring of Prescription Pharmaceuticals

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10631

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2012-10-24
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
Vision for e-Prescribing: a joint statement by the Canadian Medical Association and the Canadian Pharmacists Association

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10670

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2019-03-03

DATE
2012-12-08

TOPICS
Health information and e-health
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
# CMA Response: Health Canada's Medical Marijuana Regulatory Proposal

[https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10702](https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10702)

**POLICY TYPE**  
Parliamentary submission

**DATE**  
2013-02-28

**TOPICS**  
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

## Documents

![Image](Image)

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A healthy population needs a robust medical profession. This application is made on behalf of our members and is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all Canadians.

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CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
The Need for a National Strategy to Address Abuse and Misuse of Prescription Drugs in Canada: Canadian Medical Association Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11035

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2013-11-27
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Review of Controlled Drugs and Substances Act: Canadian Medical Association submission to Health Canada in response to the consultation on the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and its regulations

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11114

POLICY TYPE  Response to consultation
DATE  2014-03-17
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
CMA’s Submission to the Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology as part of its study on prescription pharmaceuticals: Federal levers to address unintended consequences of prescription pharmaceuticals and support public health, quality care, and patient safety

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11125

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2014-03-26

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
Canadian Medical Association submission to the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce: Higher rate now: Why excise tax on tobacco is long overdue for an increase

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11129

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2014-05-15
TOPICS  Health care and patient safety
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
The Health risks and harms associated with the use of marijuana
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11138

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2014-05-27
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Bill C-17 An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11196

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2014-06-11

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Proposed amendments to the marihuana for medical purposes regulations
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11293

POLICY TYPE       Response to consultation
DATE              2014-07-11
TOPICS            Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Tamper Resistance under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11295

POLICY TYPE
Response to consultation

DATE
2014-08-26

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Bill C-2 An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Respect for Communities Act)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11297

POLICY TYPE: Parliamentary submission
DATE: 2014-10-28
TOPICS: Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

October 28, 2014

Canadian Medical Association
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
Bill C-2 An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Respect for Communities Act)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11519

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2015-05-14

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Complementary and alternative medicine (update 2015)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11529

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2015-05-30

REPLACES
Complementary and alternative medicine (Update 2008)

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE
(Update 2015)

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) supports its members in their efforts to effectively manage patients using complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) in a manner that is safe, effective and appropriate. CAM is a complex and diverse phenomenon that includes a wide range of practices and products which use substances and non-pharmacological techniques to maintain, improve or induce health or even prevent disease.

The CMA’s position on CAM is that it should be integrated into patient care in a manner that is safe, effective and evidence-based. CAM practitioners should be licensed and registered in order to ensure that they are qualified and competent in their practice.

CAM practitioners should be expected to provide patients with clear and accurate information about the nature of their practice, the evidence supporting its use, and its potential risks and benefits. Patients should be encouraged to discuss their use of CAM with their healthcare provider, in order to ensure that the therapy is safe and effective and is not harmful or misleading.

The CMA recommends that healthcare providers inform patients about the potential risks and benefits of CAM, and provide guidance on how to use CAM safely and effectively.

Cannabis

Cannabis has been defined as the group of drugs derived from the hemp plant, Cannabis sativa, including marijuana and hashish. The CMA recognizes the growing interest in the therapeutic use of cannabis and its active ingredient, THC.

The CMA supports the safe and effective use of cannabis for medicinal purposes, provided that it is done under the supervision of a licenced healthcare provider.

The CMA recommends that healthcare providers inform patients about the potential risks and benefits of cannabis, and provide guidance on how to use cannabis safely and effectively.

Pharmaceuticals

Pharmaceuticals are a key component of modern healthcare and are used to treat a wide range of conditions.

The CMA supports the use of pharmaceuticals in a manner that is safe, effective and evidence-based. Healthcare providers should be expected to follow established guidelines for the use of pharmaceuticals, and to inform patients about the potential risks and benefits of their use.

The CMA recommends that healthcare providers inform patients about the potential risks and benefits of pharmaceuticals, and provide guidance on how to use pharmaceuticals safely and effectively.

In summary, the CMA supports the safe and effective use of CAM, cannabis and pharmaceuticals in a manner that is evidence-based and patient-centred.

The CMA encourages healthcare providers to work collaboratively with patients and other healthcare professionals to provide the best possible care.

The CMA recommends that healthcare providers inform patients about the potential risks and benefits of CAM, cannabis and pharmaceuticals, and provide guidance on how to use them safely and effectively.

The CMA encourages healthcare providers to work collaboratively with patients and other healthcare professionals to provide the best possible care.
Harms associated with opioids and other psychoactive prescription drugs
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11535

POLICY TYPE  
Policy document

DATE  
2015-05-30

TOPICS  
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents