Authorizing Cannabis for Medical Purposes

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
LAST REVIEWED  2020-02-29
DATE  2015-02-28
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

CMA POLICY

Authorizing Cannabis for Medical Purposes

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) has taken a position on the use of cannabis for medical purposes. The CMA recognizes the potential benefits of cannabis for some medical conditions, but also acknowledges the risks associated with its use.

The use of cannabis for medical purposes should be carefully considered, as it has been linked to potential negative effects on health, including addiction, respiratory problems, and cardiovascular issues.

The CMA supports research into the potential benefits and risks of cannabis for medical purposes. It encourages healthcare providers to work with patients to determine the most appropriate treatment options.

The CMA advocates for a regulatory framework that balances patient access with public health considerations.

The CMA encourages healthcare providers to stay informed about the latest research and developments in the field of cannabis and its medical applications.

The CMA believes that the use of cannabis for medical purposes should be subject to rigorous scientific evaluation and evidence-based guidelines.

The CMA encourages healthcare providers to engage in open and honest communication with patients about the use of cannabis for medical purposes.

The CMA supports the development of educational resources for healthcare providers to help them navigate the complexities of cannabis and its medical applications.

The CMA believes that the use of cannabis for medical purposes should be subject to regulatory oversight to ensure patient safety and public health.

The CMA encourages healthcare providers to consider the potential benefits and risks of cannabis for medical purposes in the context of each patient's individual needs and circumstances.

The CMA supports the establishment of a comprehensive framework for the use of cannabis for medical purposes, including clear guidelines, evidence-based approaches, and robust regulatory mechanisms.
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
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
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
Bill C-45: The Cannabis Act
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13723

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2017-08-18

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
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

---

Canada’s lower-risk cannabis use guidelines (LRCUG)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13726

**POLICY TYPE**
Policy endorsement

**DATE**
2017-05-26

**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
Cannabis for Medical Purposes

CMA POLICY

CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES

Cannabis for Medical Purposes

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA), has always recognized the risks associated with the use of cannabis and acknowledges the need for regulations and guidelines to ensure its safe and responsible use. However, in recent years, there has been a growing body of evidence that provides a credible basis for the therapeutic use of cannabis in certain medical conditions.

The CMA acknowledges the following recommendations:

1. Support for the advancement of scientific knowledge about the medicinal use of cannabis, including the development and evaluation of appropriate scientific criteria for the use of cannabis in medical settings.
2. Support for the development of standardized and quality-controlled cannabis products to ensure their safety and effectiveness.
3. Support for the development of regulatory frameworks that ensure the safe and responsible distribution of cannabis products.
4. Support for the development of guidelines and protocols for the use of cannabis in medical settings.
5. Support for the development of educational programs for healthcare professionals and patients.

The CMA believes that a comprehensive and evidence-based approach to the use of cannabis in medical settings is necessary to ensure its safe and effective use.

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 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

Documents
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
CMA response to patented medicines regulations consultations
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13690

POLICY TYPE                   Response to consultation  
DATE                           2017-06-28  
TOPICS                        Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs  

Documents
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/policy13641

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2017-04-07
TOPICS  Health care and patient safety, Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

CMA Submission:
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

Submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology

April 7, 2017

CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
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
CMA's Response to Health Canada’s Public Consultation Guide to New Authorities in reference to Bill C-17, Protecting Canadians from Unsafe Drugs Act (Vanessa’s Law)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11599

POLICY TYPE: Response to consultation
DATE: 2015-06-08
TOPICS: Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
CMA’s Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health: Drug Shortages
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10382

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2012-03-29

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
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
CMA submission to the study of Bill C-37
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13617

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2017-04-06

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents