Closing the Gaps: Advancing Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery for Older Adults

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14384

POLICY TYPE  
Policy endorsement

DATE  
2020-12-15

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

Documents
CMA Pre-budget Submission

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14259

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2020-08-07

TOPICS
Physician practice, compensation, forms
Health information and e-health
Health care and patient safety
Health systems, system funding and performance

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 POLICY

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

Key Issues

Ensuring equitable access to effective and comprehensive health care services is a strategy which can improve a nation's health indicators and overall quality of life. In the context of improving access to care, it is important to note that access is a complex and multifaceted issue. Effective access to care requires not only the physical availability of health care services, but also the ability of individuals to obtain and utilize these services. 

There is compelling evidence indicating that access to care is a significant factor in determining health outcomes. Individuals with higher income levels and greater educational attainment tend to have better health outcomes, while access to high-quality health care services is often correlated with higher income and education levels. This disparity in access to care can result in unequal health outcomes and exacerbate existing health inequities.

Recent initiatives in many countries have focused on reducing disparities in health care access. These efforts include the implementation of universal health coverage programs, the expansion of primary care services, and the development of patient-centered approaches to care delivery. These strategies aim to address the underlying social determinants of health, such as poverty, inequality, and discrimination, which contribute to disparities in health care access and outcomes.

In conclusion, ensuring equitable access to health care is a critical component of improving population health. Governments, health system planners, and the medical profession must work together to develop and implement strategies that address the complex challenges of access to care, with a focus on improving health outcomes for all individuals, regardless of their socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, or other demographic factors.
Improving efficiency in the Canadian health care system

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11525

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2015-05-30

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents

CMA POLICY

IMPROVING EFFICIENCY IN THE CANADIAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

The aim of this policy statement is to lay out the major issues and recommendations, and to provide a framework for evaluating the efficiency of the Canadian health care system. The statement is based on an analysis of the current system and identifies key areas where improvements can be made. The policy provides recommendations for policymakers and stakeholders to consider in order to improve the efficiency of the system.

I. Introduction

Health care systems in Canada and elsewhere are experiencing rising costs and increased demands on services. In order to improve the efficiency of the system, it is necessary to address the underlying issues and develop strategies to enhance the system's performance. This policy statement provides an overview of the current state of the system, identifies key areas for improvement, and outlines recommendations for policymakers to consider.

The Canadian health care system is characterized by high levels of public satisfaction and trust. However, the system faces significant challenges, including rising costs, wait times, and variations in care. These issues are the result of a number of factors, including the aging population, increased demand for services, and a lack of investment in preventive care. The policy statement highlights the need for a comprehensive approach to improving the efficiency of the system.

A. Key Issues

1. Rising Costs

The Canadian health care system is one of the most expensive in the world, with public spending on health care accounting for a significant portion of the country's GDP. This high level of spending is driven by a number of factors, including an aging population, increased demand for services, and a lack of investment in preventive care. The policy statement identifies the need for a more strategic approach to managing costs, including the development of innovative financing models and the implementation of cost-effective care delivery strategies.

2. Wait Times

Wait times are a major challenge for the Canadian health care system. Waiting times for elective surgery, diagnostic tests, and other services can be lengthy, leading to delays in treatment and poor patient outcomes. The policy statement recommends the development of strategies to reduce wait times, including the implementation of new technologies and the expansion of access to primary care services.

3. Variations in Care

There are significant variations in the quality and accessibility of care within the Canadian health care system. These variations are driven by a number of factors, including geographic location, income, and access to services. The policy statement highlights the need for a more integrated approach to health care delivery, including the development of new models of care and the implementation of evidence-based practices.

B. Recommendations

1. Increase Investment in Prevention

Preventive care is key to improving the efficiency of the health care system. By focusing on preventing illness and promoting healthy lifestyles, the system can save money in the long run and improve overall health outcomes. The policy statement recommends increasing investment in preventive care, including the development of new programs and the expansion of access to screening services.

2. Implement Evidence-Based Practices

Evidence-based practices are essential to improving the efficiency of the health care system. By implementing evidence-based practices, the system can ensure that patients receive the most effective and cost-effective care possible. The policy statement recommends the development of new evidence-based practices and the implementation of quality improvement initiatives.

3. Foster Cross-Border Collaboration

Cross-border collaboration is necessary to improve the efficiency of the health care system. By working together, countries can share best practices and develop new models of care that can be implemented across the system. The policy statement recommends fostering cross-border collaboration and the development of new international agreements.

C. Conclusion

Improving efficiency in the Canadian health care system is a complex and challenging task. By addressing the underlying issues and developing strategies to enhance the system's performance, policymakers can work towards creating a more efficient and effective health care system for all Canadians.
Joint Canadian Medical Association & Canadian Psychiatric Association
Policy - Access to mental health care
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11890

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
DATE       2016-05-20
TOPICS     Health care and patient safety
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents

Joint statement on
Access to Mental Health Care
from the
Canadian Medical Association
and
Canadian Psychiatric Association
Joint position statement: Principles to guide health care transformation in Canada
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10218

Policy document

2018-03-03

2011-07-27

POLICIES TO GUIDE HEALTH CARE TRANSFORMATION IN CANADA

POLICY TYPE

LAST REVIEWED

DATE

REPLACES

TOPICS

Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
MANAGEMENT OF PHYSICIAN FATIGUE

Policy

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) supports the development of a framework to improve the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual health of physicians. The framework should be based on evidence and include strategies for the prevention, identification, and management of physician fatigue. The framework should also address the potential impact of physician fatigue on patient safety and the quality of care provided.

Strategies

1. Education and Awareness
   - Regular training and education programs for physicians on the recognition and management of fatigue.

2. Workload Management
   - Review and adjust work schedules to ensure adequate rest periods.

3. Peer Support
   - Establishing peer support networks for physicians to discuss their experiences with fatigue.

4. Professional Development
   - Encouraging physicians to pursue formal training in areas related to the management of fatigue.

5. Research
   - Conducting research to better understand the causes and consequences of physician fatigue.

Conclusion

Physician fatigue is a serious issue that can affect patient safety and the quality of care provided. Taking steps to address this issue is essential to ensuring the well-being of physicians and the delivery of safe and effective healthcare.
Study on Canada’s Health Workforce
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14469

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2022-02-16
TOPICS  Health systems, system funding and performance
       Health human resources
       Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health:

Study on Canada’s Health Workforce

Dr. Corky Kemper
President of the Canadian Medical Association
February 16, 2022
Dress sport stewards
Accessibility: the solution lies in cooperation
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11518

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2015-03-25

TOPICS
Health human resources

Documents
Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14475

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2022-05-09
TOPICS  Health systems, system funding and performance
         Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health

Dr. Katharine Smart  
President of the Canadian Medical Association

May 9, 2022

Thank you very much.
Appearance before the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14472

POLICY TYPE          Parliamentary submission
DATE                2022-03-28
TOPICS              Health human resources
                    Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents

Appearance before the
Standing Committee on Human
Resources, Skills and Social
Development and the Status of
Persons with Disabilities

Dr. Katherine Smart,
President of the Canadian Medical Association
March 28, 2022

[Image of medical association logo]
Call to Action: An Approach to Patient Transfers for Those Living in Rural and Remote Communities in Canada
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14466

POLICY TYPE  Policy endorsement
DATE        2021-04-21
TOPICS      Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
CMA Letter to the Council of the Federation regarding the Council of the Federation meeting and Canada’s health funding priorities (health workforce, primary care, labour mobility)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policyl4486

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-06-22

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources

Documents
Consensus statement on networks for high-quality rural anesthesia, surgery, and obstetric care in Canada

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14477

POLICY TYPE: Policy endorsement
DATE: 2021-05-17
TOPICS: Health systems, system funding and performance, Health human resources
Enhancing equitable access to virtual care in Canada: Principle-based recommendations for equity
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14447

POLICY TYPE  Policy endorsement
DATE  2021-04-30
TOPICS  Population health, health equity, public health
        Health information and e-health

Documents
Federal Policy Options to Advance Pan-Canadian Licensure
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14471

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2022-02-22
TOPICS  Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents