Management of physician fatigue
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11127

POLICY TYPE  
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED  
2019-03-03

DATE  
2014-05-24

TOPICS  
Health human resources

DOCUMENTS

CMA POLICY

MANAGEMENT OF PHYSICIAN FATIGUE

Policy  
The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) strongly supports efforts to protect the health, safety and well-being of all Canadians. CMA policy on physician fatigue recognizes the importance of prioritizing and promoting safe practices to reduce the risk of harm to patients and other healthcare providers. CMA believes that physician fatigue can lead to errors in patient care, increased risk of health complications and decreased job satisfaction. CMA supports measures to address physician fatigue and promote safety and well-being.

The CMA recommends that provincial and territorial governments and healthcare providers establish comprehensive policies and strategies to prevent and reduce physician fatigue. These policies should include measures such as:  

- Developing and implementing evidence-based guidelines to identify and prevent physician fatigue;  
- Providing education and training for healthcare providers on recognizing and managing physician fatigue;  
- Creating a supportive workplace environment that fosters healthy work-life balance;  
- Encouraging healthcare providers to prioritize their own health and well-being;  
- Establishing policies and practices to support the physical and mental health of healthcare providers;  
- Providing resources for the ongoing professional development and education of healthcare providers.

The CMA also recommends that healthcare providers develop policies and procedures to address physician fatigue, including:  

- Establishing clear guidelines for the use of sleep and fatigue management strategies;  
- Providing ongoing support and monitoring for healthcare providers who may be experiencing fatigue;  
- Encouraging healthcare providers to seek help when needed;  
- Implementing strategies to promote and support the health and well-being of healthcare providers;  
- Establishing policies and practices to support the physical and mental health of healthcare providers.

In 2014, the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) released the report “A New Vision for Canada: Family Practice – The Patient’s Medical Home,” which recommended that healthcare providers prioritize the health and well-being of healthcare providers. The report noted that healthcare providers are at increased risk of burnout and compassion fatigue, which can negatively impact patient care. The report recommended that healthcare providers prioritize the health and well-being of healthcare providers, including implementing strategies to prevent and reduce physician fatigue.

The CMA believes that healthcare providers have a responsibility to prioritize their own health and well-being, including addressing physician fatigue. CMA supports the implementation of policies and practices to address physician fatigue and promote safety and well-being.

The CMA recommends that healthcare providers prioritize the health and well-being of healthcare providers, including implementing strategies to prevent and reduce physician fatigue. CMA supports the implementation of policies and practices to address physician fatigue and promote safety and well-being.

For more information, visit:  
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11127

CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
A new vision for Canada: family practice— the patient’s medical home 2019
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14024

POLICY TYPE                  Policy endorsement
DATE                        2019-03-02
TOPICS                      Physician practice, compensation, forms
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Operational principles for the measurement and management of wait lists
(Update 2011)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10322

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2019-03-03

DATE
2011-10-23

REPLACES
Operational principles for the measurement and management of waiting lists

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Physician resource planning (updated 2015)

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11533

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
LAST REVIEWED  2019-03-03
DATE  2015-05-30
REPLACES  Physician resource planning (Update 2003)
TOPICS  Health human resources

Documents
Principles for health system governance

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy10320

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
LAST REVIEWED  2019-03-03
DATE  2011-10-23
REPLACES  Regionalization (Update 2001)
TOPICS  Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents