CMA Statement on Racism

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14245

POLICY TYPE: Policy document
DATE: 2020-06-02
TOPICS: Ethics and medical professionalism
Health care and patient safety

Documents

CMA Statement on Racism

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) is a medical organization that strives to promote the health and well-being of all Canadians. The CMA is committed to addressing issues of racism and discrimination, particularly within the healthcare sector.

The CMA recognizes the importance of providing respectful care to all patients, regardless of race, culture, or background. The CMA is committed to promoting diversity and inclusion within the healthcare system.

The CMA recognizes the impact of systemic racism and discrimination on the health outcomes of marginalized communities. The CMA encourages healthcare professionals to address these issues directly and work towards creating a more equitable healthcare system.

The CMA also recognizes the importance of addressing the mental health and well-being of healthcare professionals who are dealing with the impact of systemic racism and discrimination. The CMA encourages healthcare organizations to provide support and resources to healthcare professionals who are affected by these issues.

In conclusion, the CMA is committed to addressing issues of racism and discrimination within the healthcare sector. The CMA encourages healthcare professionals and organizations to work towards creating a more equitable and inclusive healthcare system for all Canadians.

To: [President, Canadian Medical Association]

From: [Your Name]

Subject: CMA Statement on Racism

Dear [President, Canadian Medical Association],

I am writing to express my support for the CMA Statement on Racism. As a [Your Profession], I recognize the importance of addressing issues of racism and discrimination within the healthcare sector.

I would like to commend the CMA for its commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion within the healthcare system. The statement clearly outlines the impact of systemic racism and discrimination on the health outcomes of marginalized communities.

I also appreciate the CMA's recognition of the mental health and well-being of healthcare professionals who are dealing with the impact of systemic racism and discrimination. The statement provides a framework for healthcare organizations to provide support and resources to healthcare professionals who are affected by these issues.

I am committed to working with the CMA to address issues of racism and discrimination within the healthcare sector. I encourage other healthcare professionals and organizations to do the same.

Thank you for your commitment to creating a more equitable and inclusive healthcare system for all Canadians.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

[Your Contact Information]
For Allies. Black Physicians of Canada guidance on allyship
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14399

POLICY TYPE
Policy endorsement

DATE
2020-12-05

Documents

FOR ALLIES
Black Physicians of Canada guidance on allyship

HOW YOU CAN HELP
1. Medical and French patients, colleagues, and families when you are
   dealing with stress or conflict.
2. Aids to achieve progress.
3. Establish a safe environment where you can feel safe.
   - Be present.
   - Be empathetic.
   - Be honest.
   - Be respectful.
   - Be non-judgmental.
   - Be an advocate.
   - Be an ally.

- Always remember that every interaction is a chance to learn.
- Always remember that every interaction is a chance to grow.
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Framework for Ethical Decision Making During the Coronavirus Pandemic

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14133

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2020-04-01

TOPICS
Ethics and medical professionalism
Health care and patient safety

Documents
Palliative care

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11809

POLICY TYPE Policy document
LAST REVIEWED 2020-02-29
DATE 2015-10-03
TOPICS Ethics and medical professionalism

CMA POLICY

PALLIATIVE CARE

Introduction:

Palliative care is an approach that aims to improve the quality of life of patients and their families facing life-threatening illness. It focuses on providing relief from pain and other physical, emotional, and social symptoms. Palliative care can be provided in any setting, including inpatient, outpatient, home, or hospice care. It is designed to be integrated into all care that patients receive and to provide support to patients, families, and caregivers.

General principles:

1. Palliative care should be offered to all patients who have a life-limiting illness. Patients should be able to access palliative care at any time during the course of their illness.
2. Palliative care should be provided by a team of health professionals, including physicians, nurses, social workers, and other specialists, to ensure comprehensive and coordinated care.
3. Palliative care should be provided in a way that respects the patient's cultural, spiritual, and personal values.
4. Palliative care should be focused onsymptom management, including pain and other physical symptoms, as well as emotional, social, and spiritual needs.
5. Palliative care should be provided in a way that supports the patient's goals of care and preferences, whether that is to focus on symptom management, to reduce suffering, or to prepare for death.
6. Palliative care should be provided in a way that respects the patient's right to make decisions about their care, including the right to withdraw or decline treatment.

Access to palliative care:

1. Patients should have access to palliative care information and education, including resources and support for patients and their families.
2. Palliative care should be integrated into all healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, and community-based organizations.
3. Palliative care should be provided in a way that is accessible to all patients, regardless of age, sex, race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status.

Advocacy:

1. Physicians should advocate for policies that support access to palliative care and ensure that palliative care is available and accessible to all patients.
2. Physicians should work with healthcare organizations to ensure that palliative care is integrated into all healthcare services.

Documentation:

1. Documentation of palliative care should be comprehensive and include information about symptom management, patient goals, and patient and family preferences.
2. Documentation should be clear and accessible to all healthcare professionals involved in the patient's care.

Ethics and medical professionalism:

1. Palliative care providers should adhere to ethical principles, including respect for autonomy, non-maleficence, beneficence, and justice.
2. Palliative care providers should maintain confidentiality and respect patients' privacy.
3. Palliative care providers should be knowledgeable about the legal and regulatory frameworks that govern the practice of medicine and the delivery of palliative care.

Conclusion:

Palliative care is a vital component of modern healthcare. It focuses on improving the quality of life for patients and their families facing life-limiting illness. Palliative care should be accessible, integrated, and patient-centered. Healthcare providers should be trained in palliative care and be equipped to provide high-quality palliative care to all patients.