CMA Statement on the Governance of Health Information: A patient-partnered health information governance framework

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14485

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2022-06-29

TOPICS
Health information and e-health

Documents
Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health

Dr. Katherine Smart
President of the Canadian Medical Association

May 9, 2022

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Committee today. I am pleased to discuss the challenges facing our health system and the importance of considering the potential of virtual care as a solution.

Virtual care offers the promise of increased access to care, especially for those living in remote or underserved areas. It also has the potential to improve efficiency and reduce wait times.

However, virtual care also presents unique ethical and professional challenges. It is crucial that we ensure that patients receive the same level of care regardless of whether they are seen in person or virtually.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.
Virtual Care in Canada: progress and potential. Report of the Virtual Care Task Force
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14470

POLICY TYPE       Policy endorsement
DATE             2022-02-26
TOPICS           Health information and e-health

Documents
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

![Image of report cover](https://example.com/report-cover.jpg)
# 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

CMA Pre-budget Submission

A submission for the 2020 budget consultations in advance of the upcoming federal budget by the Canadian Medical Association.

Date: August 11, 2020

[Guiding principles for the optimal use of data analytics by physicians at the CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association](https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14259)
Guiding principles for the optimal use of data analytics by physicians at the point of care

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11812

POLICY TYPE Policy document
LAST REVIEWED 2020-02-29
DATE 2016-02-27
TOPICS Health information and e-health

Documents
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**Report of the Virtual Care Task Force**

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14440

**Policy Type**  
Policy endorsement

**Date**  
2020-02-29

**Topics**  
Health information and e-health
Principles concerning physician information
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy208

POLICY TYPE
Policy document
LAST REVIEWED
2019-03-03
DATE
2002-06-02
TOPICS
Health information and e-health
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Guiding Principles for Physician Electronic Medical Records (EMR) Adoption in Ambulatory Clinical Practice

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy9117

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2019-03-03

DATE
2008-02-23

TOPICS
Health information and e-health

Documents
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
Best practices for smartphone and smart-device clinical photo taking and sharing

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13860

POLICY TYPE Policy document

DATE 2018-03-03

TOPICS Health information and e-health
          Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
### Guiding principles for physicians recommending mobile health applications to patients

[https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11521](https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11521)

**Policy document**

**DATE**

2015-05-30

**TOPICS**

Health information and e-health

Physician practice, compensation, forms

**Background**

- Mobile health applications, often referred to as mHealth, have emerged as tools that can be used to enhance the delivery of health care. These applications can be accessed on smartphones, tablets, or other mobile devices.

- The use of mHealth applications can provide patients with access to health information, track personal health data, and receive reminders for medication, appointments, or other health-related activities.

- However, the use of mHealth applications requires careful consideration to ensure they are effective, safe, and provide value to patients. Physicians may recommend these applications to patients to improve health outcomes, enhance patient engagement, and improve the efficiency of health care delivery.

- Guidelines for recommending mHealth applications to patients should be developed to help physicians make informed decisions about when and how to recommend these applications.

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<th>CMA POLICY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR PHYSICIANS RECOMMENDING MOBILE HEALTH APPLICATIONS TO PATIENTS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The document is designed to provide guidance for physicians about how to integrate mobile health applications into their practice. It emphasizes the importance of considering the potential benefits and risks of these applications in order to make informed recommendations.</td>
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**Recommendations**

1. **Patient-Centered**
   - The primary goal of recommending mHealth applications should be to improve patient outcomes and enhance patient satisfaction.
   - Physicians should consult with patients to determine their preferences and needs before recommending any mHealth application.

2. **Evidence-Based**
   - Physicians should be aware of the evidence supporting the use of mHealth applications in improving patient outcomes.
   - They should consider the scientific evidence before recommending any application.

3. **Privacy and Security**
   - The privacy and security of patient information should be a top priority.
   - Physicians should ensure that the mHealth application they recommend complies with relevant legislation and regulations.

4. **Ease of Use**
   - The mHealth application should be user-friendly and easy to operate.
   - Physicians should consider the technological capabilities and needs of their patients before recommending any application.

5. **Interoperability**
   - The mHealth application should be interoperable with other healthcare systems.
   - Physicians should consider the ability of the application to integrate with other systems before recommending it.

6. **Cost Considerations**
   - The cost of the mHealth application should be considered.
   - Physicians should ensure that the application is affordable and accessible to their patients.

7. **Continued Support**
   - Physicians should consider whether the application provides ongoing support and updates.
   - They should choose applications that require minimal ongoing support and updates from the healthcare provider.

8. **Professional Responsibility**
   - Physicians have a professional responsibility to keep abreast of developments in mHealth technology.
   - They should continue to educate themselves on the latest advancements and best practices in this field.

**Conclusion**

The use of mHealth applications can enhance the delivery of health care and improve patient outcomes. However, physicians must carefully consider the potential benefits and risks of these applications before recommending them to their patients. By following these guidelines, physicians can make informed recommendations that benefit both themselves and their patients.