Cannabis for Medical Purposes

POLICY TYPE Policy document
LAST REVIEWED 2019-03-03
DATE 2010-12-04
TOPICS Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

CMA POLICY

Cannabis for Medical Purposes

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) has long recognized the value of cannabis to treat certain conditions and its potential for therapeutic benefit. However, the evidence base for cannabis remains limited. While there is growing recognition of the therapeutic potential of cannabis, there is also a need to balance public health concerns with patient access to the drug. The CMA supports research to further evaluate the efficacy and safety of cannabis for medical purposes.

The CMA recognizes that cannabis has significant potential as a therapeutic agent for certain medical conditions. The evidence base for cannabis remains limited, and further research is needed to fully understand its therapeutic effects and risks. The CMA encourages ongoing research and supports evidence-based approaches to the use of cannabis for medical purposes.

The CMA recommends the following:

1. Increase support for the advancement of scientific knowledge about the therapeutic use of cannabis.
2. Implement measures to support patients who may benefit from cannabis.
3. Ensure access to quality control measures for cannabis.

The CMA supports the ongoing dialogue between healthcare providers and patients to determine the most appropriate use of cannabis for medical purposes.

The CMA encourages healthcare providers to engage in ongoing education and training to better understand the therapeutic potential and potential risks of cannabis for medical purposes.
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

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) is pleased to provide its comments in response to the Federal Department of Health’s Consultation on Regulations Under the Patented Medicines (Notice of Intent) Regulations. This consultation seeks information on potential amendments to the regulations that could better protect the health and safety of Canadians. The CMA appreciates the opportunity to contribute to this important policy discussion.

Pharmaceuticals are a critical component of our healthcare system, providing essential treatments for a wide range of medical conditions. However, concerns have been raised about the potential for harm associated with the use of certain prescription drugs. In particular, opioids and other psychoactive medications have come under scrutiny due to their potential for misuse and addiction.

The CMA has been at the forefront of efforts to address these concerns. In 2017, the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) released a policy statement on opioids and other psychoactive prescription drugs, highlighting the importance of balancing access to these medicines with measures to prevent their misuse.

The CMA supports the development of comprehensive strategies to address the challenges posed by prescription drug use. This includes promoting safer prescribing practices, enhancing monitoring and reporting mechanisms, and improving access to effective treatment options for those who require them.

In conclusion, the CMA recommends that the regulations be amended to reflect the current evidence and best practices in the field of pharmacotherapy. This would involve a targeted approach to regulating the use of opioid and other psychoactive prescription drugs, ensuring that they are available to those who truly need them while minimizing the risk of harm to those who may not.

CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
Harms associated with opioids and other psychoactive prescription drugs
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11535

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2015-05-30

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs
National pharmacare in Canada: Getting there from here
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11959

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2016-06-01
TOPICS  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents
Taking action on drug shortages during Covid-19 – open letter
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14261

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2020-08-13

TOPICS
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

Aug 19, 2020

Dr. Theresa Tam,

We are writing to you today to alert you to the critical action needed to address the drug shortages faced by patients in Canada during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As the pandemic continues to unfold, patients and healthcare providers are facing unprecedented challenges in accessing necessary medications. The situation is particularly dire for patients on chronic medications, who require stable supplies to maintain their health and well-being.

We urge you to take immediate action to address this critical issue. Key steps include:

1. Coordination of efforts across jurisdictions to ensure a coordinated response.
2. Increased investment in domestic production capacity for essential medications.
3. Enhanced procurement strategies to secure necessary supplies.
4. Improved communication and information sharing among healthcare providers.
5. Support for innovative solutions such as patient-useable reserves.

We understand that your government is committed to the health and safety of all Canadians, and we are confident that working together, we can overcome this challenge.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Position]
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