# CMA Code of Ethics and Professionalism

The Code of Ethics of the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) is a statement of the ethical principles that guide the professional conduct of physicians. The Code is intended to serve as a guide for physicians in making ethical decisions, and to provide a framework for the assessment of ethical issues in medicine.

## POLICY TYPE
Policy document

## DATE
2018-12-08

## REPLACES
Code of ethics of the Canadian Medical Association (Update 2004)

## TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health

## Documents

### CMA CODE OF ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM

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### A. VIRTUES EXEMPLIFIED BY THE ETHICAL PHYSICIAN

- **Fidelity**: the virtue of keeping promises and commitments.
- **Honesty**: the virtue of telling the truth and acting with integrity.
- **Respect**: the virtue of valuing others and treating them with dignity.
- **Humility**: the virtue of recognizing one’s own limitations and seeking to learn from others.
- **Justice**: the virtue of treating others fairly and justly.
- **Prudence**: the virtue of making wise and thoughtful decisions.

In the context of medical practice, physicians are expected to embody these virtues in their interactions with patients, colleagues, and the public.
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
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. Cairine Smart
President of the Canadian Medical Association
February 13, 2022
Drew against scheme
Charter of Shared Values: A vision for intra-professionalism for physicians

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13858

POLICY TYPE Policy document
DATE 2017-12-09
REPLACES CMA Charter for Physicians (Update 1999)
TOPICS Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Physician health
Physician Health

Rationale:

The care that physicians provide has an impact on patient outcomes, which in turn has an impact on the health of the population. The CMA advocates for policies that support the health and well-being of physicians, including measures that promote work-life balance and prevent burnout.

The CMA recognizes the importance of physician health and well-being as a key determinant of the quality of care that physicians provide. This policy outlines the CMA's position on the importance of physician health and well-being, and provides recommendations for improving the health and well-being of physicians.

Background to CMA Policy

Physician Health

The CMA recognizes the importance of physician health and well-being as a key determinant of the quality of care that physicians provide. This policy outlines the CMA's position on the importance of physician health and well-being, and provides recommendations for improving the health and well-being of physicians.

1. The role of physician health in patient care

Physician health is directly linked to patient outcomes. Physicians who are mentally and physically healthy are more likely to provide high-quality care. Conversely, physicians who are experiencing burnout or other mental health issues may be less likely to provide high-quality care. This can have a significant impact on patient outcomes and the overall health of the population.

The CMA recommends that all physicians receive regular health assessments, including mental health assessments, and that these assessments be incorporated into routine physician evaluations. This will help identify and address any potential issues early on, allowing for timely intervention and treatment.

2. The role of physician well-being in the workplace

Physician well-being is important not only for the individual physician, but also for the workplace and the patients they serve. A healthy and happy workforce is more likely to provide high-quality care and be more resilient in the face of challenges.

The CMA recommends that healthcare organizations prioritize the well-being of their physicians, including providing access to mental health services, promoting work-life balance, and creating a supportive and inclusive workplace culture.

Conclusion

Physician health and well-being are critical to the provision of high-quality care. The CMA recommends that all stakeholders, including healthcare organizations, government, and researchers, work together to prioritize physician health and well-being and implement policies and practices that support the health and well-being of physicians.
Physician Shielding During A Pandemic

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14386

POLICY TYPE  Policy endorsement

DATE       2020-12-21

TOPICS     Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
Protecting and supporting Canada’s health-care providers during COVID-19
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14260

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2020-03-23
TOPICS  Physician practice, compensation, forms
Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources

Documents
Standing Committee on Health’s study on violence faced by healthcare workers
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14052

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2019-05-14

TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Ethics and medical professionalism
Health human resources
Physician practice, compensation, forms

Documents