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 focuses on improving the quality of life for people living with serious illness. It aims to relieve physical, emotional and spiritual suffering by providing support and care. It is provided at the end of life for all people, regardless of diagnosis, who have an incurable illness. Palliative care is different from curative medicine, which is directed at curing disease. Palliative care is also distinct from hospice care, which is typically associated with incurable disease and is focused on providing care for patients near the end of life.

General principles
1. Palliative care is delivered in a variety of settings, including hospitals, nursing homes, and patients' homes. It is provided by a multidisciplinary team, including physicians, nurses, social workers, and others.
2. Palliative care focuses on improving quality of life for people living with serious illness. It aims to relieve physical, emotional, and spiritual suffering.
3. Palliative care is provided at the end of life for all people, regardless of diagnosis, who have an incurable illness. Palliative care is different from curative medicine, which is directed at curing disease. Palliative care is also distinct from hospice care, which is typically associated with incurable disease and is focused on providing care for patients near the end of life.

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) End-of-Life Care Guidelines
The CMA End-of-Life Care Guidelines provide a framework for delivering high-quality palliative care. They emphasize the importance of communication, collaboration, and respect for patient autonomy. The guidelines also outline specific steps for addressing the complex needs of patients and families during the end-of-life transition.
EQUITY AND DIVERSITY IN MEDICINE

SEE ALSO: CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association

A. BACKGROUND

The provision of high-quality health care is a fundamental right of all humans, and it is essential that health care services are provided in an ethical and equitable manner. This includes ensuring that health care providers are trained to recognize and address the needs of diverse patient populations. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) is committed to promoting and practicing equity and diversity in medicine, and has developed policies and guidelines to support this goal.

B. POLICY

The CMA Policy on Equity and Diversity in Medicine outlines the principles and actions that the CMA and its members should follow to promote equity and diversity in health care. The policy includes a definition of equity and diversity, and highlights the importance of addressing systemic barriers to care.

C. IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the CMA Policy on Equity and Diversity in Medicine involves a range of strategies, including education and training for health care providers, the development of policies and guidelines, and the provision of support to patients from diverse backgrounds.

D. OUTCOMES

The outcomes of implementing the CMA Policy on Equity and Diversity in Medicine are expected to include an increase in the number and proportion of patients from diverse backgrounds who receive high-quality health care, as well as an improvement in the overall health outcomes of these patients.

E. MONITORING

The CMA will monitor the implementation of the CMA Policy on Equity and Diversity in Medicine through regular evaluation and feedback from health care providers and patients. This will help ensure that the policy is effective in promoting equity and diversity in health care.

F. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The CMA acknowledges the contributions of all stakeholders in promoting equity and diversity in health care, including patients, health care providers, and policy makers.
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
JOINT STATEMENT ON PREVENTING AND RESOLVING ETHICAL CONFLICTS INVOLVING HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND PERSONS RECEIVING CARE

This joint statement is a product of the advocacy work of the English language packages of the Canadian Medical Association, the Federation of Students, and the Canadian Nurses Association.

Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
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

Putting Patients First: Comments on Bill C 6 (Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act): Submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy1979

POLICY TYPE: Parliamentary submission
LAST REVIEWED: 2019-03-03
DATE: 1999-11-25
TOPICS:
- Ethics and medical professionalism
- Health care and patient safety
- Health information and e-health

Documents
"Putting Patients First"

Comments on Bill C-6 (Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act)

Submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology

Nov. 22, 1999

Dr. J.M. Nolan


Executive Summary

The committee recommends that government, in drafting this legislation, work closely with the Senate Standing Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology on the Bill.

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"Listening to our Patient’s Concerns"

Comments on Bill C-54
(Personal Information Protection and Electronic Document Act)

Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Industry

March 18, 1999

CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
Caring in a Crisis: The Ethical Obligations of Physicians and Society During a Pandemic

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy9109

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

LAST REVIEWED
2019-03-03

DATE
2008-02-23

TOPICS
Ethics and medical professionalism
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents
The evolving professional relationship between Canadian physicians and our health care system: Where do we stand?
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy0389

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
LAST REVIEWED  2019-03-03
DATE  2012-05-26
TOPICS  Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
CMA’s formal submission to the Federal External Panel on assisted dying
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11750

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

LAST REVIEWED
2019-03-03

DATE
2015-10-19

TOPICS
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Statement to the Canadian panel on violence against women Ottawa - September, 1992
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11956

POLICY TYPE          Parliamentary submission
LAST REVIEWED       2019-03-03
DATE                1992-09-15
TOPICS              Health care and patient safety
                     Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

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CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
Supporting the enactment of Bill C-14, Medical Assistance in Dying
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy/13693

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

LAST REVIEWED
2019-03-03

DATE
2016-05-02

TOPICS
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Health Care Coverage for Migrants: An Open Letter to the Canadian Federal Government

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13940

POLICY TYPE: Policy endorsement

DATE: 2018-12-15

TOPICS: Population health, health equity, public health

Health systems, system funding and performance

Ethics and medical professionalism
Guidelines for CMA’s activities and relationships with other parties

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy234

POLICY TYPE  Policy document
LAST REVIEWED  2018-03-03
DATE  2001-05-28
TOPICS  Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Medical professionalism (Update 2005)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy1936

POLICY TYPE Policy document
LAST REVIEWED 2018-03-03
DATE 2005-12-03
REPLACES Medical professionalism (2002)
TOPICS Ethics and medical professionalism

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

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

Introduction
Clinical photography is essential for diagnosis, treatment, and patient education. It is a common practice within the healthcare sector. However, the proper use of clinical photography requires adherence to ethical and professional standards. The following guidelines are intended to ensure the appropriate use of clinical photography in healthcare settings.

Guidelines
1. Obtain written informed consent from the patient or legal guardian for the use of clinical photography.
2. Ensure that the patient understands the purpose and intended use of the photographs.
3. Respect patient privacy by using appropriate obfuscation techniques when necessary.
4. Store clinical photographs securely to prevent unauthorized access.
5. Avoid using clinical photographs for commercial purposes without obtaining consent from the patient.
6. Respect patient confidentiality by销毁 or de-identifying data associated with the photographs.

Conclusion
Clinical photography is a valuable tool in healthcare. However, it is essential to adhere to ethical and professional standards to ensure the appropriate use of these images. By following these guidelines, healthcare providers can ensure that clinical photography is used in a responsible manner.

Sources
- Canadian Medical Association (CMA) Policy Endorsement Guidelines
- Canadian Medical Association Policybase

Acknowledgments
The authors would like to thank the healthcare professionals who contributed to the development of these guidelines.
CMA Policy Endorsement Guidelines
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14021

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2018-03-03

TOPICS
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Federal monitoring of medical assistance in dying regulations
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13856

POLICY TYPE  Response to consultation
DATE  2018-02-13
TOPICS  Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents
Principles for the protection of patient privacy

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13833

POLICY TYPE
Policy document

DATE
2017-12-09

REPLACES
PD11-03 Principles for the Protection of Patients’ Personal Health Information

TOPICS
Health information and e-health
Ethics and medical professionalism

Background to CMA Policy

The advent of new information technology, the expansion of mobile health apps, and the increasing use or access made with the health care system have increased new challenges in balancing a risk of confidentiality, after the patient’s physician, allowing health care providers and researchers to collect, use, and disclose personal health information without the explicit consent of the patient. Physicians are now sometimes more difficult to respect. These challenges affect many different elements of the health care system:

- The patient’s right to privacy
- The physician’s right to confidentiality
- The patient’s right to consent
- The physician’s right to care

The protection of privacy and confidentiality of patient information is a key element of patient care. Physicians must ensure that their personal health records are kept confidential. They must also ensure that they maintain the confidentiality of any information they receive from patients.

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Privacy and Confidentiality

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- The right to confidentiality
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- The right to care
- The right to information

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