Scopes of practice
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The Canadian Medical Association

This policy reiterates the principles and criteria set out in the 1951-52 statement of the Medical Council on Health Services, and in subsequent policies on health services, that the practice of medicine is a profession based on the best available evidence, and is not merely the practice of a trade or profession.

The practice of medicine is a fundamental human right and must be safeguarded. It must be accessible to all individuals, including those who are unable to pay for health services. It must be provided in a manner that is responsive to the needs of the community.

The practice of medicine is a social responsibility and must be pursued in the interest of the community as a whole.

The practice of medicine is a professional activity and must be conducted in the best interests of the patient.

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