Consultation on the renewal of Federal Tobacco Control Strategy

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13804

POLICY TYPE
Response to consultation

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TOPICS
Health care and patient safety
Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

On behalf of the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), I am responding to your request for consultation on the renewal of the Federal Tobacco Control Strategy (FTCS) and on the Consultation on the Renewal of the Federal Tobacco Control Strategy. We are pleased to provide you with the following response.

The 2017 Canadian Community Health Survey reports that 19.7% of the population aged 15 and older were current smokers in 2016. This is a reduction from 21.7% in 2015. However, the health burden of tobacco continues to be a public health concern, and tobacco control efforts must continue to be supported.

We support the Frampton Summit goal of less than 5% tobacco use by 2019. It must be recognized that specific subpopulations, such as Indigenous populations, will require different approaches to traditional tobacco use. Additionally, the tobacco epidemic is not limited to physical health outcomes but also includes mental health impacts. Tobacco use also contributes to chronic conditions and respiratory disease. As the Summit suggests, focused actions must go beyond the traditional array of tobacco control measures by focusing on the whole health of the tobacco industry while offering more assistance to those affected by tobacco products. The smoke-free environment approach recommended by the Summit and the recommendations of the evidence to the success of the strategies for progress.

The CMA believes that simple, low-cost interventions in smoking rates, tobacco control promotion, and priority and should continue to be supported by governments, well-being tobacco strategy and strong leadership and support from Health Canada, including a continued, comprehensive