Consultation on the renewal of Federal Tobacco Control Strategy
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy13804

POLICY TYPE  Response to consultation
DATE    2017-04-05
TOPICS  Health care and patient safety
  Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs

Documents

APR 5, 2017
EXHIBITION ON THE FEDERAL TOBACCO CONTROL STRATEGY
Rena TROJAN
Man Librarian
Canadian Medical Association
8-1500 Olive Street
Vancouver, BC
V6G 1M9

Dear Consultation on the renewal of Federal Tobacco Control Strategy

On behalf of the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), I am responding on your request for consultation on the renewal of the Tobacco Control Strategy (TCS) and on the Tobacco Users Survey (TUS) for the period of 2017-2021.

The first national Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) reported 17.7% of the population aged 15 and older currently smoke or occasionally smoke an average of >0.99 (mugs) of tobacco that was sold in 2012. The data also showed that the number of cigarettes sold in Canada has not decreased, and that more adults are using tobacco products.

We support the government’s goal of less than 5% of tobacco use by 2015. It must be recognized that specific populations, such as indigenous populations, will require different approaches to achieve their health and safety objectives.

We are concerned that some provinces have increased the number of cigarettes available by reducing the minimum age of purchase to 18 years. Tobacco use, particularly among youth populations, is a major contributor to the rise in smoking rates. Tobacco use is associated with other health risks, making it important to take action to reduce the number of cigarettes sold.

As the Summit suggests, a reduced demand must be beyond the traditional outcomes of increased tobacco revenue by focusing on the reduction of the gradual decline while offering stop assistance to those affected by tobacco addiction. The state-of-the-art prevention and control measures by the federal and provincial governments are essential to the success of the strategy in the long term.

The CMA believes that simple, concise, and consistent advice in avoiding tobacco, tobacco-related issues, and quitting smoking is crucial and should continue to be acceptable by a sustained, well-defined tobacco strategy and ongoing worldwide support from civil society, including a combined, comprehensive

CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association