Equity and diversity in medicine

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POLICY TYPE  
Policy document

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TOPICS  
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

CMA POLICY

EQUITY AND DIVERSITY IN MEDICINE

See also: Management of Health Policy, or Affairs, and Diversity in Medicine

A. BACKGROUND

The objective of this policy is to promote equality in patient care and improvements in patient care by public policies and practices that are respectful, fair, and equitable. Equity and diversity in medicine encompass a range of objectives that are important for creating and maintaining an environment of health and wellness. To address these objectives, a range of strategies can be employed.

1. Patient-centred care

Patient-centred care is important for health promotion, disease prevention, and health improvement. Patient-centred care should be provided in a way that is respectful, fair, and equitable. It is important to recognize that patients have different needs and preferences for care, and that these needs and preferences should be taken into account in the provision of care.

2. Culturally competent care

Culturally competent care is important for health promotion, disease prevention, and health improvement. Culturally competent care should be provided in a way that is respectful, fair, and equitable. It is important to recognize that patients have different cultures and traditions, and that these cultures and traditions should be taken into account in the provision of care.

3. Gender-sensitive care

Gender-sensitive care is important for health promotion, disease prevention, and health improvement. Gender-sensitive care should be provided in a way that is respectful, fair, and equitable. It is important to recognize that patients have different genders and sexual orientations, and that these genders and sexual orientations should be taken into account in the provision of care.

4. Age-sensitive care

Age-sensitive care is important for health promotion, disease prevention, and health improvement. Age-sensitive care should be provided in a way that is respectful, fair, and equitable. It is important to recognize that patients have different ages, and that these ages should be taken into account in the provision of care.

5. Socioeconomic status-sensitive care

Socioeconomic status-sensitive care is important for health promotion, disease prevention, and health improvement. Socioeconomic status-sensitive care should be provided in a way that is respectful, fair, and equitable. It is important to recognize that patients have different socioeconomic statuses, and that these socioeconomic statuses should be taken into account in the provision of care.

6. Accessibility

Accessibility is important for health promotion, disease prevention, and health improvement. Accessibility should be provided in a way that is respectful, fair, and equitable. It is important to recognize that patients have different needs for accessibility, and that these needs should be taken into account in the provision of care.

7. Communication

Communication is important for health promotion, disease prevention, and health improvement. Communication should be provided in a way that is respectful, fair, and equitable. It is important to recognize that patients have different communication needs, and that these needs should be taken into account in the provision of care.

8. Collaborative decision making

Collaborative decision making is important for health promotion, disease prevention, and health improvement. Collaborative decision making should be provided in a way that is respectful, fair, and equitable. It is important to recognize that patients have different decision-making abilities, and that these abilities should be taken into account in the provision of care.

B. METHODS

The methods for addressing equity and diversity in medicine should be designed to ensure that patients have access to high-quality care, regardless of their race, ethnicity, cultural background, socioeconomic status, or age.

C. CONCLUSION

It is important to recognize that patients have different needs and preferences for care, and that these needs and preferences should be taken into account in the provision of care. It is also important to recognize that patients have different cultures and traditions, and that these cultures and traditions should be taken into account in the provision of care.

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CMA STATEMENT ON
EQUITY AND DIVERSITY IN MEDICINE

Guiding Principles

Respect for persons
The number one duty of health care, as enshrined in the Declaration of Helsinki, is the commitment of the medical community to considering patients as the source of medical expertise. It is incumbent upon medical professionals to respect the autonomy of their patients. It is also incumbent upon health care providers to respect the autonomy of those who are unable to make decisions for themselves.

Empowerment
An important principle of the Toronto Declaration is that health care providers should empower their patients by providing them with the knowledge and tools necessary to make informed decisions about their health care. This includes providing patients with information about their condition, the available treatment options, and the potential risks and benefits of each option.

Equity
The principle of equity means that health care providers should provide care that is fair and accessible to all patients, regardless of their social, economic, or cultural background. This includes ensuring that patients have equal access to health care services, regardless of their ability to pay.

Dignity
The principle of dignity means that health care providers should treat their patients with respect and dignity, regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation, or other characteristics. This includes ensuring that patients are treated with respect and dignity, regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation, or other characteristics.

Confidentiality
The principle of confidentiality means that health care providers should maintain the confidentiality of their patients’ information, and respect their patients’ privacy.

Competence
The principle of competence means that health care providers should have the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to provide high-quality care to their patients.

K. This document is based on the CMA policy on "Equity and Diversity in Medicine," which was adopted by the CMA Board of Directors on May 8, 2017.

K. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) is a national, bilingual, not-for-profit organization representing physicians from across Canada. It serves as the national advocate for the medical profession and the health of the Canadian population.

K. The CMA is committed to the principles of equity and diversity and to promoting health equity and diversity in medicine. The CMA is committed to working with its members, partners, and stakeholders to advance the principles of equity and diversity in medicine.

K. The CMA is committed to supporting its members in their efforts to advance the principles of equity and diversity in medicine. The CMA is committed to providing its members with the resources and tools they need to advance the principles of equity and diversity in medicine.

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