Equity and diversity in medicine
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CMA STATEMENT ON EQUITY AND DIVERSITY IN MEDICINE

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Respect for Persons

The principle of respect for persons is grounded in the inherent worth of an individual and the freedom to make informed, autonomous decisions about one's own life. Respect for persons requires a recognition of the dignity and worth of every person, and the right to make decisions about one's own life. It also requires a recognition of the importance of informed consent and the right to refuse medical treatment.

Empowerment

Empowerment is the process of enabling individuals to take control of their own lives and to make decisions that are in their best interests. It involves providing support and resources to individuals so that they can make informed decisions and take action to improve their own health and well-being.

Equity

Equity is the principle of fairness. It requires that everyone has access to the resources and opportunities they need to achieve their full potential. Equity promotes social justice by eliminating barriers to health and well-being, and by ensuring that everyone has an equal opportunity to access quality medical care.

Diversity

Diversity recognizes the unique backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives of all individuals. It promotes a culture of inclusivity and respect for differences, and this helps to create a more equitable and fair society.

This statement provides a framework for the Canadian Medical Association to improve the health and well-being of all Canadians through the provision of high-quality, culturally appropriate, and accessible medical care.

The Canadian Medical Association is committed to addressing the challenges of equity and diversity in medicine, and to working towards a future where all Canadians have access to the care they need.