Protecting and supporting Canada’s health-care providers during COVID-19

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2020-03-23

TOPICS
Physician practice, compensation, forms
Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources

Documents

March 23, 2020

Dear Prime Minister,

We write as a collective of over 600000 physicians across Canada to express our deep concern about the current serious challenges we face in our health-care system and the potential consequences for our patients and our profession.

As you are aware, the Canadian health-care system is preparing for the potential surge of patients with COVID-19. Despite the very best efforts of our colleagues in the public and private sectors, the capacity and resources available now are woefully insufficient to meet the needs of our patients and our health-care system.

We need your government to take action to protect Canada’s health-care system.

In order to do our work safely and effectively, we need access to personal protective equipment such as masks, gowns, gloves, and masks. We also need increased capacity in intensive care units across the country. We need our government to direct resources to protect our health-care workforce.

We also look forward to the expansion of testing, isolation, and treatment capacity throughout the country. Additional testing and treatment resources are desperately needed to ensure that we can quickly identify and treat all of the COVID-19 infections that we may have.

We hope that you will provide us with the support we need to take care of our patients and of each other.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

Canadian Medical Association