Flexibility in Medical Training (Update 2009)
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CMA POLICY

Flexibility in Medical Training
(Update 2009)

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) recognizes the importance of flexibility in medical training to meet the needs of patients, physicians and the health system. The principles of flexibility include: adequacy of training, accessibility, flexibility, adaptability and accountability.

The principles of flexibility in medical training must be balanced with the need for specialization and discipline. Flexibility should be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the needs of the patient, the physician and the health system.

Flexibility in medical training should be achievable without compromising the quality of education or patient care. The CMA encourages medical schools to develop and implement flexible training programs that meet the needs of individual students while maintaining the integrity of the medical education system.

Definitions

- Flexibility: The range of options available for physicians to complete their training, including the ability to choose the length and nature of the training program.
- Adequacy: The sufficiency of the training program to meet the needs of the physician and the health system.
- Accessibility: The availability of training programs to all physicians in Canada.
- Adaptability: The ability of the training program to adapt to changing needs and circumstances.
- Accountability: The responsibility of the training program to meet the needs of patients and the health system.

The CMA encourages medical schools to work collaboratively with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and other professional organizations to develop and implement flexible training programs.

The CMA recognizes the importance of maintaining the quality of medical education and the need to balance flexibility with the needs of patients and the health system.

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