

# Palliative care

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy11809>

POLICY TYPE	Policy document
LAST REVIEWED	2020-02-29
DATE	2015-10-03
TOPICS	Ethics and medical professionalism

## Documents

ASSOCIATION  
MÉDICALE  
CANADIENNE

130  
CANADIAN  
MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION

**CMA POLICY**

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**PALLIATIVE CARE**

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**Introduction**

Palliative care is an approach that aims to relieve suffering and improve the quality of life of those facing life-limiting acute or chronic conditions by means of early identification, assessment, treatment of pain and other symptoms and support of all physical, emotional and spiritual needs. It may coexist with other goals of care, such as prevention, treatment and management of chronic conditions, or it may be the sole focus of care.

**General principles**

**Goals**

1. All Canadian residents should have access to comprehensive, quality palliative care services regardless of age, care setting, diagnosis, ethnicity, language and financial status.<sup>1</sup>
2. The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) declares that its members should adhere to the principles of palliative care whereby relief of suffering and quality of living are valued equally to other goals of medicine.
3. The CMA believes that all health care professionals should have access to referral for palliative care services and expertise.<sup>2</sup>
4. The CMA supports the integration of the palliative care approach into the management of life-limiting acute and chronic disease.<sup>3</sup>
5. The CMA advocates for the integration of accessible, quality palliative care services into acute, community and chronic care delivery models,<sup>4</sup> that align with patient and family needs.
6. The CMA supports the implementation of a shared care model, emphasizing collaboration and open communication among physicians and other health care professionals.<sup>5</sup>
7. The CMA recognizes that the practice of assisted dying as defined by the Supreme Court of Canada is distinct from the practice of palliative care.

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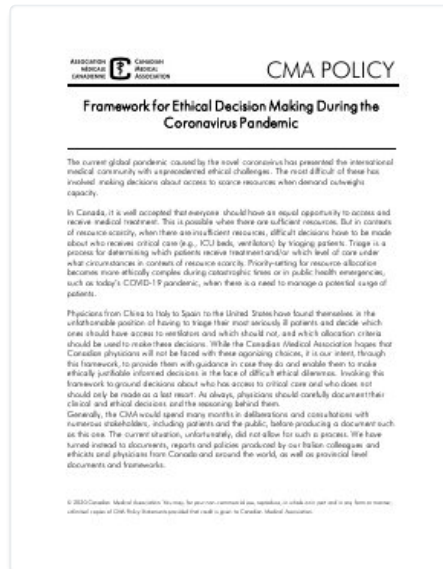
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# Framework for Ethical Decision Making During the Coronavirus Pandemic

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14133>

POLICY TYPE	Policy document
DATE	2020-04-01
TOPICS	Ethics and medical professionalism Health care and patient safety

## Documents

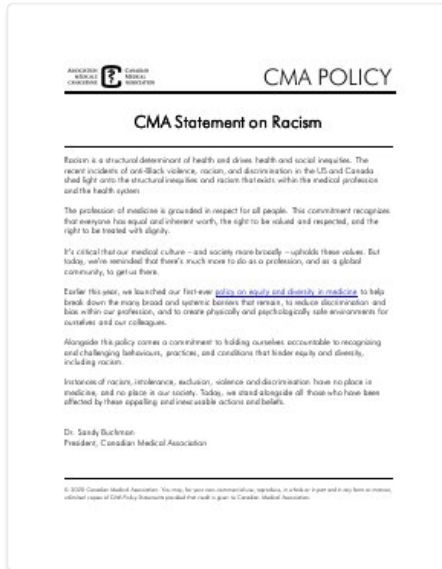


# CMA Statement on Racism

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14245>

POLICY TYPE	Policy document
DATE	2020-06-02
TOPICS	Ethics and medical professionalism Health care and patient safety

## Documents



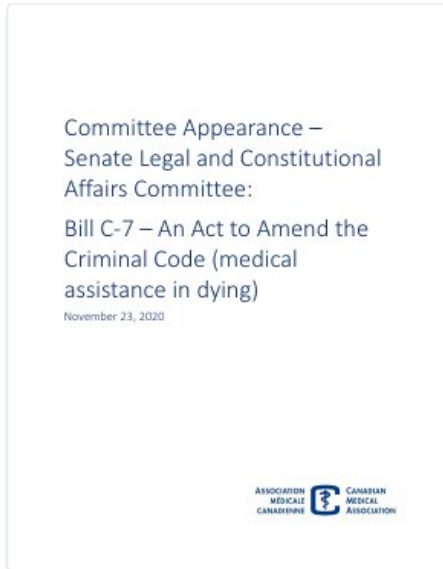
# Committee Appearance – Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee: Bill C-7 – An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying)

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14380>

POLICY TYPE	Parliamentary submission
DATE	2020-11-23
TOPICS	Ethics and medical professionalism

## Documents

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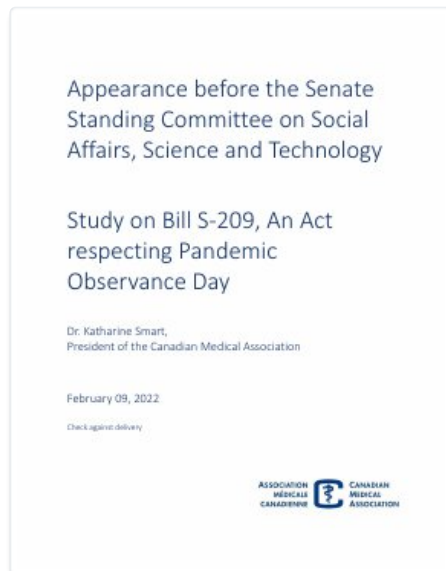
# Study on Bill S-209, An Act respecting Pandemic Observance Day

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14467>

POLICY TYPE	Parliamentary submission
DATE	2022-02-09
TOPICS	Health care and patient safety Ethics and medical professionalism

## Documents

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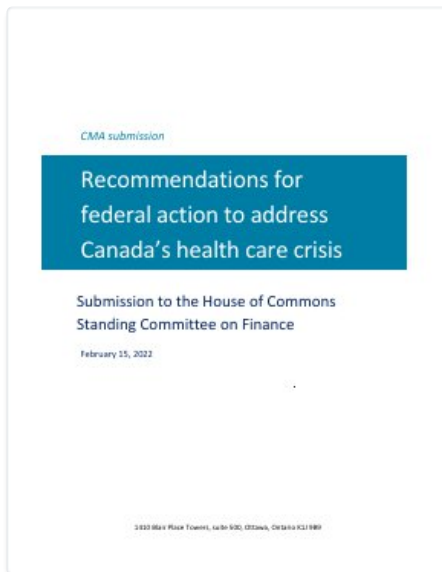
# Recommendations for federal action to address Canada's health care crisis

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14468>

POLICY TYPE	Parliamentary submission
DATE	2022-02-15
TOPICS	Health systems, system funding and performance Health human resources Ethics and medical professionalism

## Documents

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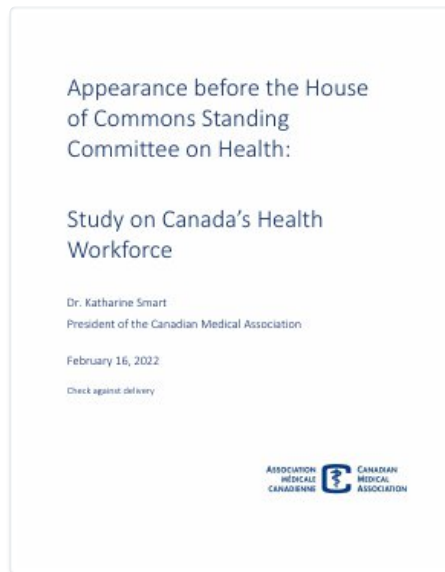
# Study on Canada's Health Workforce

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14469>

POLICY TYPE	Parliamentary submission
DATE	2022-02-16
TOPICS	Health systems, system funding and performance Health human resources Ethics and medical professionalism

## Documents

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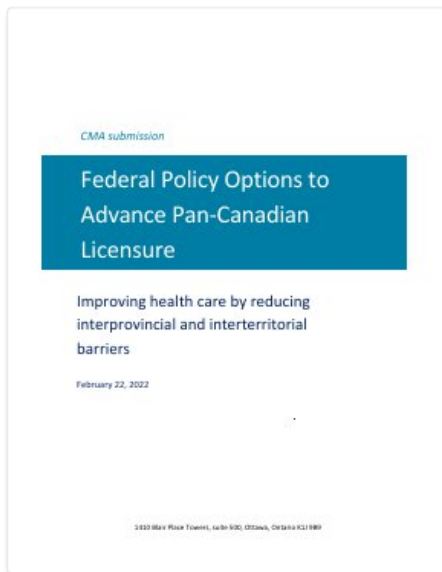
# Federal Policy Options to Advance Pan-Canadian Licensure

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14471>

POLICY TYPE	Parliamentary submission
DATE	2022-02-22
TOPICS	Health systems, system funding and performance Health human resources Ethics and medical professionalism

## Documents

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# Health Human Resource Policy Recommendations: Summary. Briefing to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14473>

POLICY TYPE	Parliamentary submission
DATE	2022-04-14
TOPICS	Health systems, system funding and performance Ethics and medical professionalism

## Documents

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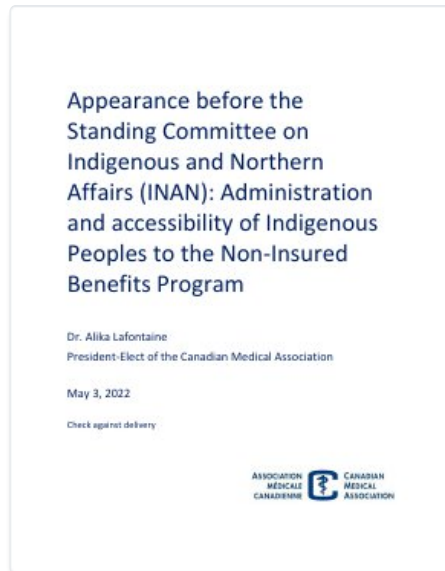
# Appearance before the Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs (INAN): Administration and accessibility of Indigenous Peoples to the Non-Insured Benefits Program

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14474>

POLICY TYPE	Parliamentary submission
DATE	2022-05-03
TOPICS	Population health, health equity, public health Ethics and medical professionalism

## Documents

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# Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14475>

POLICY TYPE	Parliamentary submission
DATE	2022-05-09
TOPICS	Health systems, system funding and performance Ethics and medical professionalism

## Documents

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# CMA Recommendations on Vaccine Equity and Intellectual Property

<https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14476>

POLICY TYPE	Parliamentary submission
DATE	2022-05-13
TOPICS	Ethics and medical professionalism Pharmaceuticals, prescribing, cannabis, drugs Population health, health equity, public health

## Documents

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