
Policy Feedback Guidelines

The CMA is committed to the guiding principle of engagement — providing meaningful opportunities for our members and stakeholders to inform and shape our work. We consult with members and stakeholders throughout the policy development process and seek feedback on proposed policies before they're adopted by the association. These policy feedback guidelines detail our process for seeking feedback. Throughout these guidelines, "policy" may refer to an existing CMA policy being revised or to a new policy or proposal being considered for adoption by the CMA.

Process of feedback

- For each policy, the CMA will describe the policy development or revision process to date as well as the subsequent steps that will be taken to finalize the policy or move forward with the proposal.
- For each policy, the CMA will invite relevant stakeholders to participate in the feedback process. Policies posted for feedback on the CMA engagement platform will be accessible to platform users. CMA members, other physicians/medical learners, stakeholders and members of the public can sign up to use the CMA's engagement platform at community.cma.ca.
- Each feedback opportunity will include the option of contributing to an open discussion or providing anonymous feedback through a survey.
- Respondents are encouraged to provide feedback in the official language of their choice.

Substance of feedback

- The CMA will circulate a summary of feedback and final documents upon approval and/or adoption of the policy to those who have contributed to the policy feedback process.
 - For each policy, the CMA will provide key questions relevant to issues raised in the policy. While respondents may provide feedback on other areas of the policy, the revision of policies will focus on the responses to the key questions.
 - Respondents are encouraged to focus their feedback on the topic in question and review the scope of the policy to ensure that their feedback is relevant and current.
 - Feedback that contains the following will not be considered and will be removed from discussion forums:
 - discriminatory, defamatory, offensive or abusive language
 - content that violates privacy and confidentiality (e.g., do not include your own or another's personal information)
 - marketing (e.g., advertising or promotional material)
 - spam (e.g., repetitive or spamming threads)
 - The CMA will review all feedback received to inform the further development of the policy. All feedback will be carefully considered, even if it is not reflected in the final policy. To ensure policy coherence and currency, the CMA will strive to balance all views, while considering the extent to which feedback represents the obligations and expectations of physicians and the medical profession, and the extent to which feedback is consistent with our mandate as a national medical association. Although the CMA will place emphasis on feedback received from those with expertise in areas relevant to the policy, it will consider the views of all respondents (CMA members, other members of the medical profession and any other respondents).
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