

# CDA POSITION STATEMENT

## The Role of Dermatologists in the Return of Measles

For emerging global health issues, Certified Dermatologists play an important role in the Canadian health care system. As experts of skin health, Certified Dermatologists address over 3,000 skin, hair, and nail conditions. Their clinical skills transcend individual cases to encompass broader public health concerns, such as the recent resurgence of measles.

With measles cases on the rise, dermatologists can play an important role in helping to improve identification of potential cases while educating their patients about the disease and addressing the need for increased vaccination rates. Dermatologists routinely assess vaccination status during patient consultations and counsel them on vaccine administration and benefits. Moreover, they are equipped to diagnose, report, and manage measles cases effectively. When dealing with patients undergoing immunosuppressive therapy, discussions on vaccination and measles exposure are crucial. The Canadian Dermatology Association stands behind the Public Health Agency of Canada's vaccination policy for measles and supports adherence to public health recommendations in patient care. Leveraging their expertise in providing support for patients' physical and mental well-being in managing skin conditions, dermatologists play a pivotal role in measles prevention, diagnosis and management, bolstering broader public health initiatives to combat its resurgence.

In the face of emerging health challenges, dermatologists also provide essential guidance and support to their colleagues. In collaboration with specialists in immunology and pediatrics, they can pool their expertise to develop comprehensive guidelines for managing critical health issues. This collaboration underscores the interdisciplinary nature of healthcare and emphasizes the collective efforts needed to address complex health issues effectively.

The involvement of dermatologists in addressing emerging global health threats showcases their indispensable role in safeguarding public health and enhancing the overall well-being of Canadians. Through collaboration, clinical expertise, and proactive counselling and education, dermatologists demonstrate their commitment to navigating evolving healthcare landscapes and ensuring the best possible outcomes for patients and the public at large.

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*Established in 1925, the Canadian Dermatology Association (CDA) is a member organization that advocates for dermatologists across Canada, underscoring their essential role in the healthcare system. As a community of Certified Dermatologists, we are dedicated to advancing the science of dermatology encompassing over 3000 skin, hair and nail conditions. Our commitment extends beyond professional support; we also protect and educate the public through comprehensive educational initiatives and our product recognition program.*

