



中华医学会

Chinese name: 中华医学会

English name: Chinese Medical Association (ChMA)

Year of establishment: 1915

Address: No. 42, Dongsu West Street, Dongcheng District, Beijing 100710, China

Tel/fax: +86-10-21721275/1284

Email: cmazhaoweili@cma.org.cn

Website: <https://en.cma.org.cn/>

Brief introduction: The Chinese Medical Association (CMA), founded in 1915, is a non-profit academic organization voluntarily founded and legally registered by Chinese medical professionals, playing an important role in the development of medicine and health care in China. The purpose of the CMA is to unite medical professionals in disseminating medical scientific knowledge and promoting medical ethics and social justice. The CMA has long been committed to enhancing the professional competence of medical professionals, advancing the thriving development, popularization and promotion of medical sciences, promoting the combination of the development of medical science/technology with the safeguarding of people's health, economic growth, social and cultural development, and serving its members and the medical professionals' community. The CMA takes an active part in the process of protecting the people's right to life and right to health and advancing the medical and health care system for economic, social and cultural development by enhancing the implementation of the Healthy China Initiative, improving the quality of medical and health care services, and protecting and promoting the people's health and well-being.

The CMA does not have consultative status of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.



中华医学会

UPR Report Submitted by the Chinese Medical Association to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) --- On the Protection of the Right to Health in China

July 2023

1. As a non-governmental organization dedicated to improving the professional competence and technical capacity of medical professionals, advancing the thriving development and popularization of medical science and technology, and boosting its integration with the safeguarding of people's health, economic growth, social and cultural development, the CMA pays close attention to the feedback submitted by the Chinese government to the UN Human Rights Council on the third round of UPR.
2. The CMA appreciates the efforts and great achievements made by the Chinese government, including the establishment of the world's largest basic medical insurance network with universal health coverage of over 95 percent. However, the CMA has also taken note that China still faces some practical difficulties and challenges in protecting and promoting people's health, equality for vulnerable groups, and equitable access to medical and health care.
3. The CMA has taken note that the Chinese government is paying increasing attention to ensuring the Chinese people's right to health through targeted national policies and measures. The Basic Medical and Health Promotion Law, effective as from 2020, clearly stipulates that "the State and society respect and protect citizens' right to health." The National Health



中 華 醫 學 會

Commission issued the *"Plan of the National Health Commission for Implementing the Program for the Development of Women and Children of China (2021-2030)"*, which identifies the main tasks in the field of maternal and child health by 2030, the need for deepened cooperation and exchanges with the international community for global child health protection and disease management so as to make positive contributions to improving child health globally. Since the *"Guiding Opinions of the State Council on Establishing a General Practitioner System"* was published in 2011, China's general practice system has gradually grown, and family contract services have gradually expanded with a view to ensuring the right to health in every family. For that purpose, a series of government guidance and plans have been issued, such as the *"Opinions of the General Office of the State Council on Reforming and Improving the Incentive Mechanism for the Training and Employment of General Practitioners"* in 2018, the *"Guiding Opinions on Promoting the High-Quality Development of Family Doctor Contract Services"* in 2022, the *"Healthy China 2030"* in the 13th Five-Year Plan period (2016-2020), and the *"14th Five-Year Plan for National Health"* (2021-2025).

4. The CMA has noted that in terms of policy formulation and implementation for safeguarding citizens' reproductive rights and promoting reproductive health, a series of regulatory policies and



中华医学会

documents have been issued or revised, including the *"Population and Family Planning Law"*, the *"Decision on Optimizing Childbirth Policy to Promote Long-term Balanced Population Development"*, and the *"Guiding Opinions on Further Improving and Implementing Active Support Measures for Childbirth"*. These are designed to provide a strong guarantee for accelerating the establishment of the childbirth support policy system, realizing a moderate childbirth level, and promoting the long-term balanced growth of population. Over the past 70 years, China has made remarkable achievements in reproductive health. Maternal mortality rate dropped from 1500 per 100,000 to 16.1 per 100,000. (Jie Qiao*†, Yuanyuan Wang*, Xiaohong Li, et al. A Lancet Commission on 70 years of Women's Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health in China, *Lancet* 2021; 397: 2497 – 536). In 2022, the Regulations of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region on Population and Family Planning was amended, which now stipulates that a unified family planning policy is adopted for all ethnic groups, and a couple may have three children. In Xinjiang and other ethnic minority regions, the population has continued to grow steadily, the infant mortality rate has decreased remarkably, and the average life expectancy has steadily increased.

5. The CMA also appreciates China's continuous implementation of the national strategy to actively respond to population aging over



中 華 醫 學 會

the years and the integration of the concept of active and healthy aging into the whole process of economic and social development. China has accelerated its efforts to improve the social security system, the elderly care system and health support system, carried forward the traditional moral culture of respecting the elderly, implemented preferential treatment policies for the elderly, protected the legitimate rights and interests of the elderly, and enabled the elderly to enjoy healthy and happy lives. This may serve as an example for the international community as a valuable contribution of Chinese experience. China's National Center for Chronic and Non-communicable Disease Control and Prevention has made outstanding contributions in this regard and has been honored with the World Health Organization (WHO) Prize for Research in Health Care for the Elderly and in Health Promotion in 2023. (Reference: The Health News, May 28, 2023: The World Health Organization Recognizes China for Health Promotion for the Elderly)

6. The CMA has taken note that the Chinese government has been deeply involved in global efforts to safeguard children's health, and has conducted active exchanges with the WHO and other international organizations as well as relevant countries and regions in the prevention and control of common and seasonal diseases among children and other key fields. China has carried out policy research and cooperation projects to share China's



中 華 醫 學 會

experience and promote the development of global children's health. The Chinese government has promoted the universal adoption of safe drug use for children in the World Health Assembly. A number of Chinese medical emergency response teams have been certified by the WHO, providing China's solution to promoting children's health. The Chinese government has expanded its international public health cooperation to jointly fight against outbreaks of infectious diseases and safeguard children's health. The Chinese government has also helped to strengthen the training of pediatric doctors of underdeveloped countries and regions, invited managers and backbone clinical physicians of those countries and regions to study in China, and helped the governments of host countries and regions build telemedicine platforms for collaborative consultation, remote surgical operation guidance and remote medical training.

7. The CMA has noted that malignant tumors have become a public health problem for all countries in the world. Attaching great importance to cancer prevention, China has continued to enhance strategic planning. A series of policy documents have been promulgated, including "Healthy China 2030 Program Outline", "China's Medium and Long-Term Plan for Prevention and Control of Chronic Diseases (2017-2025)", "Healthy China Initiative (2019-2030)", and "Healthy China Initiative - Implementation Plan for Cancer Prevention and Control



中华医学会

(2019-2022)”. These policy documents are designed to accelerate the establishment of a sound national cancer prevention and control system to keep advancing national efforts in this regard. At present, China has set up the National Cancer Center and 24 provincial cancer centers, and established the tumor registration system covering the largest population in the world. Active efforts have been made to promote cancer screening and early diagnosis and treatment. China has established a national monitoring network on clinical use of anti-tumor drugs and the urban and rural screening models with Chinese characteristics. The early detection rate and survival rate of high-incidence cancers in key regions have steadily increased. This has effectively protected the right to medical services of cancer patients, laying a good foundation for continuously promoting the strategy of Healthy China. (Data source: 1. Zheng RS, Zhang SW, Zeng HM, Wang SM, Sun KX, Chen R, Li L, Wei WQ, and He J: Cancer Incidence and Mortality in China, 2016 [J] JNCC, 2022, 2 (1) : 1-9. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jncc.2022.02.002>. 2. 2022 The Annual Report of the National Cancer Center)

8. The CMA has taken note that That China is a leading country in the promotion of the right to health of infants and young children. In 2021, China's infant mortality rate dropped to 5.0 per thousand and the mortality rate of children under 5 dropped to 7.1 per thousand. The core indicators of children's health in China are higher than the average of middle- and high-income countries in the world, and China has been rated by the WHO as one of the top ten countries with high performance in maternal



中 華 醫 學 會

and child health. Pediatric healthcare capacity has been continually improved. A children's healthcare service system with Chinese characteristics has been established. Equality, accessibility and equity in children's health have continued to increase. The Action Plan for Healthy Children has been implemented, and the health management of children aged 0-6 has been included in the free basic public health service package, with the health management rate reaching 94%. The urban-rural and regional gaps has seen a remarkable narrowing, with the ratio of mortality rates of children under 5 of rural over urban areas dropping significantly from 2.7 to 2.1. The Plan of Enhanced Actions for Healthy Children (2021-2025) was issued. The specialty of pediatric medicine has developed rapidly in China, with the disease diagnosis and treatment capacity rapidly improved and high-level professional teams formed. China has led or participated in international multi-site clinical studies and the compilation of diagnosis and treatment guidelines for children's diseases, hosted or co-organized international academic conferences on pediatrics, and fully participated in the global efforts for diagnosis and treatment of children's diseases. (Source: [1] China Statistical Yearbook 2022, China Statistics Press; [2] China Health Statistical Yearbook -2021, National Health Commission; [3] Transcript of the Press conference of the National Health Commission on May 30, 2022, The National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China, <http://www.nhc.gov.cn/xcs/s3574/202205/71ecabbcfa8f46ec920f1b7545cf02f0.shtml>).

9. The CMA has also seen that the health-related poverty alleviation project has comprehensively improved the conditions and capabilities of medical and health services in impoverished areas, enabling the rural poor to have access to a doctor nearby and institutionally guaranteeing their medical treatment, thus ensuring basic medical care. At present, China has maintained the overall stability of its health-related poverty alleviation policy, and the medical and health care service capacity in rural areas and the health level of rural residents have continued to improve, laying a solid foundation for China's implementation of the rural revitalization strategy. (WEI Yan, XU Yun, and GAO



中华医学会

Yingxia: Evaluation of Health-related Poverty Alleviation Performance in Impoverished Areas: A Survey and Analysis from 5 Provinces in China [J]. *The World of Survey and Research*, 2020, No. 319(04): 24-30. DOI: 10.13778/j.cnki.11-3705/c.2020.04.004.)

10. The CMA recommends that more attention be paid to psychological and mental health services as well as to human resources development to nurture more psychotherapists, social workers and other mental healthcare professionals. A sound system of mental healthcare services should be established and continuously improved for more comprehensive realization of the right to health by meeting people's needs for mental health.