Taking unnecessary aim at MAID

I am disappointed that Canadian Family Physician continues to publish pro-opioid articles by authors who have declared conflicts of interest with opioid manufacturers. For the debates regarding the new opioid guidelines in the February issue, I think it is telling that the only authors for the yes side of the debate both have conflicts of interest with opioid manufacturers.

—Dan W. Hunt MD CCFP
Winnipeg, Man

Competing interests
Dr Hunt receives funding from Manitoba Health for providing clinical care to patients with chronic pain and opioid use disorders.

References
2. Gallagher R, Hatcher L. Will the new opioid guidelines harm more people than they help? Yes [Debates]. Can Fam Physician 2018;64:101-2 (Eng), 105-7 (Fr).

Cannabis view

I thank Dr Ladouceur for providing a balanced view on the benefits of cannabis in his February editorial. While I have not collected statistics, it is my impression that increasing numbers of daily cannabis users are presenting to my emergency medicine practice with cannabis-induced hyperemesis. Many of these patients use cannabis for anxiety management, and usually this has not been initiated by a physician. My suspicion is that this is a dose-related condition, and one that will emerge increasingly as cannabis use spreads.

As a medical community, it might behoove us to exercise some vigilance in assessing the risks and benefits of cannabis prescribing, so that we do not repeat the detrimental situation that arose with the liberalizing of narcotic prescribing in the 1990s and 2000s.

—Jean Marc Benoit MD CCFP(EM)
Hamilton, Ont

Competing interests
None declared

Reference
1. Ladouceur R. The cannabis paradox. Can Fam Physician 2018;64:86 (Eng), 87 (Fr).