Medical Marijuana
In New York State

Highly Worth It OR Not???

Medical Marijuana

True or False???

1. Providers write prescriptions for medical marijuana – true or false
2. Medical marijuana in NYS gives people green bud or weed to smoke – true or false
3. Medical marijuana will get you so high – true or false

The Truths

• Providers certify patients based on NYS guidelines for medical marijuana
• 4 hour course to be able to certify
• Certifying visit can be covered by insurance – billed as office visit with physical exam
• Medical Marijuana is NOT covered by ANY insurance
Certifying Conditions

- Cancer
- HIV/AIDS
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Epilepsy
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Chronic Pain
- PTSD
- Neuropathy
- Huntington’s Disease
- Spinal cord nerve injury with intractable spasticity
- Parkinson’s Disease

Associated Conditions

- Cachexia or wasting syndrome
- Severe chronic pain limiting function
- Severe nausea
- Seizures
- PTSD
- Severe persistent muscle spasms

Available Forms in NYS

- Tincture – absorbed through the buccal mucosal – 2nd quickest onset of relief
- Vape – inhaled – quickest onset of relief
- Capsule – can be opened and sprinkled on food – longest onset of relief
- Pressed tablet – Newest form
Different Concentrations

There are different levels of concentrations made by the dispensaries –

These are different levels of THC and CBD: 20:1  1:20  1:1  4:1  2:1 – depending on the dispensary.

Dispensaries are limited to no more than 10 mg of THC per dose – this is the reason that there is normally no “HIGH” feeling.

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States in which Medical Marijuana is legal


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States in Which Recreational marijuana is legal

8 states and Washington D.C. have voted to legalize marijuana, however, not all of the states have implemented legalization. As it stands right now, marijuana is legal in California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Colorado, and Washington D.C. for recreational purposes.
Columbia Care is a dispensary with a location in Rochester, NY.

PharmaCannis is a dispensary with a location in Liverpool, NY – near Syracuse.

Dispensaries are modern.
Approved Medicinal Cannabis Products

- Each brand must have a total THC and CBD concentration within 5% of labeled value (mg/dose)
- Brand names must be alphanumeric combinations!
- Maximum of 30mg THC per dose!
- Approved dosage forms:
  - Extract in oil for SL administration
  - Extract for vaporization (metered and uniform doses)
  - Extract in a capsule for ingestion
  - Edible food product only by Commissioner approval
Unapproved

Unapproved Medicinal Cannabis Products
• NO RAW PLANT MATERIAL FOR SMOKING!
  – NYS is trying to cut down on statewide smoking rates!
• NO RAW PLANT MATERIAL FOR INGESTION!
  – Edibles must be premade and prepackaged
• NO FLASHY BRAND NAMES OR ADVERTISEMENTS!
• NO REFERENCES TO 420 CULTURE!
• NO MOLD OR CONTAMINANTS!
• NO ADDITIVES UNLESS PHARMACEUTICAL GRADE!
• NO STATING YOUR PRODUCT IS MOST EFFECTIVE!

NYS Criteria
• Medical Marijuana Program Laws and Regulations
• In July 2014, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature enacted the Compassionate Care Act to provide a comprehensive, safe and effective medical marijuana program that meets the needs of New Yorkers.
• Compassionate Care Act
• Medical Marijuana Program Regulations
• Regulatory Amendments (Effective 12/27/2017) (PDF)

Statistics as of March 20, 2018
• Registered Practitioners: 1,516
• Certified Patients: 48,468
Certifying a Patient

- Patients can be certified for any length of time up to 1 year
- Main Condition with secondary condition
- Up to the Provider to determine if the patient meets criteria – very GREY

Case Study #1

88 Year old female with 1 ½ years of almost constant crying and insomnia – has seen psych for the past 1 ½ years and they have done 16 ECT treatments and tried meds that they thought were safe for her age and nothing has helped – they have told the family that they should find another psychiatrist as all options have been exhausted for her.

Pts daughter met me at a conference and patient was scheduled for an appt to be evaluated for medical marijuana –

Determined there was PTSD that was causing the symptoms and she was certified for medical marijuana.
Case Study 1 Results

After 6 weeks of treatment:
  Pt is sleeping throughout the night
  Crying much less than before
  No side effects – even at this advanced age

Case Study #2

40 year old female with advanced crohns/IBS who has chronic abdominal pain and N/V

Lost her job because she could not control her symptoms –

Certified after much education as she never thought of marijuana as medicine.

Case Study 2 results

On first trip to dispensary – she bought a vape – she stopped 6 times on the way to the dispensary to throw up on the side of the road.

She charged her vape and took an inhale on the way home and stayed nausea free for 6 hours!!

This patient also uses the tincture and 2 drops will help control her pain for about 4 hours in the middle of the night - SUCCESS
QUESTIONS????