



Pennsylvania Medical Marijuana Program

Eric Hauser, RPh
President, Organic Remedies

Our Topics

- Overview of Pennsylvania's Medical Marijuana Program
- Qualifying Conditions
- The Science Behind the Stigma
 - THC, CBD, Terpenes
- Available Products
- Patient / Caregiver Registration
- Certified Physicians
- Pharmacist's Role and Dispensary Relationship
- Question and Answer Session



How Did We Get Here?

- April 17, 2016, Governor Tom Wolf signed Act 16, “The Medical Marijuana Act” into law.
- PA became the 24th state to legalize medical marijuana.
- Act 16 was structured to encourage research and provide a very medicalized approach.
- PA is one of few states to create specific roles for pharmacists and other health care providers.
- Organic Remedies is partnering with Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) conducting research on medical marijuana.





What Do the Regulations Require?

The Law Requires:

- Extensive “seed to sale” tracking.
- Specialized training for physicians, pharmacists, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants regarding latest scientific research on medical marijuana.
- Education for owners and employees of medical marijuana organizations.
- Patients must be qualified for a medical marijuana card based on past medical history and physician recommendation and Dept. of Health approval.



Qualifying Conditions

Physicians who have completed specialized training and who have been “certified” by the DOH to participate can recommend (not prescribe) medical marijuana to patients with one of 23 serious medical conditions

- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)
- Autism
- Anxiety Disorders
- Cancer, including remission therapy
- Crohn’s Disease
- Damage to nervous tissue of spinal cord





Other Qualifying Conditions

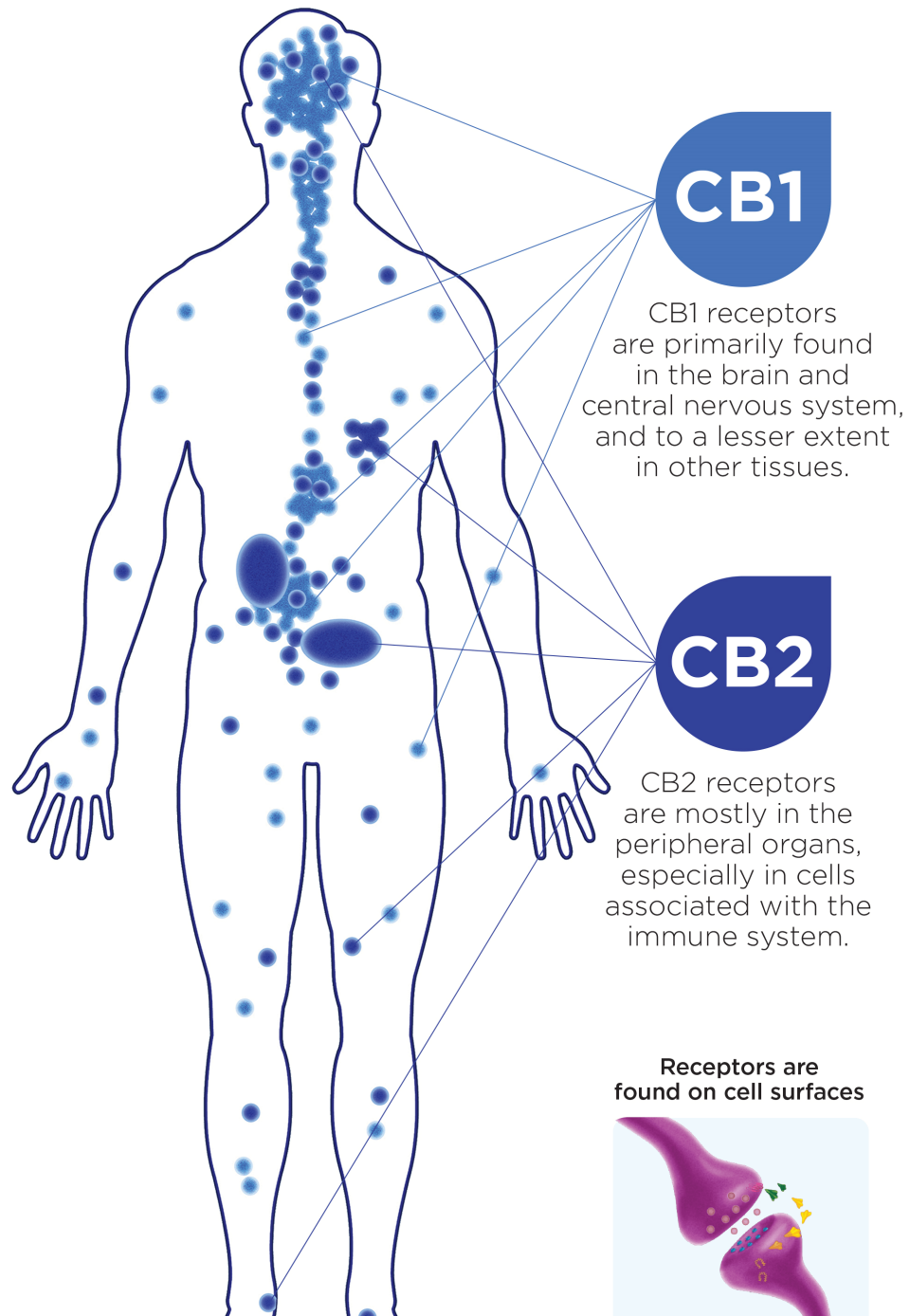
- Dyskinetic & Spastic Movement Disorders
- Epilepsy
- Glaucoma
- HIV / AIDS
- Huntington's Disease
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Intractable Seizures
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Neurodegenerative Diseases
- Neuropathies
- Opioid Use Disorder
- Parkinson's Disease
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Severe Chronic or Intractable Pain of Neuropathic Origin or Severe Chronic or Intractable Pain Sickle Cell Anemia
- Terminal Illness
- Tourette Syndrome





A Closer Look

- Other therapeutic options need not have been exhausted.
- Physician may specify:
 - Dosage form (tablet, lotion, oil, tincture)
 - Strain (Indica / Sativa)
 - Dose (mg per day or multiple times per day)
- Or... a physician may leave the specifics of dispensing entirely up to the pharmacist or other practitioner.



The Science Behind the Stigma

- Marijuana and Phyto cannabinoids
- The Endocannabinoid System
 - CB1 Receptors in Nervous Tissue
 - Appetite Stimulation
 - Pain Suppression
 - Perception Changes
 - Muscle Relaxation
 - Seizure Suppression
 - CB2 Receptors in Immune Cells
 - Pain Suppression
 - Anti-Inflammatory



The Components of Marijuana

Cannabinoids are chemicals that naturally occur on the cannabis plant and effect the endocannabinoid system.

THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol)

- Intoxicating (induces a “high”).
- Present in varying levels in cannabis strains.
- May help with pain, stress, nausea, appetite loss, and sleep disorders.

CBD (Cannabidiol)

- Non-intoxicating (does not induce a “high”).
- Can counteract some of THC’s intoxicating effects.
- May help with anxiety, arthritis, inflammation, and sleep loss.



TERPENES

Essential oils naturally found on cannabis plant. Just like the smell of food influences how it tastes, terpenes influence the flavors and smells associated with cannabis use.

Examples

- ✓ Myrcene – believed to promote calming effects, also found in thyme, mango, and lemongrass
- ✓ Caryophyllene – can promote anti-inflammatory effects, also found in black pepper, cloves, cinnamon
- ✓ Pinene – useful in pain, inflammation, and anxiety, also found in pine needles, rosemary, basil





Available Dosage Forms

- Solid Oral Forms
 - Tablets
 - Capsules
- Oral Liquids
 - Tinctures
 - Rick Simpson Oil
- Topicals
 - Creams / Ointments/ Balms
 - Transdermal Patches & Suppositories
- Vaporization
 - Dry Leaf / Flower
 - Extracts & Concentrates: Waxes, Budder, Shatter
 - Vape oils



Potential Effects

Cannabis products have the potential to affect everyone differently.

Some may experience the following effects:

- Short Term: occurs within minutes of vaping product
 - Cough, euphoria, dry mouth, dry eyes (red eyes), increased appetite, blurred vision, delayed reactions (motor), sedation and possible anxiety.
- Longer Term: if ingested or used sublingually = onset 1 hour with long lasting effects
 - Uneasiness, hunger and thirst, red eye, drowsiness, sleeplessness, short-term memory loss, euphoria.



Start Low, Go Slow



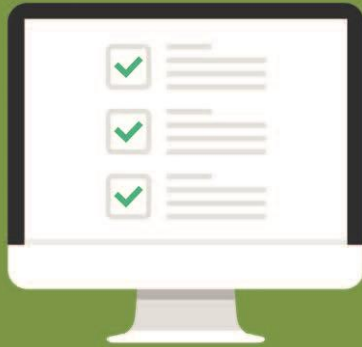
Is Medical Marijuana Safe?

- Marijuana can be safely used within the supervised routine of medical care.
- Laboratory tested for concentration and contaminants.
- It is not a completely benign product but can be managed if used appropriately.
- Safe but effective.
- No recorded cases of overdose fatalities attributed to cannabis.
- Start Low and GO SLOW.



HOW PATIENTS CAN GET MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN PENNSYLVANIA

1



REGISTER for the Medical Marijuana Program at medicalmarijuana.pa.gov

2



OBTAIN a physician's certification that you suffer from one of the 23 serious medical conditions.

3



COMPLETE registration by paying for a medical marijuana ID card.

4



VISIT a dispensary in Pennsylvania to obtain medical marijuana.



Caregiver Registration

- Caregivers can provide care for up to 5 patients.
- Patients may designate up to 2 caregivers.
- Please ensure you enter the information exactly as it appears on your PA driver's license or PennDOT-issued ID card.
- Type in ALL CAPS when entering your information.
- Do not use spaces between the numbers in the driver's license or PennDOT-issued ID card number.
- Do not use punctuation such as periods or commas in your address.
- Example: if your address is listed as 100 E MAIN ST on your driver's license – do not spell out EAST or STREET – must be exactly as it appears.



Certified Physicians



Department of Health Medical Marijuana Approved Practitioners

This is a listing of physicians approved to certify patients to participate in Pennsylvania's Medical Marijuana Program as of **February 12, 2018**. This list is updated periodically, but for the most current information, visit the [Patient and Caregiver Registry](#) and create a profile.

| County | Practitioner | Location | Specialty |
|-----------|---------------------|---|--|
| Allegheny | Russell Adams, D.O. | 1000 Cliffmine Rd. Suite 130 Pittsburgh, PA 15275 | Family Practice |
| | Sharon Altman, D.O. | 3811 Ohara St. Pittsburgh, PA 15213 | |
| | David Anthony, M.D. | 200 High Tower Blvd. Suite 104 Pittsburgh, PA 15205 | General and Addiction Psychiatry |
| | Muhammad Arif, M.D. | 10431 Perry Highway Suite 300 Wexford, PA 15090 | Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Pain Management |



Expert Pharmacist Consultations

- Organic Remedies provides the opportunity to speak with an expert pharmacist through a secure teleconference (during pandemic protocols).
- Pharmacist consultations are always free of charge.
- Appointments can be made at your convenience.
- Our knowledgeable pharmacists can help you manage your health conditions through recommendations on product forms, dosage and strains.



Summary Review

- Overview of Pennsylvania's Medical Marijuana Program
- Qualifying Conditions
- The Science Behind the Stigma
- Available Products
- Patient / Caregiver Registration
- Certified Physicians



QUESTIONS?





Thank You!

Eric Hauser, RPh
President, Organic Remedies
E.Hauser@OrganicRemediesPa.com

OrganicRemediesPa.com

Be sure to Follow Us...



Enola

4425 Valley Road
Enola, Pa 17025
717-562-1158

Chambersburg

900 Wayne Avenue
Chambersburg, Pa.17201
717-251-2321

York

1098 Haines Road
York, Pa. 17402
717-699-7083

