Medical & Recreational Cannabis Updates in Illinois

November 1, 2019
Northbrook, IL

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Primary Care Updates

Disclosures
None

Objectives

Learning Objectives: To share the following:

1. Updates in Adult Cannabis Use legislation
2. Updates in the newly expanded Illinois Medical Cannabis Patient Program
3. Cannabis dosing, routes, benefits, risks

Audience Response Question

The following new conditions have been added to the Medical Cannabis Patient Program (as of August 12, 2019) EXCEPT for the following:

A. Autism
B. Irritable bowel syndrome
C. Neuropathy
D. Osteoarthritis
E. Severe insomnia
F. Ulcerative colitis

Audience Response Question

In order for a Physician, Advanced Practice Nurse or Physician Assistant to certify patients for medical cannabis in Illinois, a special training program and state-issued certificate must be completed first.

- TRUE
- FALSE

Audience Response Question

Effective immediately, registered medical cannabis patients under the age of 21 years are prohibited from purchasing smokable cannabis products and their accessories, but are allowed to purchase vaporizable cannabis and their accessories.

- TRUE
- FALSE
Cannabis: Panacea, scourge, or both?

- January 1, 2020: adults over 21 will be able to legally purchase cannabis for recreational use from licensed dispensaries.
- Possession limit for Illinois residents:
  - 30 grams of cannabis flower;
  - 5 grams of cannabis concentrate;
  - 500 milligrams of THC contained in a cannabis-infused product; or
- Homegrow allowed for medical cannabis patients only - up to 5 plants per household

Adult Use of Cannabis in IL

- www.Illinois.gov

Timeline: WAVE 1

- Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
  May 1, 2020: Awards licenses for up to 75 new dispensing organizations
- Department of Agriculture
  July 1, 2020: Awards up to 40 licenses for processors, up to 40 licenses for craft growers, and licenses for transporting organizations.

Timeline: Wave 2

- Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
  December 21, 2021: awards up to 110 licenses for new dispensaries
- Department of Agriculture
  December 21, 2021: up to 120 licenses for craft growers & processors; licenses for transporting organizations.

The Cannabis Regulation Fund

Cannabis purchaser excise tax:
- 10% of the purchase price – THC level ≤ 35%
- 20% of the purchase price – All products
- 25% of the purchase price – THC level > 35%

Allocation of state tax revenue (minus state agency administrative costs)

- 35%: General Revenue Fund,
- 25%: Restoring Our Communities Fund
- 20%: Fund to support mental health & substance abuse services at local health departments
- 10%: Budget Stabilization Fund to pay backlog of unpaid bills,
- 8%: Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board
- 2%: Drug Treatment Fund to fund public education and awareness.

www.Illinois.gov
Warnings on all cannabis products:

“This product contains cannabis and is intended for use by adults 21 and over. Its use can impair cognition and may be habit forming. This product should not be used by pregnant or breastfeeding women. It is unlawful to sell or provide this item to any individual, and may not be transported outside the state of Illinois. It is illegal to operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of cannabis. Possession or use of this product may carry significant legal penalties in some jurisdictions and under federal law.”

www.Illinois.gov

Advertising is banned as follows:

• Within 1,000 feet: school grounds, playground, hospital, healthcare facility, recreation center, child care center, public park, public library, or any arcade;
• Public transit vehicles or transit shelter;
• Publicly owned or operated property;
• Images designed to appeal to minors
• Any imitation of candy packaging or labeling

www.Illinois.gov

An opportunity to serve

• Adult Use Cannabis Public Health Advisory Committee

Adult Use Cannabis Public Health Advisory Committee

Key changes: Medical Cannabis Law 2.0

• Under 21 years of age: no smokable medical cannabis, including vaping products, paraphernalia and accessories – effective immediately
• APN and PAs may certify patients – launch anticipated in September 2019
• Allow MCPP patients to register up to three (3) designated caregivers - launch date TBD
• Allow registered MCPP patients to grow up to five (5) cannabis plants for personal consumption – effective January 1, 2020

www.mcpp.Illinois.gov

Medical Cannabis Law 2.0

12 new conditions recommended by the MCAB in 2015-2016 were added in August 2019.

• Autism
• Chronic pain
• Irritable bowel syndrome
• Migraines
• Osteoarthritis
• Anorexia nervosa
• Ehlers-Danlos syndrome
• Neuro-Bechet’s autoimmune disease
• Neuropathy
• Polycystic kidney disease (PKD)
• Superior canal dehiscence syndrome
• Ulcerative colitis
Difference between OAPP & MCPP

Medical Cannabis Patient Program
- Long term certification
- Up to 3 caregivers allowed per patient
- Many more eligible conditions than OAPP

Opioid Alternative Patient Program
- 90 days, requires renewal (unlimited renewability)
- No caregivers allowed
- Limited to opioid eligible or opioid-taking patients

Program Statistics
- 83,345 qualifying patients (including 486 pediatric pts.), since September 2, 2014.
- Retail sales of medical cannabis for August - $23,951,540.90
- 2019 Total Retail Sales: $149,896,179.44
- Total Retail Sales since November 2015 by $409,990,089.68

Clarifications about the programs
- Special certification or training is NOT required to certify patients.
- A bonafide patient-physician relationship IS required, but specifics are undefined in the law.

Do strains matter? Probably not as much as previously thought.
What is most likely important? THC, CBD, terpene profile

Source: various user forums online

α-PINENE
- AROMA: Pine
- POTENTIAL MEDICAL VALUE:
  - Treatment of: Asthma, Pain, Anxiety, Cancer
- VAPORIZES AT: 55°F (13°C)

MYRCENE
- AROMA: Clove, Oak, Earthy, Herbal
- POTENTIAL MEDICAL VALUE:
  - Treatment of: Headache, Nausea
- VAPORIZES AT: 68°F (20°C)
- ALSO FOUND IN: Mango, Lemongrass, Thyme, Hops
Remedies for unpleasant side effects

Ancient cannabis antidotes: Likely due to competing terpenoids.

- Citrus- include some rind (limonene)
- Pine nuts (pinene)
- Pistachios (pinene)
- Black pepper (pinene, myrcene, B-caryophyllene)
- Calamus plant roots
- Choline supplementation

- Time, hydration, reassurance

Russo, E. Taming THC: potential cannabis synergy and phytocannabinoid-terpenoid entourage effects. British Journal of Pharmacology, Jan 2011

Thank you, and happy 20th anniversary!

NorthShore Integrative Medicine Team at the Glenview Park Center

Save the dates
Food Is Medicine: Sunday April 26, 2020- Chicago Botanic Garden
Integrative Medicine Benefit Concert: January 11, 2020 - Metro