



# Talking with patients about cannabis

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# Disclosures

- I think that Thoreau's Walden is the best book written in the English language
- I have no financial disclosures

# Learning Objectives

- Understand the complexity of giving patients advice about cannabis in primary care settings
- Understand the necessity of continuing to address the subject with patients

**Instructions:** Please complete all sections of this form in order to comply with the registration requirements of the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act **OR** provide relevant portions of the patient's medical record containing all information required on this form. **This does not constitute a prescription for marijuana.**

If you need this document in an alternate format, please call (971) 673-1234

**\*\*This form must be received by the OMMP within 90 days of the physician's signature date.\*\***

**\*\*You cannot renew more than three months prior to your current card expiration date.\*\***

TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY.

A PATIENT INFORMATION	
PATIENT NAME:	DATE OF BIRTH:
MAILING ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE #:
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE:	

B PHYSICIAN INFORMATION	
PHYSICIAN NAME:	MD/DO #:
MAILING ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE #:
CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE:	

C DEBILITATING MEDICAL CONDITION	
Check all appropriate boxes:	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Malignant neoplasm (Cancer)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2. Glaucoma	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. Positive status for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. A degenerative or pervasive neurological condition	
<input type="checkbox"/> 5. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	
6. A medical condition or treatment for a medical condition that produces for a specific patient one or more of the following (check all that apply):	
<input type="checkbox"/> a. Cachexia	
<input type="checkbox"/> b. Severe pain	
<input type="checkbox"/> c. Severe nausea	
<input type="checkbox"/> d. Seizures, including but not limited to seizures caused by epilepsy	
<input type="checkbox"/> e. Persistent muscle spasms, including but not limited to spasms caused by multiple sclerosis.	
Comments:	
I hereby certify that I am a physician duly licensed to practice medicine in Oregon under ORS Chapter 677. I have primary responsibility for the care and treatment of the above-named patient. The above-named patient has been diagnosed with the above debilitating medical condition(s). Marijuana used medically may mitigate the symptoms or effects of this patient's condition. <u>This is not a prescription for the use of medical marijuana.</u>	
<b>PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>

PATIENT MAIL ATTENDING PHYSICIAN'S STATEMENT TO: OHA/OMMP  
PO Box 14450 Portland, OR 97293-0450

**Reset**

**C****DEBILITATING MEDICAL CONDITION**

Check all appropriate boxes:

 1. Malignant neoplasm (Cancer) 2. Glaucoma 3. Positive status for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) 4. A degenerative or pervasive neurological condition 5. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

6. A medical condition or treatment for a medical condition that produces for a specific patient one or more of the following (check all that apply):

 a. Cachexia b. Severe pain c. Severe nausea d. Seizures, including but not limited to seizures caused by epilepsy e. Persistent muscle spasms, including but not limited to spasms caused by multiple sclerosis.

Comments:

I hereby certify that I am a physician duly licensed to practice medicine in Oregon under ORS Chapter 677. I have primary responsibility for the care and treatment of the above-named patient. The above-named patient has been diagnosed with the above debilitating medical condition(s). Marijuana used medically may mitigate the symptoms or effects of this patient's condition. This is not a prescription for the use of medical marijuana.

**PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE:****DATE:**

# Why do people use cannabis?

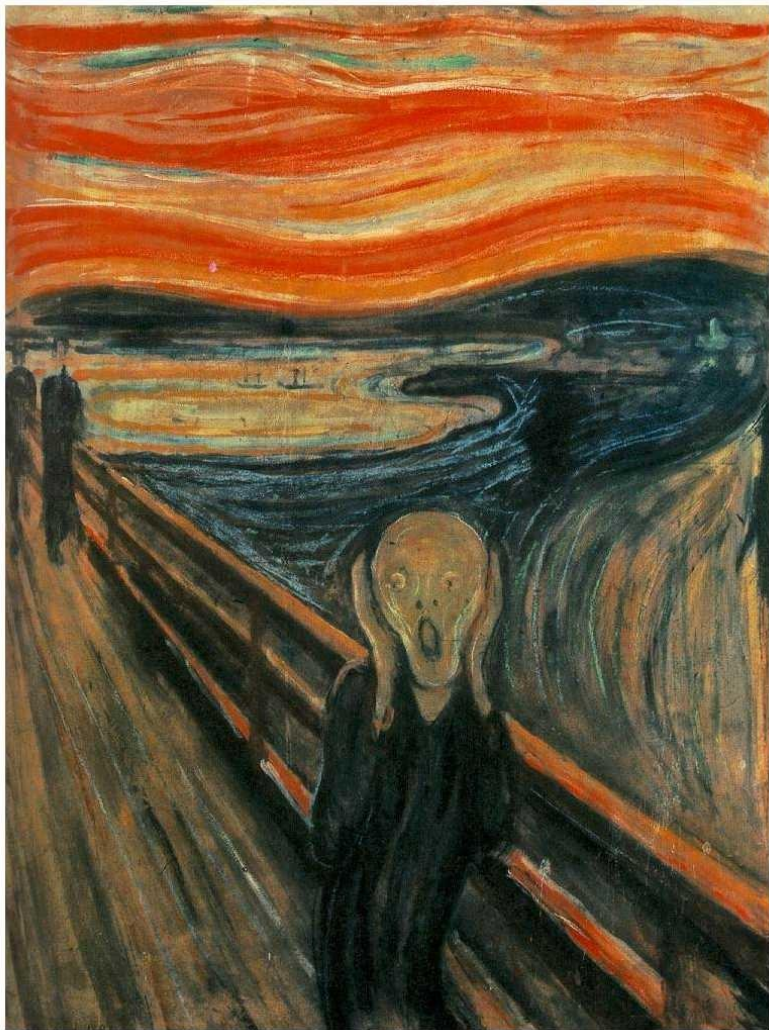
Condition	Count of Reporting Patients	Percentage of Reporting Patients
Severe Pain	35,030	88.8%
Spasms	8,174	20.7%
PTSD	4,074	10.3%
Nausea	4,049	10.3%
Cancer	2,595	6.6%
Neurological	1,631	4.1%
Seizures	1,094	2.8%
Glaucoma	613	1.6%
Cachexia	574	1.5%
HIV/AIDS	355	0.9%

# National Academy of Medicine (2017)

- Question: Does this evidence review help?
- Answer: maybe a little bit?
  - Most patients are content with their N of 1 experience, not seeking advice from a physician.
  - The Pellegrino Principle
    - Is there sufficient evidence to advise people they should use cannabis for any of the listed conditions? Does it overcome the potential for harm?
    - To what end?







# The common sense message for patients

- I can't give you strong advice for or against chronic use of cannabis for chronic pain because there isn't strong evidence either way. Use it if you feel you must, but be careful. Use as little as possible as infrequently as possible. Try to use forms heavier in CBD than in THC. Take days off. Don't use heavy equipment like automobiles while under the influence. Take heed if others observe that it's affecting you adversely. And occasionally, stop to consider if it's truly helping you live a healthy, productive, and happy life."



Thank You