



2016 MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM REPORT TO THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY 10, 2017

In accordance with the Edward O. Hawkins and Thomas C. Slater Medical Marijuana Act, § 21-28.6-6(l), the Department of Health (RIDOH) respectfully submits this report on applications for the use of medical marijuana for symptom relief for the time period of October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.

As of December 31, 2016, there were 16,418 active registered patients and 2,826 active registered caregivers.

1) The number of applications for registrations as a qualifying patient, primary caregiver, or authorized purchaser made to RIDOH:

For the time period of October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, RIDOH received 1,350 new applications for registration as patients and caregivers.

The registration requirements for the authorized purchaser have been incorporated in the amended Rules and Regulations Related to The Medical Marijuana Program Administered by the Department of Health [R-21-28.6-MMP], which have been filed with the Rhode Island Secretary of State. Registration of authorized purchasers will begin on January 1, 2017.

2) The number of approved registrations for qualifying patients, primary caregivers, and authorized purchasers:

For the time period of October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, RIDOH approved 1,232 patient registrations and 192 caregiver registrations.

The number of applications approved is larger than the number received due to the fact that there were a percentage of applications that were incomplete upon receipt prior to October 1, 2016. When we receive the requisite documentation and/or fees for incomplete applications, the application is approved and the registration is issued at that time.

3) The nature of the debilitating conditions of qualifying patients:

Practitioner Written Certifications contained the following debilitating conditions for the time period of October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016:

Please note that many patients have more than one diagnosis code. Therefore the count of diagnosis codes will always be higher than the number of patients.

Qualifying Debilitating Condition	Percentage of Total Patients	Number of Patients
Severe Debilitating, Chronic Pain	59.33%	992
Severe Nausea	12.74%	213
Cancer or Treatment	8.43%	141
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	8.13%	136
Severe and Persistent Muscle Spasms	5.14%	86
Seizures, Including Epilepsy	1.79%	30
Cachexia or Wasting Syndrome	1.38%	23
Hepatitis C or Treatment	1.32%	22
Glaucoma or Treatment	1.26%	21
Positive Status for HIV or Treatment	0.30%	5
AIDS or Treatment	0.18%	3
Agitation Related to Alzheimer's Disease	0.00%	0

4) The number of registrations revoked:

There was one registration revoked in accordance with §21-28.6-9 of the Act during the time period of October 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016 in response to a notification from the Department of Attorney General advising the Department of Health that a registered patient pleaded *Nolo Contendere* to the felony drug charge of Manufacture of Marijuana.

5) Specializations, if any, of practitioners providing written certification for qualifying patients:

PLEASE NOTE: The list includes Rhode Island licensed practitioners only. Massachusetts and Connecticut practitioners are not required to be licensed by RIDOH in order to write certifications for the use of medical marijuana; therefore the Medical Marijuana Program has no way to verify their specializations. The percentages and patient count data listed below are based upon the total number of currently active patients.

Specialty	Percentage of Total Patients	Number of Patients
Internal Medicine	20.98%	2,792
Surgery	17.99%	2,394

Specialty	Percentage of Total Patients	Number of Patients
Family Practice	11.93%	1,588
Anatomic Pathology	10.36%	1,379
Surgical Critical Care	10.33%	1,375
Neuropathology-Pathology	10.17%	1,353
Neurology	4.77%	635
Rheumatology	1.98%	264
Medical Oncology	1.47%	195
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	1.41%	188
Hematology	1.22%	162
Gastroenterology	0.74%	98
Psychiatry	0.71%	94
Orthopedic Surgery	0.52%	69
Neurologic Surgery	0.46%	61
Infectious Disease	0.36%	48
Obstetrics and Gynecology	0.29%	38
Pediatrics	0.26%	35
Emergency Medicine	0.25%	33
Pulmonary Disease	0.24%	32
Nephrology	0.22%	29
Anesthesiology	0.17%	23
Ophthalmology	0.17%	23
Pediatric Infectious Disease	0.17%	22
Pain Management- Anesthesiology	0.16%	21
Gynecologic Oncology	0.16%	21
Child Neurology	0.12%	16
Geriatric Medicine-Internal Medicine	0.11%	14
Critical Care Medicine	0.08%	11
Urology	0.08%	10
Clinical Neurophysiology- Psychiatry & Neurology	0.07%	9
Radiation Oncology	0.07%	9
Occupational Medicine	0.04%	5
Cardiovascular Disease	0.04%	5
Allergy & Immunology	0.02%	3
Otolaryngology	0.02%	3
Child Psychiatry-Psychiatry & Neurology	0.02%	3

Specialty	Percentage of Total Patients	Number of Patients
Dermatology	0.02%	2
Thoracic Surgery	0.02%	2
Adolescent Medicine	0.01%	1
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry-Psychiatry & Neurology 0.01% 1	0.01%	1
Colon & Rectal Surgery	0.01%	1
General Preventive Medicine	0.01%	1
Geriatric Medicine- Family Practice	0.01%	1
Pediatric Emergency Medicine	0.01%	1
Pediatric Hematology-Oncology	0.01%	1
Endocrinology Diabetes & Metabolism (IM)- Internal Medicine	0.01%	1