



# 2020 MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM REPORT TO THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MARCH 31, 2020

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 January 1, 2020, to March 31, 2020.

As of March 31, 2020, there were 18,366 active registered patients, 779 active registered caregivers and 852 active authorized purchasers.

A change to the Medical Marijuana Program in 2018 is that, after public hearing Autism Spectrum Disorder was added to the list of qualifying medical conditions effective October 22, 2018.

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

For the time-period of January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020, RIDOH received 1266 new patient applications, 36 new caregiver applications and 68 new authorized purchaser applications.

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

For the time-period of January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020 RIDOH approved 1,309 patient registrations, 41 caregiver registrations and 71 authorized purchaser registrations.

The number of applications approved is larger than the number received due to there were a percentage of applications that were incomplete upon receipt prior to January 1, 2020. 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 January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020:

*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	61.72%	998
Severe Nausea	8.47%	137
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	13.54%	219
Cancer or Treatment	5.69%	92
Severe and Persistent Muscle Spasms	5.57%	90
Cachexia or Wasting Syndrome	1.05%	17
Seizures, Including Epilepsy	1.30%	21
Glaucoma or Treatment	0.62%	10
Hepatitis C or Treatment	0.62%	10
Agitation Related to Alzheimer's Disease	0.12%	2
Positive Status for HIV or Treatment	0.62%	10
AIDS or Treatment	0.06%	1
Autism Spectrum Disorder	0.31%	5
Pregnant during 12Mo. Lic. Cycle	0.31%	5

**4) The number of registrations revoked:**

There were no registrations revoked in accordance with §21-28.6-9 of the Act during the time-period of January 1, 2020 to March 31, 2020

**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	Number of Patients	Percentage of Total Patients
Internal Medicine	4,083	38.99%
Family Practice	2,858	27.29%

Surgery	355	3.39%
Anatomic Pathology	25	0.24%
<b>Specialty</b>	<b>Number of Patients</b>	<b>Percentage of Total Patients</b>
Neuropathology-Pathology	5	0.05%
Surgical Critical Care	206	1.97%
Neurology	591	5.64%
Rheumatology	334	3.19%
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	182	1.74%
Medical Oncology	225	2.15%
Hematology	163	1.56%
Psychiatry	147	1.40%
Gastroenterology	62	0.59%
Orthopedic Surgery	63	0.60%
Neurologic Surgery	81	0.77%
Infectious Disease	55	0.53%
Pulmonary Disease	31	0.30%
Obstetrics and Gynecology	46	0.44%
Emergency Medicine	54	0.52%
Pediatrics	38	0.36%
Nephrology	32	0.31%
Ophthalmology	23	0.22%
Pediatric Infectious Disease	21	0.20%
Gynecologic Oncology	11	0.11%
Child Neurology	14	0.13%
Anesthesiology	60	0.57%
Pain Management-Anesthesiology	18	0.17%
Critical Care Medicine	1	0.01%
Urology	12	0.11%
Clinical Neurophysiology-Psychiatry & Neurology	11	0.11%
Geriatric Medicine-Internal Medicine	8	0.08%
Radiation Oncology	12	0.12%
Occupational Medicine	2	0.02%
Otolaryngology	4	0.04%
Allergy & Immunology	1	0.01%
Cardiovascular Disease	3	0.03%

Child Psychiatry- Psychiatry & Neurology	8	0.08%
<b>Specialty</b>	<b>Number of Patients</b>	<b>Percentage of Total Patients</b>
Thoracic Surgery	5	0.05%
Endocrinology Diabetes & Metabolism (IM)- Internal Medicine	2	0.02%
Geriatric Medicine- Family Practice	4	0.04%
Adolescent Medicine	1	0.01%
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry-Psychiatry & Neurology	1	0.01%
Colon & Rectal Surgery	1	0.01%
Dermatology	2	0.02%
Diagnostic Radiology	2	0.02%
General Preventive Medicine	1	0.01%
Pediatric Emergency Medicine	1	0.01%
Pediatric Hematology- Oncology-Pediatrics	1	0.01%