

UNDERSTANDING MEDICAL CANNABIS IN NEW YORK STATE

Your doctor has recommended a trial of medical cannabis for your condition. Medical cannabis can be effective in the treatment of certain chronic pain syndromes and neuropathies that have not responded to conventional therapies.



WHAT IS MEDICAL CANNABIS?

Medical cannabis is a plant-based medical therapy. There are two important active components in the cannabis leaf that have medicinal properties: THC and CBD.

Medical cannabis is available in three forms:

1. Tablets: swallowed
2. Tincture oil: dropped on the tongue
3. Inhalant: vaporized oils
4. Plant preparation: ground cannabis plant



HOW DO I OBTAIN MEDICAL CANNABIS?

- Once you are certified, you must login to: <https://my.ny.gov/> and create an account by signing up.
- Then, click the "Health Applications" icon to apply for a Registry ID card.

You will need:

- A signed certification from a NYS registered practitioner
 - Photo ID
 - Proof of NYS residency
 - A birth certificate for patients under age 18
- You will be issued a temporary card while your physical card is mailed to you.
 - Visit a registered dispensary facility to purchase medical cannabis (see attached list of dispensaries near you).
 - Re-certification must be completed on an annual basis, you may discuss this with your provider.



WILL THIS BE COVERED UNDER MY INSURANCE?

Medical cannabis is NOT covered by medical insurance. The medication can cost approximately \$80-\$150 per month depending on the form of administration and the dispensaries market price.



WHAT IF I AM NOT SEEING ANY RESULTS FROM MEDICAL CANNABIS?

Medication titration and dose adjustments are done by an experienced dispensary technician at the medical cannabis dispensary. We encourage you to work with your technician to adjust the medication dose until the desired results are achieved.



WARNING:

Medical cannabis is intended to be used as an adjunct, NOT a replacement for your current pain medication regimen. Consult with your doctor before stopping or starting any other pain medications. If you are experiencing any side effects including but not limited to impaired short term memory or coordination, altered judgement, paranoia and/or psychosis please stop the medication immediately and consult your physician.

DISPENSARIES

See attached or visit the link below for the most updated dispensary listings:
https://www.health.ny.gov/regulations/medical_marijuana/application/selected_applicants.htm