

The Healing Joint

Jeannette Musset, NMD

Risks and Benefits for Medical Cannabis

Under the Arizona state law, the medical use of marijuana is permissible for some patients with terminal or debilitating medical conditions. Washington State law requires health care professionals to advise patients about the risks and benefits of the medical use of marijuana before authorizing them to engage in the medical use of marijuana.

According to the Arizona law, the medical use of cannabis may benefit patients diagnosed with the following conditions: Cancer, Glaucoma, PTSD, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Hepatitis C, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Crohn's Disease, Agitation of Alzheimer's disease, a chronic or debilitating disease or medical condition or the treatment for a chronic or debilitating disease or medical condition that causes: Cachexia or wasting syndrome; Severe and chronic pain; Severe nausea; Seizures, including those characteristics of epilepsy; Severe or persistent muscle spasms, including those characteristics of multiple sclerosis. Some of the risks of medical use of marijuana may include possible longterm effects on the brain in the areas of memory, coordination and cognition; impairment of the ability to drive or operate heavy machinery; and physical or psychological dependence. Smoking marijuana may cause respiratory damage and possibly lung cancer.

Informed Consent

I have been advised that the use of cannabis may affect my coordination and cognition in ways that could impair my ability to drive a vehicle and operate heavy machinery, drive or engage in potentially hazardous activities.

I understand side effects may occur while I am taking medical cannabis. Side effects of medical cannabis can include, but are not limited to: increased heart rate, euphoria, dysphoria, confusion, low blood pressure, dizziness, inability to concentrate, sedation, anxiety, paranoia, delusion, suppression of the body's immune system, impairment of short term memory, alterations in the perception of time and space, difficulty in completing complex tasks, and impairment of motor skills, reaction time and physical coordination.

I understand that some patients can become dependent on cannabis. This means they experience mild withdrawal of depression, sadness and irritability, restfulness or mild agitation, insomnia, loss of appetite, sleep disturbance, trouble concentrating, and unusual tiredness.

For some patients chronic cannabis use can lead to laryngitis, bronchitis, and general apathy. Although cannabis does not produce specific psychosis, the possibility exists that may exacerbate schizophrenia on persons predisposed to that disorder.

I understand that medical cannabis is a medicine used in treating the suffering. Caused by serious and debilitating medical conditions.

I am here under my own free will, am of sound mind and have been informed of the risks associated with the use of medical cannabis. I hereby voluntarily authorize the disclosure of my personal information. I understand that this information will be used for purpose of providing services or care to me.

By signing below I agree that all my information is correct and that I have read the above statements.

Print Name _____ DOB : _____

Signature _____ Today's Date _____