



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM

June 2015



# Medical Marijuana Program (MMP) Presentation Summary

- Understanding the Law
- Role of Physicians
- Regulation and Legal Protections for Patients, Caregivers, Producers and Dispensaries
- Where We Are Now
- Questions



## Basic Timeline

- May 2012 – Public Act 12-55 becomes law
- October 2012 – Patient registration begins
- January 2013 – First draft of regulations
- April 2013 – Public hearing on Regulations
- June 2013 – Regulations submitted to General Assembly's Regulation Review Committee
- September 2013 – Regulations effective
- September 2013 – Request for applications for producer and dispensary facility licenses
- November 2013 – Producer and dispensary facility license applications submitted
- February 2014 – Producer licenses awarded
- April 2014 – Dispensary facility licenses awarded
- September 2014 – Medical marijuana available for sale to patients



# Understanding the Law

- Public Act 12-55, An Act Concerning the Palliative Use of Marijuana
  - Signed into law on May 31, 2012
  - Codified at C.G.S. § § 21a-408 to 21a-408q
- Designed to enable the palliative use of marijuana by seriously ill patients while preventing misuse or diversion
- Immunity from **state** criminal and civil penalties



## Federal Guidance

- U.S. DoJ Enforcement Memo – August 29, 2014
- U.S. Treasury Dep't FINCEN Memo February 14, 2014
- U.S. DoJ Financial Crimes Memo February 14, 2014

# Understanding the Law: Designed to Prevent Misuse and Diversion

- Limited List of Debilitating Medical Conditions
- Physicians are the Gatekeepers
- Patients and Caregivers Must Meet Strict Requirements and Act Responsibly
- Producers and Dispensaries are Tightly Controlled

# Debilitating Medical Conditions Recognized by the Law

- Cancer
- Glaucoma
- Positive status for human immunodeficiency virus or acquired immune deficiency syndrome
- Parkinson's disease
- Multiple sclerosis
- Damage to the nervous tissue of the spinal cord with objective neurological indication of intractable spasticity
- Epilepsy
- Cachexia
- Wasting Syndrome
- Crohn's disease
- Post-traumatic stress disorder

# Physicians are the Gatekeepers

- Must have a bona-fide physician-patient relationship
- Certify if patient needs a caregiver
- Cannot financially benefit from registration beyond normal fee for office visit

# Registration Process Reinforces Physician's Gatekeeper Role

- Online and accessible only to physicians, patients and caregivers
- Registration is a three step process:
  - Step 1: Physician initiates registration
  - Step 2: After physician submits certification, patient can access the system
  - Step 3: If physician certifies the need for a caregiver, the caregiver can log in after the patient.
- Registrations must be renewed annually

# Registration Process Overview

**MMP** Medical Marijuana Program  
CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

Current User: Log In/Out

Main Menu

## Main Menu

[Show Page Help](#)

I am a Physician

I am a Patient

I am a Care Giver

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Sign-in Page – visit [www.biznet.ct.gov/dcp-mmrp](http://www.biznet.ct.gov/dcp-mmrp)  
If first time user, click on “Not a User? Register to become a user.”



# Physician Protections

- Immunity for certifying patients: C.G.S § 21a-408c(c)
  - Not subject to arrest or prosecution, criminal or civil penalty, may not be denied right or privilege, including being subject to disciplinary action by a professional licensing board if:
    - Bona-fide physician/patient relationship
    - Performed medically reasonable patient assessment
    - Diagnosed debilitating condition
    - Explained the potential risks and benefits to the patient
    - No financial interest is a producer or dispensary facility

## Board of Physicians (BOP)

- Consist of up to eight physicians
- Knowledgeable about the palliative use of marijuana
- Hold public meetings several times a year
- Advise DCP on medical aspects of program
- Evaluate petitions to add to list of debilitating medical conditions

# Debilitating Conditions Being Added Following Board of Physicians Recommendation

- Sickle Cell Disease
- Post Laminectomy Syndrome with Chronic Radiculopathy
- Severe Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig's Disease)
- Ulcerative Colitis
- Fabry Disease

## Qualified Patient Must be an Adult With a Debilitating Medical Condition

- Certified by a physician as:
  - Having a debilitating medical condition
  - Being an appropriate candidate for medical marijuana
- 18 years of age
- Connecticut resident
- Not an inmate in a Department of Corrections facility

## Not Everyone Can Register as a Caregiver

- 18 years of age
- Not the patient's physician
- Not convicted of violating certain controlled substance laws
- Where the patient lacks legal capacity, is a parent, guardian or legal custodian
- Responsible for only one patient with limited exceptions

# Patients and Caregivers Must Act Responsibly

- Possess no more than a one-month supply between them
- Not use marijuana in a way that endangers others
- Store marijuana in a secure location
- Not use marijuana in a prohibited place

# Patient Protections

- Immunity for use or possession of up to a month supply (C.G.S § 21a-408a)
  - Not subject to arrest or prosecution
  - Not subject to criminal or civil penalty
  - May not be denied a right or privilege, including being subject to disciplinary action by a professional licensing board
- Law enforcement can verify patient registration status 24/7
- Similar protections for caregivers

# Patient Protections

- No discriminatory treatment based upon status as a medical marijuana patient: C.G.S § 21a-408p
  - Schools may not refuse enrollment or discriminate
  - Landlords may not refuse to rent or take action
  - Employers may not refuse to hire or discharge, penalize or threaten based on someone's status as a patient
  - Employers may prohibit use during work hours or discipline for on-the-job intoxication

# Producers are Limited and Tightly Regulated

- Secure indoor facilities
- Built in permissible locations in Connecticut
- Experienced and financially capable
- Meet health, safety, security and other requirements
- Manufacture pharmaceutical grade marijuana that is unadulterated, lab tested and properly labeled

# Producer - Operational Requirements

- State and local building, fire and zoning requirements and local ordinances
- Agricultural and production experience
- Security system and security plan to prevent the diversion, theft or loss of marijuana
- FDA good manufacturing standards
- Homogenization of product
- Laboratory testing

# Licensed Producers

- Advance Grow Labs, LLC - West Haven, CT
- Connecticut Pharmaceutical Solutions LLC -Portland, CT
- Curaleaf, LLC - Simsbury, CT
- Theraplant, LLC - Watertown, CT

# Marijuana Dispensed Consistent with its Status as a Controlled Substance

- Dispensary facilities regulated like pharmacies
- Marijuana dispensed by licensed pharmacists
  - Trained on proper handling of controlled substances
  - Experience counseling patients on medication use and drug interactions

# Requirements for Tight Internal Controls

- Professional alarm systems
- Marijuana stored in approved safes or vaults with limited access
- Marijuana may not be used at the dispensary facility
- Except for emergency situations, visitors must be pre-approved by the Department
- Medical marijuana sold in child-resistant, tamper-proof packaging

# Dispensary Facilities

- Arrow Alternative Care Inc., Hartford, CT
- Bluepoint Wellness of Connecticut, Branford, CT
- Compassionate Care Center, Bethel, CT
- Prime Wellness of CT, South Windsor, CT
- Thames Valley Alternative Relief, Uncasville, CT
- The Healing Corner, Bristol, CT

## Producer and Dispensary Protections

- Immunity for producer and employees for cultivating, selling, transporting or delivering to dispensary facilities: C.G.S § 21a-408k(b)
- Immunity for dispensary facilities and employees for acquiring, possessing, distributing or dispensing in accordance with statute: C.G.S § 21a-408j(b)

# Differences Between Medical & Street Marijuana

## Medical Marijuana:

- Pharmaceutical grade
- Laboratory tested
- Label and active ingredients on all packaging
- Unadulterated

# Producer – Sample Label

Product Name → **AGL-F 17.8 H - 3.5 g (1/8oz)**

Producer Name & Address → **Advanced Grow Labs  
400 Frontage Road  
West Haven, CT 05616**

Packaged/Expiration Date → **OPC Lic #: 1**  
**Batch #: AGL-BR-F3 150216**  
**Package ID: 00000000307**  
**Harvest Date: 2015-02-16**  
**Vendor Type:**  
**Strain: HYBRID**  
**Packaged Date: 03-11-2015**  
**Expiration Date: 03-11-2016**  
**Gross Weight: 3.50 GR**  
**Net Weight: 3.50 GR**  
**MIP Weight:**

State Issued NDC Number →   
00000000307

Active Ingredients → **Ingredients:**  
Raw Flower Pre-Roll x 4  
Advanced Grow Labs Tested On: 2015-02-20

THC:	0.558%	CBD:	<0.01%
THCA:	17.283%	CBDA:	0.042%
DTHC:	N/A%	CBN:	0.012%

TESTING: Microbiology PASS, Mycotoxins PASS, Heavy Metals PASS, Pesticides PASS

TERPENOIDS PRESENT: Alpha-pinene, Beta-pinene, Caryophyllene, Limonene D, Myrcene, Humulene

Conversion  
2.5 Oz = 70 GR



# Producer – Sample Label

Producer Name  
& Address



47 Lower Main Street, Portland CT 06480  
PH: 860-740-4340

Product Name

**Seraden Flower**

Product Qty: **3.5 g**

State Issued  
NDC Number

Lot: C001503

NDC 00000000500

Date Tested: 2/20/2015

ExpirationDate: 2/20/2016

Active  
Ingredients

THC: 0.77%   CBD: 0.0%   THCA: 26.80%   CBDA: 0.14%

Terpenes Profile: (% Weight)  $\alpha$ -pinene – 0.03%,  $\beta$ -pinene – 0.09%,  $\beta$ -myrcene – 0.57%, limonene – 0.28%, ocimene – 0.03%, terpinolene – 0.05%, linalool – 0.64%,  $\beta$ -caryophyllene – 1.09%, humulene – 0.18%

Microbiology: PASS   Heavy Metals: PASS   Mycotoxin: PASS   Chemical Residue: PASS



# Producer – Sample Label

Product Name

TheraplantBalm-P - 5.5mL Tube

Producer Name  
& Address

Theraplant  
856 Echo Lake Rd  
Watertown, CT 06795

<b>OPC Lic #:</b> Theraplant	<b>Batch #:</b> P	<b>Package ID:</b> 00000000399
<b>Harvest Date:</b> 2014-12-16	<b>Vendor Type:</b>	<b>Strain:</b> Hybrid
<b>Packaged Date:</b> 03-19-2015	<b>Expiration Date:</b> 03-19-2018	
<b>Gross Weight:</b> 4.00 GR	<b>Net Weight:</b> 4.00 GR	<b>MIP Weight:</b>

State Issued  
NDC Number



00000000399

Active  
Ingredients

**Ingredients:**  
TOTAL CANNABINOID CONTENT: 5.37mg  
TERPENOID ANALYSIS: Alpha Pinene <0.010%, Beta Pinene <0.010%, Limonene <0.010%, Beta Myrcene <0.010%, Beta Caryphyllene <0.010%, Humulene <0.010%

<u>Theraplant</u>	Tested On: 2015-03-10
THC: 0.33%	CBD: <0.010%
THCA: 0.136%	CBDA: <0.010%
DTHC: N/T	CBN: <0.010%

TESTING: MicrobiologyPASS, MycotoxinsPASS, Heavy MetalsPASS, PesticidesPASS  
CBG=<0.010% CBGA=0.021% CBC=<0.010%  
N/T = Not Testable = 0% - .0999%  
Warning - Contains coconut oil. May be habit forming.  
1 Tube=0.25G Raw Flower

# Producer – Sample Label

**OPC Lic #:** 0000003      **Batch #:** 22-A      **Package ID:** 00000000614-22A

**Harvest Date:** 2014-12-19      **Vendor Type:** Dispensary      **Strain:** Blend  
**Gross Weight:** 0.23 GR      **Net Weight:** 0.23 GR      **MIP Weight:**



00000000614-22A

State Issued  
NDC Number

**Expiration Date:** 03-19-2016

## Ingredients:

Tested On: 03/19/2015; C230 CBD VAPE CARTRIDGE  
230.74mg CBD per 1.5mL cartridge. Equivalent to 2300mg  
marijuana. THCA: 0.280%; THC: 0.805%; CBDA: 3.060%; CBD:  
12.323%; CBG-A: 0.022%; CBG: 0.247%; CBN: 0.029%; CBC:  
0.768% Terpenes: Alpha-Pinene; Beta-Pinene; Beta-Myrcene;  
Limonene; Beta-Caryophyllene; Humulene Microbiological,  
mycotoxins, heavy metals, chemical residue: ALL PASS  
CURALEAF, 100 GRIST MILL RD., SIMSBURY, CT 06070

Product Name

Active  
Ingredients

Producer Name  
& Address



## Available Products



MedTabs - 5, 10 GR



Pre-Rolled Cones - 2.25,  
3.5, 14 GR



Raw Flower – 2, 2.5, 5, 7, 10,  
14, 15, 35 GR

## Available Products



Vape Cartridges – 0.1 ML, 1.5 ML,  
2.6 GR, 2000 MG, 2300MG, 3400  
MG, 675 MG



Vape Pen – 200, 223.84  
MG

## Available Products



Coconut Peanut Butter Bites – 0.06,  
20 MG



Brownie Bites – 0.06, 20 MG

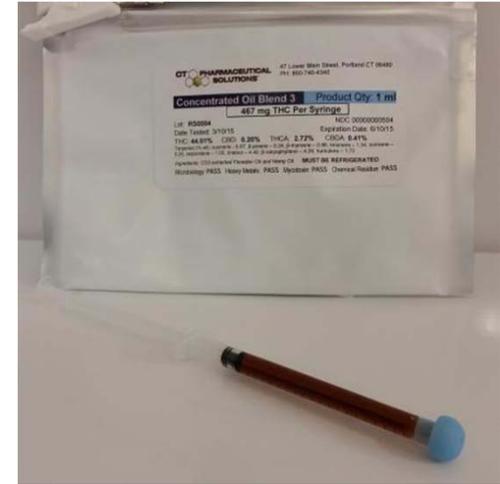
# Available Products



Sublingual Strips – 20 MG



Concentrate – 20 MG



Concentrated Oil – 600 MG

## Available Products



Almond Butter – 20 MG



Coconut Butter – 20 MG



Gel Caps – 600 MG

# Available Products



Granola – 1300 MG,  
150MG



Dutch Coco Chocolate Cookies – 20 MG  
Green Tea Meringue Cookies – 15 MG  
Infused Olive Oil – 15 MG/tbsp

# Communities are Protected by Strict Regulations of Marijuana Businesses

- Located and designed so as not to negatively impact their communities
- Tight internal controls and robust security
- Responsible advertising
- Background checks for all employees

## **DCP Carefully Considered Applicant's Likely Impact on their Community**

- In choosing licensees, DCP considered:
  - Evidence that building, fire and zoning requirements and other local ordinances were met
  - Text or other graphic material that would be on the exterior of their facility
  - Photographs of the surrounding neighborhood and businesses
  - Map identifying schools and places of worship, among other things, within 1000 feet of proposed facilities

# Advertising Must Be Subdued

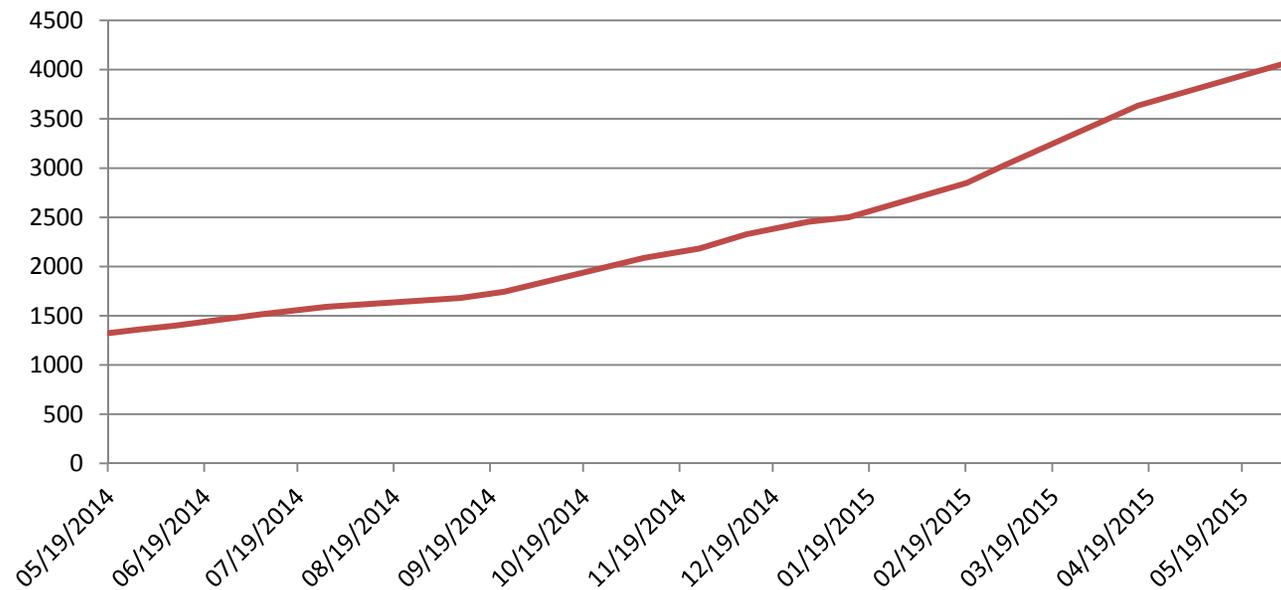
- The exterior of a dispensary facility may not:
  - Have more than one sign of a reasonable size
  - Use graphics related to marijuana or paraphernalia
  - Advertise marijuana brand names
  - Have marijuana products or paraphernalia that are within the facility be visible from the outside
- Marijuana advertising cannot:
  - Encourage or represent recreational use
  - Portray or be suggestive of use by persons under 18
  - Be obscene or indecent
  - Be false or misleading.

# Program Update

- Patient registrations increasing
- Regulations to add new conditions
- Request for Applications for dispensary facilities
- Public service announcements

# Connecticut Medical Marijuana Program Statistics

# of Approved Patients



4097 Patients

June 5, 2015



# **Web address for the Medical Marijuana Program:**

**[www.ct.gov/dcp/mmp](http://www.ct.gov/dcp/mmp)**

