



2019 MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM REPORT TO THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

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 July 1, 2019, to September 30, 2019.

As of September 30, 2019, there were 17,110 active registered patients, 794 active registered caregivers and 860 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 July 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019, RIDOH received 1071 new patient applications, 48 new caregiver applications and 103 new authorized purchaser applications.

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

For the time period of July 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019 RIDOH approved 1,093 patient registrations, 45 caregiver registrations and 105 authorized purchaser 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 July 1, 2019. 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 July 1, 2019 to 30 September 30, 2019:

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. Also, a question regarding whether one would become pregnant during a 12-month license cycle has been added to capture those numbers.

Qualifying Debilitating Condition	Percentage of Total Patients	Number of Patients
Severe Debilitating, Chronic Pain	59.80%	830
Severe Nausea	6.92%	96
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	12.68%	176
Cancer or Treatment	8.14%	113
Severe and Persistent Muscle Spasms	526%	73
Cachexia or Wasting Syndrome	1.44%	20
Seizures, Including Epilepsy	2.09%	29
Glaucoma or Treatment	1.08%	15
Hepatitis C or Treatment	1.01%	14
Agitation Related to Alzheimer's Disease	0.22%	3
Positive Status for HIV or Treatment	.50%	7
AIDS or Treatment	0.07%	1
Autism Spectrum Disorder	0.58%	8
Pregnant During 12 mo. License cycle?	0.22%	3

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 July 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019

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	4,129	37.86%
Family Practice	2,952	27.07%

Surgery	403	3.70%
Anatomic Pathology	23	0.21%
Specialty	Number of Patients	Percentage of Total Patients
Neuropathology-Pathology	7	0.06%
Surgical Critical Care	231	2.12%
Neurology	635	5.82%
Rheumatology	326	2.99%
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	172	1.58%
Medical Oncology	238	2.18%
Hematology	184	1.69%
Psychiatry	138	1.27%
Gastroenterology	69	0.63%
Orthopedic Surgery	62	0.57%
Neurologic Surgery	82	0.75%
Infectious Disease	50	0.46%
Pulmonary Disease	30	0.28%
Obstetrics and Gynecology	51	0.47%
Emergency Medicine	46	0.42%
Pediatrics	31	0.28%
Nephrology	36	0.33%
Ophthalmology	26	0.24%
Pediatric Infectious Disease	36	0.33%
Gynecologic Oncology	15	0.14%
Child Neurology	15	0.14%
Anesthesiology	31	0.23%
Pain Management-Anesthesiology	22	0.20%
Critical Care Medicine	1	0.01%
Urology	12	0.11%
Clinical Neurophysiology-Psychiatry & Neurology	13	0.12%
Geriatric Medicine-Internal Medicine	14	0.13%
Radiation Oncology	14	0.13%
Occupational Medicine	2	0.02%
Otolaryngology	3	0.03%
Allergy & Immunology	1	0.01%

Cardiovascular Disease	3	0.03%
Child Psychiatry- Psychiatry & Neurology	1	0.01%
Specialty	Number of Patients	Percentage of Total Patients
Thoracic Surgery	5	0.05%
Endocrinology Diabetes & Metabolism (IM)- Internal Medicine	2	0.02%
Geriatric Medicine- Family Practice	1	0.01%
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%