



2023 MEDICAL MARIJUANA
PROGRAM REPORT TO THE
RHODE ISLAND GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
1/1/23 – 3/31/23

MARCH 2023

In accordance with the Edward O. Hawkins and Thomas C. Slater Medical Marijuana Act, § 21-28.6-6(l), the Rhode Island 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, 2023, to March 31, 2023.

As of March 31, 2023, there were 13,253 active registered patients, 279 active registered caregivers and 441 active authorized purchasers.

The numbers listed above may differ slightly from the Annual Report because the report is looking at just active status. Therefore, if a license status changes during the time the reports are run, the numbers will not match.

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, 2023 to March 31, 2023, RIDOH received 379 new patient applications, 14 new caregiver applications and 19 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, 202 to March 31, 202 RIDOH approved 366 patient registrations, 42 caregiver registrations and 36 authorized purchaser registrations.

The number of applications approved is larger than the number received due to the fact there were a percentage of applications that were incomplete upon receipt prior to January 1, 2023. 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, 2023 to March 31, 2023:

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	70.3%	255
Severe Nausea	5.2%	19
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)	17.6%	64
Cancer or Treatment	14.3%	52
Severe and Persistent Muscle Spasms	3.9%	14
Cachexia or Wasting Syndrome	1.4%	5
Seizures, Including Epilepsy	1.7%	6
Glaucoma or Treatment	0.6%	2
Positive Status for HIV or Treatment	0.24%	1
Autism Spectrum Disorder	1.1%	4

4) The number of registrations revoked:

No registrations were revoked in accordance with §21-28.6-9 of the Act during the time-period of January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023.

5) Specializations, if any, of practitioners providing written certification for qualifying patients:

PLEASE NOTE: The percentages and patient count data listed below are based upon the total number of currently active patients. These percentages are grouped by profession then sorted by patient count per specialty.

Specialty	Number of Patients	Percentage of Total Patients
Internal Medicine	3,111	35.78%
Family Practice	1,399	16.09%
Surgery	246	2.83%
Anatomic Pathology	3	0.03%

Specialty	Number of Patients	Percentage of Total Patients
Surgical Critical Care	241	2.77%
Neurology	419	4.82%
Rheumatology	261	3.00%
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	85	.98%
Medical Oncology	164	1.89%
Hematology	120	1.38%
Psychiatry	54	0.62%
Gastroenterology	38	0.44%
Orthopedic Surgery	46	0.53%
Neurologic Surgery	50	0.58%
Infectious Disease	59	0.68%
Pulmonary Disease	16	0.18%
Obstetrics and Gynecology	22	0.25%
Emergency Medicine	83	0.95%
Pediatrics	30	0.35%
Nephrology	20	0.23%
Ophthalmology	8	0.09%
Pediatric Infectious Disease	14	0.16%
Gynecologic Oncology	6	0.07%
Child Neurology	8	0.09%
Anesthesiology	8	0.09%
Pain Management- Anesthesiology	8	0.09%
Critical Care Medicine	1	0.01%
Urology	11	0.13%
Clinical Neurophysiology- Psychiatry & Neurology	7	0.08%
Geriatric Medicine- Internal Medicine	8	0.09%
Radiation Oncology	5	0.06%
Occupational Medicine	1	0.01%
Otolaryngology	5	0.06%
Allergy & Immunology	1	0.01%
Child Psychiatry- Psychiatry & Neurology	1	0.01%

Specialty	Number of Patients	Percentage of Total Patients
Thoracic Surgery	2	0.02%
Endocrinology Diabetes & Metabolism (IM)- Internal Medicine	2	0.02%
Geriatric Medicine- Family Practice	1	0.01%
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry-Psychiatry & Neurology	1	0.01%
Dermatology	1	0.01%
Geriatric Psychiatry – Psychiatry & Neurology	4	0.05%