



Arizona Medical Marijuana Physician Education Program

**This project is supported through a contract with the Arizona Department of Health Services Medical Marijuana Program.*



Arizona Medical Marijuana Program Pre-Test



Arizona Medical Marijuana Program Pre-Test

1. Which of the following health professionals is not allowed to provide written certification for a patient to become a Qualifying Patient for Medical Marijuana use?
 - a. Doctor of Medicine
 - b. Registered Nurse
 - c. Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine
 - d. Homeopathic Physician



Arizona Medical Marijuana Program Pre-Test

2. As part of the patient qualification process, the physician is responsible for reviewing previous medical records and confirming the diagnosis, but does not have to examine the patient.
 - a. True
 - b. False



Arizona Medical Marijuana Program Pre-Test

3. If a pediatric patient is under 18-years-old, to become a Qualified Patient for a medical marijuana card it requires certification from how many physicians?

- a. One
- b. Two
- c. Three



Arizona Medical Marijuana Program Pre-Test

4. Which of the following is not a qualifying condition to become a medical marijuana Qualifying Patient?
- a. Seizures
 - b. Hepatitis C
 - c. AIDS
 - d. PTSD
 - e. Cachexia
 - f. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)



Arizona Medical Marijuana Program Pre-Test

5. If a physician is the medical director of a dispensary, are they allowed to provide written certifications for medical marijuana for Qualifying Patients?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

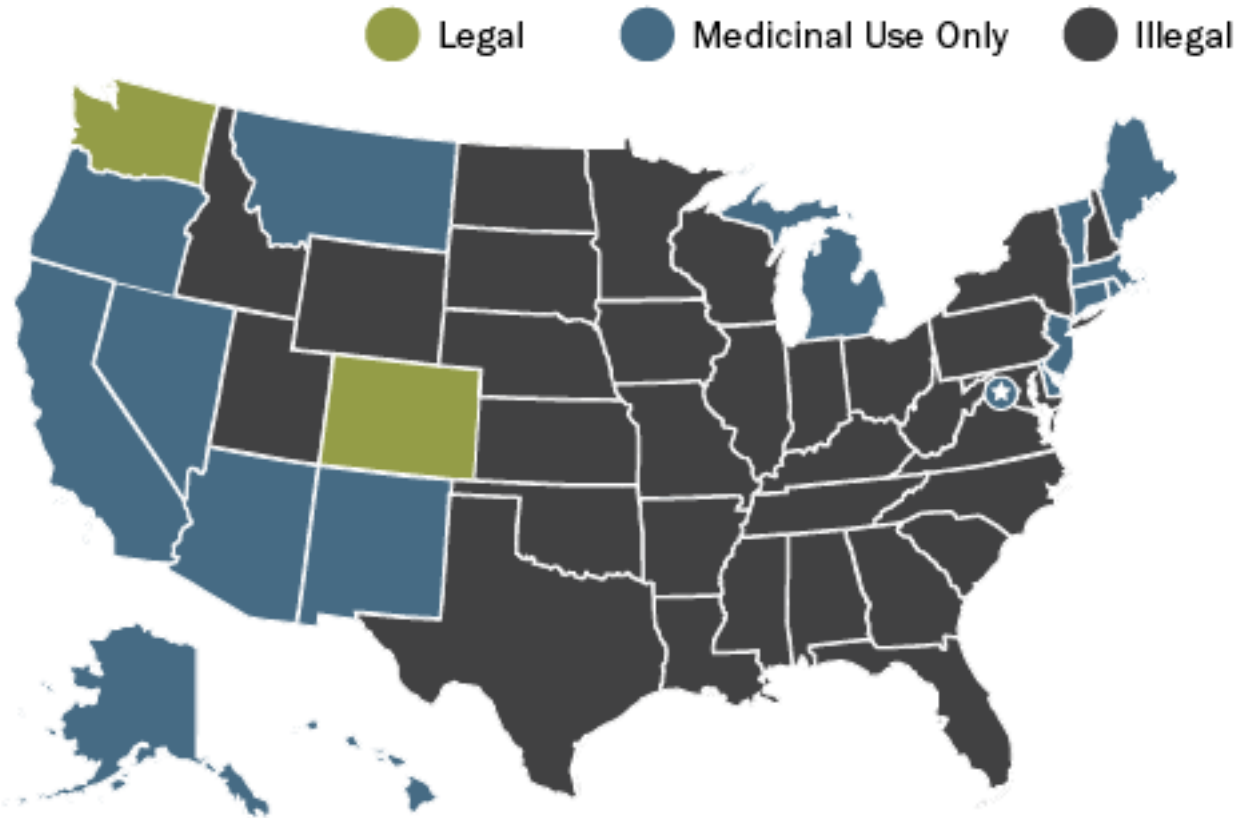


Arizona Medical Marijuana Program Pre-Test

6. ADHS is allowed to disclose the names of the physicians who certify qualifying patients?
 - a. True
 - b. False



A Look at the Country



SOURCE: National Conference of State Legislatures and National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws

Arizona Medical Marijuana Law

- Requires registry identification cards.
- Limits the number of dispensaries.
- Has the support of the various Medical Boards.
- Includes several requirements for physicians who may provide qualifying patients (QP's) with written certifications.
- **Requires dispensaries to appoint an individual who is a physician to function as a medical director.**
- Requires dispensaries to develop, document and implement policies and procedures regarding inventory control.



Registry Identification Cards

Patient ID Card and Security Features



Color Bar Identifier

As of May 8, 2013, ADHS began printing ID cards with colored bar identifiers as follows:

Qualifying Patient – Yellow
Designated Caregiver – Red
Dispensary Agent – Blue

NOTE: Cards issued prior to May 8, 2013 will not have the color bar identifier.

Ultraviolet Security Image

Under a black light, the ADHS logo (without the copper sunburst) is revealed in the center of the card.

Clear Laminate Hologram

The words "Arizona Medical Marijuana Program" are printed across the card on three separate lines within the clear laminate—once across the top, middle, and bottom of the card.



Qualifying Patients



Qualifying Conditions

Must have one of the following qualifying conditions:

- Cancer
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)
- HIV
- AIDS
- Glaucoma
- Crohn's Disease
- Agitation of Alzheimer's Disease
- Hepatitis C



Qualifying Conditions

A chronic or debilitating disease or medical condition (or the treatment for) that causes:

- cachexia or wasting syndrome
- severe and chronic pain
- severe nausea
- seizures
- severe or persistent muscle spasms



Qualifying Conditions

Or, a debilitating medical condition or treatment **approved** by ADHS under A.R.S. 36-2801.01 and A.A.C. R9-17-106.



Conditions Denied by ADHS

The following conditions that went to a public hearing have been denied by ADHS:

- PTSD
- Migraines
- Generalized Anxiety Disorder
- Depression



Eligibility Requirements



Physician Certification Form

Patient must have a **written certification** from a physician confirming diagnosis of qualifying medical condition.



- Doctor of Medicine
- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine
- Naturopathic Physician
- Homeopathic Physician

Print Form

MEDICAL MARIJUANA PHYSICIAN CERTIFICATION
PHYSICIAN INFORMATION
FOR ALL QUALIFYING PATIENTS

Physician's Name: _____
Arizona License Number: _____ Type: MD DO NMDND MD(H)/DOH

PHYSICIAN INFORMATION ON FILE WITH LICENSING BOARD

Office Address: _____
Telephone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

QUALIFYING PATIENT INFORMATION

Patient's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

CHECK ONE OR MORE BOXES TO INDICATE QUALIFYING PATIENT'S DEBILITATING MEDICAL CONDITION

<input type="checkbox"/> Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)	<input type="checkbox"/> Agitation of Alzheimer's disease
<input type="checkbox"/> Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	<input type="checkbox"/> Cancer
<input type="checkbox"/> Crohn's disease	<input type="checkbox"/> Glaucoma
<input type="checkbox"/> Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis C

IF A CHRONIC OR DEBILITATING DISEASE OR MEDICAL CONDITION OR THE TREATMENT FOR A CHRONIC OR DEBILITATING DISEASE OR MEDICAL CONDITION CAUSES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Cachexia or wasting syndrome	<input type="checkbox"/> Severe and chronic pain
<input type="checkbox"/> Severe nausea	<input type="checkbox"/> Seizures, including those characteristic of epilepsy
<input type="checkbox"/> Severe or persistent muscle spasms, including those characteristic of multiple sclerosis	

IF ANY CONDITION ABOVE IS CHECKED, INDICATE THE UNDERLYING CHRONIC OR DEBILITATING DISEASE OR MEDICAL CONDITION:

I, _____, THE PHYSICIAN:

- Have made or confirmed a diagnosis of a debilitating medical condition, as defined in [A.R.S. § 36-2801](#), for the qualifying patient.
YES NO Initial: _____
- Have established a medical record for the qualifying patient and am maintaining the qualifying patient's medical record as required in [A.R.S. § 12-2707](#).
YES NO Initial: _____
- Have conducted an in-person physical examination of the qualifying patient within the last 90 calendar days appropriate to the qualifying patient's presenting symptoms and the debilitating medical condition I diagnosed or confirmed.
YES NO Date of Examination: _____ Initial: _____
- Have reviewed the qualifying patient's medical records, including medical records from other treating physicians from the previous 12 months, the qualifying patient's responses to conventional medications and medical therapies, and the qualifying patient's profile on the Arizona Board of Pharmacy Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program database.
YES NO Initial: _____
- Have explained the potential risks and benefits of the medical use of marijuana to the qualifying patient or, if applicable, the qualifying patient's custodial parent or legal guardian.
YES NO Initial: _____
- Have referred the qualifying patient to a dispensary. YES NO IF YES, I have disclosed to the qualifying patient or, if applicable, the qualifying patient's custodial parent or legal guardian any personal or professional relationship I have with the dispensary.
YES NO Initial: _____

PHYSICIAN'S ATTESTATION

I, _____, in my professional opinion believe that the qualifying patient is likely to receive therapeutic or palliative benefit from the qualifying patient's medical use of marijuana to treat or alleviate the qualifying patient's debilitating medical condition. I attest that the information provided in this written certification is true and correct.

Physician's Signature

Date Signed



Qualified Patients Under Age of 18

Requires certification from (2) separate physicians.

Parents or legal guardians must become the caregiver and attest to:

- Assisting minor patient with medical use.
- Allowing the minor to use the marijuana.
- Will not divert the marijuana to anyone who is not allowed to possess.
- Have not been convicted of an excluded felony offense.



Arizona Medical Marijuana Program Statistics



Patient and Caregiver Statistics

March 28, 2014

Active Individual Qualifying Patients: 48,231

Active Individual Caregivers: 527

Minor Patients: 70



Age of Applicants

March 28, 2014

<18 Years	.1%
18-30 Years	24.4%
31-40 Years	19.9%
41-50 Years	16.8%
51-60 Years	21.5%
61-70 Years	14.2%
71-80 Years	2.6%
81+ Years	.6%



Reported Qualifying Conditions

March 28, 2014

Chronic Pain: 71.8%

Cancer: 2.4%

Hepatitis C: 1.5%

Two or More Conditions: 19.2%



Medical Marijuana Act



Confidentiality (§36-2810)

The AMMA has a strict confidentiality statute. ADHS cannot disclose information to anyone regarding:

- Applications (Content & Supporting Info)
- Cardholder Names
- *Physical Addresses of Dispensaries
- **Physicians Who Certify

**ADHS must, however, disclose the names and locations of dispensaries to qualifying patients.*

***ADHS can also notify a physician's licensing board if ADHS believes a physician has committed an act of unprofessional conduct for failing to comply with program requirements.*



Physician's Responsibility



Standard Protocol

- 1) Request patient's previous medical records prior to booking appointment.
- 2) Examine the patient.
- 3) Establish a medical record.
- 4) Review patient's previous medical records.
- 5) Make or confirm the diagnosis.



Standard Protocol

- 6) Discuss risks and benefits of medical use of marijuana.
- 7) Check the (qualified) patient's profile in the Controlled Substance Rx Monitoring Program Database.
- 8) Complete and sign the Physician Certification form.
- 9) Give the form to the (qualified) patient to submit diagnosis to ADHS.



Physician Audits



Physician Audits

ADHS does not have authority to regulate physicians and physician activity. Each physician is regulated by his or her applicable licensing board. ADHS will work with the licensing boards if ADHS believes program requirements are not being met.



Physician Audits

- Every six months, ADHS works with the Arizona Board of Pharmacy to examine the frequency of physician medical marijuana certifications relative to the frequency of checking the Controlled Substance Rx Monitoring Program Database.
- If the number of certifications exceeds the number of times the physician has checked the database, ADHS will inform that physician's licensing board for follow up or appropriate licensing-related action.
- This could possibly result in licensing violations and actions taken against the physician's license by his or her board.



Medical Directors

Every dispensary is required to appoint a physician to serve as the medical director. **The following is required:**

- Must be onsite or available by telephone during dispensing hours.
- Must designate another physician to cover as medical director in their absence.

Medical directors **may not** provide written certifications for medical marijuana for any qualifying patient.



Dispensary Medical Director Duties

- Provide training to dispensary agents every year.
 - Recognizing signs and symptoms of abuse.
 - Guidelines for refusing service if individual is impaired.
 - Providing information to Qualifying Patients on benefits, risks, side effects, etc.
- Develop educational materials for Qualifying Patients and caregiver.
 - Develop a system to help Qualifying Patients track symptoms, marijuana usage, and side effects.
 - Information on potential drug-to-drug interactions.



Arizona Medical Marijuana Program Post-Test



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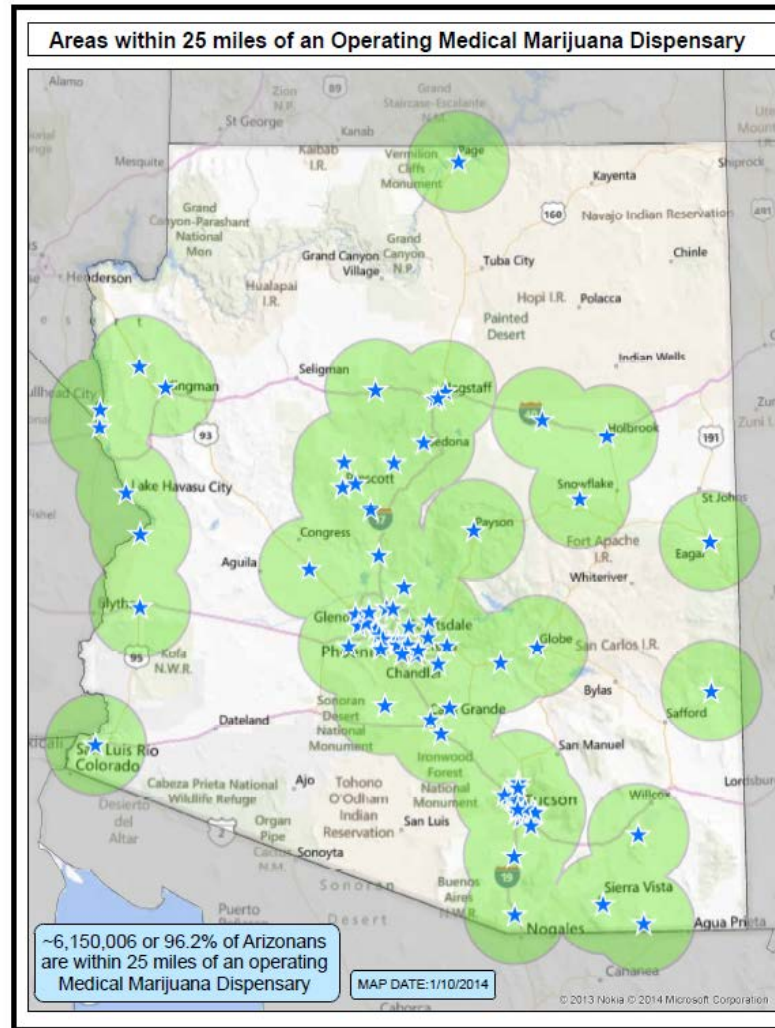
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 - a. True
 - b. False



Additional Information



Operating Dispensaries



Adding a Debilitating Medical Condition

ADHS accepts petitions to add to the list of debilitating medical conditions every **January** and **July**. The petitioner must submit:

- Contact information
- Name of medical condition
- Description of the symptoms
- Availability of conventional medical treatments
- Summary of evidence that medical marijuana will provide benefit
- Peer-reviewed, scientific journal articles reporting results of research on medical marijuana benefits specific to the condition



Protections Under the Medical Marijuana Act

No school, landlord, or employer may be penalized or denied any benefit under state law for enrolling, leasing to, or employing a registered qualifying patient or a registered designated caregiver.



Medical Marijuana Act: Discrimination

Unless a failure to do so would cause an employer to lose a monetary or licensing related benefit under federal law or regulations, an employer may not discriminate against a person hiring, termination, or imposing any terms or condition of employment or otherwise penalize a person based upon either:

- The person's status as a cardholder, or
- A registered Qualifying Patient's positive drug test for marijuana components or metabolites, unless the patient used, possessed, or was impaired by marijuana on the premises of the place of employment or during the hours of employment



Limitations Under the Medical Marijuana Act

- Possessing or engaging in the medical use of marijuana:



On a school bus.



On the grounds of any preschool, primary or secondary school.



In any correctional facility.

Limitations Under the Medical Marijuana Act

- Undertaking any task under the influence of marijuana that would constitute negligence or malpractice (e.g. driving).
- Smoking marijuana:



On any form of public transportation.



In any public place.

Medical Marijuana Act: Discrimination

Operating, navigating, or being in actual physical control of any motor vehicle, aircraft, or motorboat while under the influence of marijuana, except that a registered Qualifying Patient shall not be considered to be under the influence of marijuana solely because of the presence of metabolites or components of marijuana that appear in insufficient concentration to cause impairment.



Medical Marijuana Act: Acts Not Prohibited

Nothing in the Act prohibits an employer from disciplining an employee for ingesting marijuana in the workplace or working while under the influence of marijuana.



References

Marijuana as Medicine?: The Science Beyond the Controversy

<http://iom.edu/Reports/2000/Marijuana-as-Medicine-The-Science-Beyond-the-Controversy.aspx>

Marijuana and Medicine: Assessing the Science Base (1999)

http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=6376

The DEA Position on Marijuana

http://www.justice.gov/dea/marijuana_position.pdf

DEA Drug Fact Sheet: Marijuana

http://www.justice.gov/dea/pubs/abuse/drug_data_sheets/Marijuana.pdf

Arizona Medical Marijuana Website

www.azdhs.gov/medicalmarijuana



Questions?

