

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM



## Medical Marijuana Program (MMP) Presentation Summary

- Understanding the Law
- Role of Physicians
- Regulation and Legal Protections
- 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 Overview**

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
The Department of Administrative Services - Business Network. <u>Review our Privacy Policy</u> Need to contact us? Send e-mail to <u>DAS Web Design</u> All State <u>disclaimers and permissions</u> apply.
Hit Counter 153
Sign-in Page – visit 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)**

- Consists 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 Medical Conditions Being Added Following a BOP 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



## **Additional Patient and Caregiver 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
    - 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



#### **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, tamperproof 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)

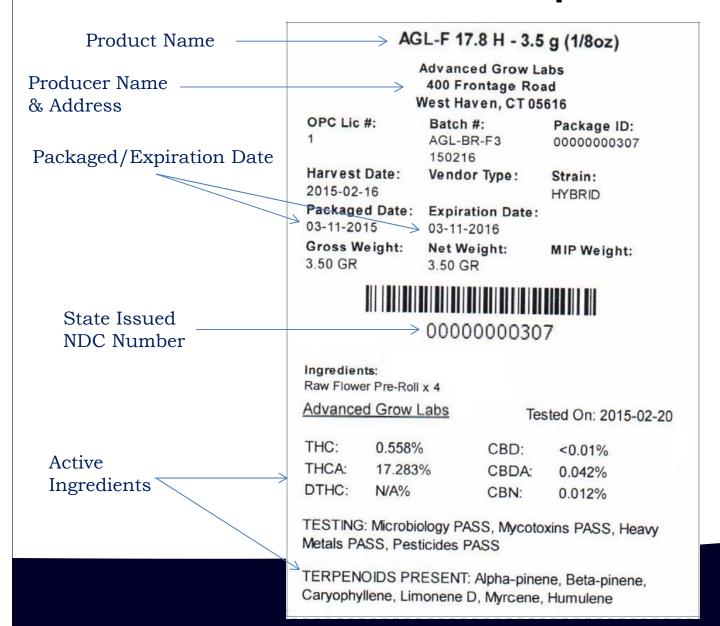


## Differences Between Medical & Street Marijuana

#### Medical Marijuana:

- Pharmaceutical grade
- Laboratory tested
- Label and active ingredients on all packaging
- Unadulterated
- Variety of dosage forms





Conversion

2.5 Oz = 70 GR



**Producer Name** & Address PHARMACEUTICAL SOLUTIONS'

47 Lower Main Street, Portland CT 06480

PH: 850-740-4340

Product Name

#### Seraden Flower

Product Qty: 3.5

Lot: C001503

ExpirationDate: 2/20/2016

NDC 00000000500

Date Tested: 2/20/2015

Active **Ingredients**  THC: 0.77% CBD: 0.0% THCA: 26.80% CBDA: 0.14%

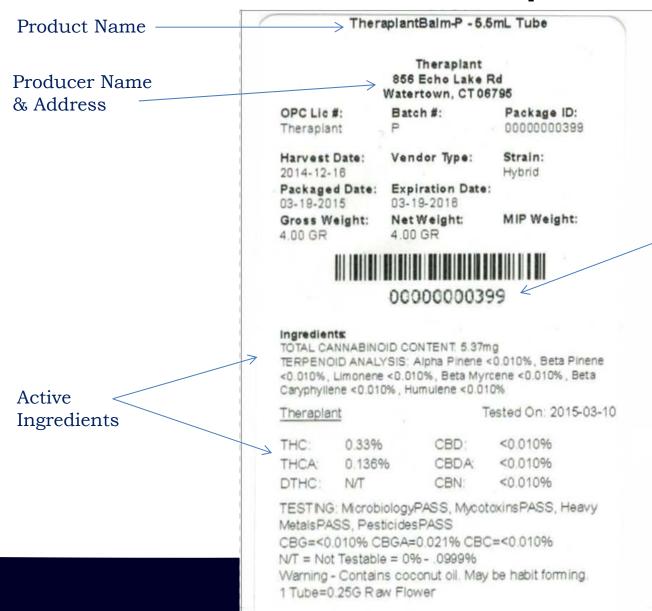
Terpenes Profile: (% Weight) α-pinene - 0.03%, β-pinene - 0.09%, β-myrcene -0.57%, limonene - 0.28%, ocimene - 0.03%, terpinolene - 0.05%, linalool - 0.64%,

β-caryophyllene - 1.09%, humulene - 0.18%

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



State Issued NDC Number



State Issued NDC Number



OPC Lic #:

Batch #:

Package ID:

0000003

22-A

00000000614-22A

Harvest Date: 2014-12-19

Vendor Type: Dispensary Strain: Blend

Gross Weight:

Net Weight:

MIP Weight:

0.23 GR

0.23 GR

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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 —





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





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



Vape Pen – 200, 223.84 MG





Coconut Peanut Butter Bites – 0.06, 20 MG



Brownie Bites – 0.06, 20 MG





Sublingual Strips – 20 MG



Concentrate – 20 MG



Concentrated Oil – 600 MG





Almond Butter – 20 MG



Coconut Butter – 20 MG



Gel Caps – 600 MG





Granola – 1300 MG, 150MG



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



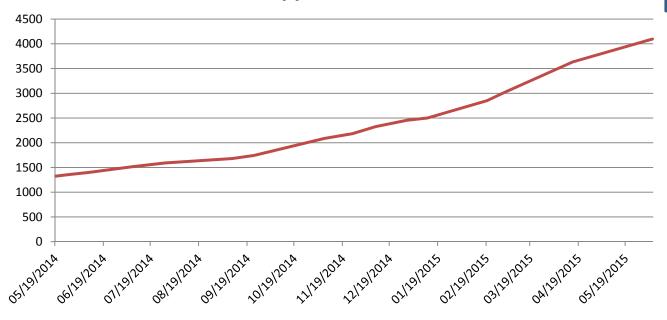
### **Program Update**

- Patient registrations increasing
- Regulations to add new conditions
- Request for Applications for dispensary facilities
- Trend towards non-smokable products
- Public service announcements
- Increasing interest in research



## Connecticut Medical Marijuana Program Statistics





4097 Patients

June 5, 2015



# Web address for the Medical Marijuana Program:

www.ct.gov/dcp/mmp

