

Things that I learned from the Chambersburg Medical Marijuana Town Hall:

- **WHAT IS MEDICAL MARIJUANA?**
 - Under Act 16 of 2016 (the Act or Medical Marijuana Program), the term "medical marijuana" refers to marijuana obtained for a certified medical use by a Pennsylvania resident with a serious medical condition and is limited by statute in Pennsylvania to the following forms:
 - pill;
 - oil;
 - topical forms, including gel, creams or ointments;
 - a form medically appropriate for administration by vaporization or nebulization, excluding dry leaf or plant form;
 - tincture; and
 - liquid;
 - but never in any leaf or bud form, no joints, no edibles, no smoking.
- **WHY WAS MEDICAL MARIJUANA USE APPROVED IN PENNSYLVANIA?**
 - Studies have shown that medical marijuana can assist patients suffering from certain serious medical conditions by alleviating pain and improving their quality of life.
- **WHAT IS A "SERIOUS MEDICAL CONDITION" UNDER THE ACT?**
 - The statute defines a "serious medical condition" as any one of the following:
 - Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
 - Autism
 - Cancer
 - Crohn's Disease
 - Damage to the nervous tissue of the spinal cord with objective neurological indication of intractable spasticity
 - Epilepsy
 - Glaucoma
 - HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) I AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)
 - Huntington's Disease
 - Inflammatory Bowel Disease
 - Intractable Seizures
 - Multiple Sclerosis
 - Neuropathies
 - Parkinson's Disease
 - Post -traumatic Stress Disorder
 - Severe chronic or intractable pain of neuropathic origin or severe chronic or intractable pain in which conventional therapeutic intervention and opiate therapy is contraindicated or ineffective
 - Sickle Cell Anemia
- To become eligible to buy medical marijuana from a dispensary in Pennsylvania, a patient must:
 - Be under the continuing care of licensed medical doctor; and
 - Be recommended for the purchase of medical marijuana by their medical doctor; and
 - Submit a letter of recommendation from their doctor to the PA Department of Health; and
 - Complete an application and pay a fee to the PA Department of Health; and
 - Obtain an authorization card from the PA Department of Health; and
 - Register at their local dispensary, which they cannot enter without an authorization card; and
 - Have a medical consultation with the qualified staff at their local dispensary; and
 - Buy only those products recommended by their doctor in those quantities recommended by their doctor for use by only themselves over a 30 day period.
- Medical Marijuana dispensaries in Pennsylvania will not be able to:
 - Allow the public other than those with authorization cards and caregivers to enter the facility; nor
 - Sell other pharmaceutical products other than those authorized by the Department of Health; nor
 - Recommend patients for authorization cards, diagnose patients, nor distribute medical marijuana to anyone without a Department of Health authorization card; nor
 - Sell any joints, buds, weed, or leaves; nor
 - Sell any products which have any additional euphoric properties beyond that allowed by law; nor
 - Have illuminated or garish outdoor signage or encourage the non-medicinal use of marijuana.