

*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.