Medical Marijuana Questions from Medical Marijuana Symposium

1. How often does the patient card status get renewed by the doctor?
   a. The patient needs to see the doctor annually to get the medical marijuana recommendation renewed.¹

2. How does a person pay for medical marijuana? Can medical marijuana dispensaries accept credit cards?
   a. Currently, the only accepted payment for marijuana is cash. Banking with a medical marijuana dispensary or grower is illegal.

3. Will medical marijuana be covered by insurance companies?
   a. No. Medical marijuana is a cash-only business and is not covered by any health insurance companies.

4. Where are the two dispensary districts that will not have a district when the program is functional on September 8, 2018?
   a. There are two districts where there were no dispensary applications submitted to the State and, thus, will not have a dispensary on September 8th. Dispensaries could be chosen if an application is submitted.
      i. Northwest District 2 which includes Paulding, Van Wert, and Mercer Counties.
      ii. Southwest District 3 which could have two dispensaries in the district. Counties in Southwest District 3 include Miami, Shelby, and Logan Counties.²

5. What tax benefit will a community receive if the community has a dispensary in their city limits?
   a. Currently, there is no state sales tax for medical marijuana in Ohio. Many of the business aspects (local taxes, zoning, etc.) for dispensaries will be determined at the local level.³

6. Will medical marijuana cards issued to pregnant women be considered a safety concern and possible legal issue for the unborn child?
   a. Recommendations for medical marijuana can only be made by physicians and the physician will make the determination about recommending to someone.⁴

7. Can we have the email address and/or phone number for Ms. Erin Reed from the Ohio Board of Pharmacy?
   a. Ms. Reed can be reached at (614) 466-4143 at the Ohio Board of Pharmacy.

8. Will Medicaid or Medicare pay for medical marijuana?
   a. Currently, Medicaid and Medicare will not pay for medical marijuana.

9. Can a person with a medical marijuana own a firearm?
   a. No. The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms declared in a 2001 memo that medical marijuana cardholders cannot own or possess a firearm. The memo can be
10. Is a physician liable for how much medical marijuana a patient takes either legally or illegally?
   a. Ohio Revised Code 4731.30(H) - A physician is immune from civil liability, is not subject to professional disciplinary action by the state medical board or state board of pharmacy, and is not subject to criminal prosecution for any of the following actions:
      i. Advising a patient, patient representative, or caregiver about the benefits and risks of medical marijuana to treat a qualifying medical condition.
      ii. Recommending that a patient use medical marijuana to treat or alleviate the condition.
      iii. Monitoring a patient's treatment with medical marijuana.

11. Will there be a place to report violations to the medical marijuana card?
   a. Violations can be reported to the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy at (614) 466-4143.

12. Do dispensaries have to have licensed pharmacists?
   a. No. Dispensary workers do not have educational requirements.

13. Can people die from an overdose of THC?
   a. There has not been a reported death from an overdose of THC. However, panic attacks, rapid heart rate, mental confusion and extreme paranoia are symptoms of a THC overdose in adults.¹ Symptoms of overdose in children include sleepiness, dizziness and trouble walking.² In extreme cases, some experienced shortness of breath and other health issues. Frequent use of marijuana in adolescence has been linked to psychotic symptoms and other mental health issues.³

14. How will funds be spent from medical marijuana?
   a. Medical marijuana will not be taxed in Ohio. Funding from marijuana business licensing and other fees imposed on marijuana businesses will be used for medical marijuana program needs.⁴

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¹ https://Medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov
² ibid
³ Ibid
⁴ ibid
⁵ https://drugabuse.com/library/marijuana-overdose/
⁶ https://www.poison.org/articles/2013-dec/medical-marijuana
⁸ https://Medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov