

Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection
Medical Marijuana Program
Board of Physicians—Public Hearing
Minutes
June 7, 2024

Members Present: Bryan Cafferelli Commissioner
Dr. Vincent Carlesi
Dr. Mitchell Prywes
Dr. Andrew Salner
Dr. Godfrey Pearlson

DCP Staff Present: Rodrick Marriott Director
Xavier Soto Program Manager
Tina Tyson Board Administrator

Call to Order

Commissioner Cafferelli called the meeting to order of the Board of Physicians for Connecticut's Medical Marijuana Program at 9:14 a.m. via Teams.com

Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Cafferelli moved by Dr. Salner and seconded by Dr. Prywes and the draft minutes of the October 20, 2023, meeting are accepted.

Program Update

- Commissioner Cafferelli reported that the program has about 42,891 patients and about 1,808 certifying practitioners.
- As of July 2023, the Medical Marijuana application fee for patients and caregivers has been removed.
- Two new micro cultivators opened/been approved for final licensure
- There has been discussion and press attention around cannabis as its potential to change to Schedule 3. Director Marriott reported the process is lengthy however those that are interested, can contact the federal registers publication and the Drug Enforcement Administration for updates.
- Dr. Salner inquired if the delay/consideration of scheduling was due to the lack of banking or financial backing. Director Marriott reported there has been a number of bills on the federal level to open up banking.
- Dr. Pearlson inquired if there was an official listing of the expansion of micro cultivators which was noted the information can be found on our E-License website.

Presentation by Chyenne Giarnese on Medical Marijuana Study for Autism Spectrum Disorder

Chyenne discussed how she was diagnosed with Autism at the age of 20. She reported how the use of CBD and THC tincture greatly improved her symptoms versus conventional ADHD medication. Through her findings, she discovered Autism was found much earlier in boys than girls. This is because neurodevelopmental conditions are more apparent often in boys than girls. She also discovered through research, 17 other states already approved Medical Marijuana for Autism Spectrum Disorder. A motion was made to approve this petition.

Presentation by Dr. Suzanne Mulvehill on Medical Marijuana Study for Female Orgasmic Difficulty

Dr. Mulvehill is the Executive Director of a nonprofit called The Female Orgasm Research Institute. She also runs the Women's Cannabis Project that is designed to get FOD added as a condition of treatment for medical cannabis in U.S. She reported 41% of women suffer in silence from FOD and the statistics has not changed for more than 50 years. Mental health concerns also arise such as anxiety, depression, etc. In her findings, she discovered research going back to the 1970s, showing that cannabis helped women with this problem. She mentioned Dr. Eric Goode's book where he would talk about sexual behaviors in women. He completed his the first research on cannabis and sex study in 1969; publishing a book called The Marijuana Smokers in 1970. Dr. Mulvehill mentioned other researchers such as author Dr. Weller. Weller did two studies also finding cannabis helped women with frequent use. It was reported sex therapists have been recommending cannabis to patients who have orgasm difficulty. A motion was made to approve this petition.

Adjournment

Commissioner Cafferelli adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:41 a.m.