



PLEASE NOTE: The section titled "Expired Registrations" has been updated from the original version. Please refer to the version below.

Dispensary Licensee Newsletter - January 2020

Editor's Note: This month we bring you a reminder of expired registrations, links to two licensing forms, and a note on partial dosing.

- Board of Pharmacy's MMCP Staff

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Expired Registrations

Now that it has been over one year since the activation of the Patient & Caregiver Registry, we are beginning to see patients and caregivers whose registrations are expiring. Please make sure to check the expiration date on a registrant's card in the Registry when they enter a dispensary. If the expiration date on their card has passed, they are **not** authorized to purchase medical marijuana.

Individuals Active Under Two Roles

The Board has been notified of some confusion when a registrant is registered as both a patient & a caregiver, but has only paid the registration fee for one role. The registrant's Registry card will state which role(s) they have activated.

For example: a Registrant comes to your dispensary claiming to be a patient & a caregiver. They have an active recommendation, but their card only says "Caregiver." In that case, they can only purchase as a caregiver, and not as a patient, because they haven't activated the patient portion of their registration.

LICENSING

Reporting a Change in Designated Representative

All Designated Representative changes must be reported on the following [form](#) and submitted through the eLicense system at www.elicense.ohio.gov. Please do **not** e-mail the completed form to your Board of Pharmacy Agent, licensing, or mmcp@pharmacy.ohio.gov.

Temporary Certificate of Authority

This [form](#) is to only be used when the former Designated Representative can no longer serve in the role of Designated Representative due to one of the following: Termination, Death, or incapacity. This form needs to be submitted on the Compliance Upload Portal. Please do **not** e-mail the completed form to your Board of Pharmacy Agent, licensing or mmcp@pharmacy.ohio.gov.

COMPLIANCE

Dispensary Designated Representative

A designated representative for a licensed dispensary shall be responsible for:

- Oversight of the delivery and receipt of medical marijuana and medical marijuana products to a dispensary;
- The supervision and control of medical marijuana and medical marijuana products under the custody of a dispensary;
- Adequate safeguards of medical marijuana and medical marijuana products to assure that the sale or other distribution of medical marijuana and medical marijuana products will occur only by dispensary employees licensed by the Board of Pharmacy.

The designated representative must take steps to ensure their staff is adhering to the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy's rules and laws related to the use and dispensation of medical marijuana. Speak with your staff, especially those who may also be registered patients, about the illegalities of consuming, selling or sharing products. The unlawful selling or gifting of a controlled substance is considered trafficking in drugs ([O.R.C. 2925.03](#)) which is a serious offense and can subject the designated representative and dispensary to administrative action if the offense occurs onsite.

Report of Violations

Once dispensary management becomes aware of a violation of state drug law (e.g., trafficking in drugs, possession of drugs), the Board must be notified **immediately**. The purpose of this is to ensure the agents can investigate if necessary, and provide direction and guidance to dispensary management on how to proceed.

DISPENSARY OPERATIONS

Edible Dosing

Many patients and caregivers rely on advice from dispensary employees to help them make decisions regarding the administration of medical marijuana. In limited cases, a patient's physician includes recommendations regarding dosing. Although dispensary employees are prohibited from suggesting that patches be split for purposes of dosing, no rule prohibits the splitting of doses for other forms of medical marijuana. Accordingly, patients who are new to the consumption of medical marijuana may be advised to start with partial doses of products. For instance: if appropriate, a patient may be advised to split a gummy containing 10 mg of THC so that they are consuming only 5 mg at a time.

Advertisements Including Terpenes

The Board receives frequent requests from dispensaries to use advertisements that include references to terpenes. Please be advised that it is the Board's policy that any statement suggesting that a medical marijuana product contains one or more specific terpenes must be accompanied by evidence confirming the presence of the specified terpenes in the product.