Medical Marijuana Registry Program Update
(as of May 31, 2009)

In the November 2000 general election, Coloradoans passed Amendment 20, and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) was tasked with implementing and administering the Medical Marijuana Registry program. In March of 2001, the State of Colorado Board of Health approved the Rules and Regulations pertaining to the administration of the program, and on June 1st, 2001, the Registry began accepting and processing applications for Registry Identification cards.

Statistics of the registry include:

- 9,304 new patient applications have been received to date since the registry began operating in June 2001. Thirty (30) applications have been denied, 18 cards have been revoked, 182 patients have died, and 1,444 cards have expired, bringing the total number of patients who currently possess valid Registry ID cards to 7,630. The renewal rate is 58%.
- Seventy-two percent of approved applicants are male.
- The average age of all patients is 24. Currently 3 patients are minors (under the age of 18).
- Sixty-three counties (98% of counties) in Colorado have registered applicants. Fifty percent of patients reside in the Denver-metro and Boulder area, with the remainder of patients found in counties throughout Colorado.
- Patients on the Registry represent all the debilitating conditions covered under Amendment 20. Severe pain accounts for 89% of all reported conditions; muscle spasms account for the second-most reported condition at 25%.
- Forty percent of patients have designated a primary care-giver (someone who has significant responsibility for managing the patient's care).
- Over 600 different physicians have signed for patients in Colorado.

Please see the attached tables for a complete listing of all statistical information.

As of June 14, 2004 care-givers are no longer issued cards.

As of January 25, 2008 only a portion of the patient's social security number appears on their registration card.

As of October 27, 2008 all applications, renewal and changes to the Registry must be submitted via mail and include a legible photo copy of the patient's Colorado Identification. Faxes and emails will no longer be accepted.

As of December 1, 2008 all changes to the Registry must be signed by the patient making the change in blue ink.

The Amendment requires that an application be approved or denied within 35 days of receipt by CDPHE. Currently, the Registry is issuing ID cards within three weeks of receipt of a complete application.

In addition to administering the Registry, CDPHE has been charged with accepting and reviewing petitions to add conditions to the current list of debilitating medical conditions/symptoms. To date, four petitions have been received, one for Parkinson's disease, one for Asthma, one for Anxiety and another for Bi-Polar Disorder. All petitions were subsequently denied due to lack of scientific evidence that treatment with marijuana might have a beneficial effect.

There have been three marijuana-related convictions of patients on the Registry, and no physicians have experienced federal reprisals. However, reluctance to participate due to the inconsistencies between state and federal marijuana laws has been expressed by doctors and patients alike.

Another barrier to participation on the Registry may be the cost. No general funds have been designated for this program, and the Amendment allows CDPHE to collect fees to cover the administrative costs of administering the program. Currently the fee is $90, and is evaluated annually by CDPHE. The fee was lowered from $110 on June 1, 2007.

Numerous questions have arisen regarding interpretation of statutory language. The law does not clearly state where marijuana plants may be grown or if two or more patients and/or care-givers may share one growing space. Statutory language also places certain burdens upon local and state law enforcement officers, such as the

requirement of keeping alive plants that are confiscated until a resolution is reached (i.e. a decision not to prosecute, the dismissal of charges, an acquittal, etc.).

Table I: County Information

County	Number of Patients	Percent of Patients
Adams	506	7%
Alamosa	9	<1%
Arapahoe	633	8%
Archuleta	25	<1%
Baca	6	<1%
Bent	4	<1%
Boulder	705	9%
Broomfield	65	<1%
Chaffee	39	<1%
Cheyenne	3	<1%
Clear Creek	21	<1%
Conejos	*	*
Costilla	4	<1%
Crowley	9	<1%
Custer	9	<1%
Delta	63	1%
Denver	994	13%
Dolores	8	<1%
Douglas	218	3%
Eagle	66	<1%
El Paso	839	11%
Elbert	23	<1%
Fremont	70	<1%
Garfield	71	<1%
Gilpin	44	<1%
Grand	39	<1%
Gunnison	43	<1%
Hinsdale	4	<1%
Huerfano	42	<1%
Jackson	3	<1%
Jefferson	873	11%
Kiowa	*	*
Kit Carson	*	*
La Plata	112	2%
Lake	26	1%
Larimer	762	10%
Las Animas	22	<1%
Lincoln	*	*
Logan	13	<1%
Mesa	213	3%
Moffat	11	<1%
Montezuma	30	<1%
Montrose	72	1%
Morgan	12	<1%
Otero	37	<1%
Ouray	12	<1%
Park	71	1%
Phillips	8	<1%
Pitkin	32	<1%
Prowers	3	<1%
Pueblo	153	2%
Rio Blanco	7	<1%

Rio Grande	7	<1%
Routt	30	<1%
Saguache	21	<1%
San Juan	*	*
San Miguel	16	<1%
Sedgwick	*	*
Summit	103	1%
Teller	93	1%
Washington	*	*
Weld	309	4%
Yuma	5	<1%

* Indicates fewer than three patients in each category

Table II: Conditions

Reported Condition	Number of Patients Reporting Condition	Percent of Patients Reporting Condition**
Cachexia	174	2%
Cancer	261	3%
Glaucoma	101	1%
HIV/AIDS	121	2%
Muscle Spasms	1,875	25%
Seizures	269	4%
Severe Pain	6,776	89%
Severe Nausea	1,763	23%

**Does not add to 100% as some patients report using medical marijuana for more than one debilitating medical condition.

Table III: User Characteristics

Sex	Percent on Registry	Average Age**
Male	72%	23
Female	28%	25

** The overall average age of all patients is 24 years old.