



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

Overview of Colorado Medical Marijuana Research Grant Program

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Authorizing Legislation

- ❖ Senate Bill 14-155
- ❖ “Concerning Grant Funding for Medical Marijuana Health Effects Studies”
- ❖ Passed by legislature & signed by governor - May 2014



Legislative Intent

- ❖ “... that the Department gather objective scientific research regarding the efficacy of administering marijuana and its component parts as part of medical treatment.”
- ❖ “ The grant program shall fund observational trials and clinical trials.”



Funding

- ❖ \$10 million from medical marijuana cash fund
- ❖ 5 years of spending authority (i.e., until 6/30/2019)
- ❖ \$200K per year for administering the grant program
- ❖ Thus, \$9 million to fund grants

Scientific Advisory Council (SAC)



- ❖ “In order to ensure objectivity in evaluating research proposals, the grant program shall establish a scientific advisory council.”
- ❖ CDPHE Executive Director to appoint from 6 to 13 members with specified expertise [next slide]
- ❖ CDPHE Chief Medical Officer is Chair of the Council

Scientific Advisory Council – Expertise



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- ▶ [Epi] designing & conducting large observational & clinical trials
- ▶ [Clinician] expertise designing & conducting clinical trials
- ▶ [Clinician] familiarity with prescribing medical MJ
- ▶ Medical toxicologist
- ▶ Neurologist
- ▶ Pediatrician
- ▶ Psychiatrist
- ▶ Internist (or other adult M.D.)
- ▶ Preventive Med or Public Hlth
- ▶ Substance abuse
- ▶ Alternative or herbal medicine
- ▶ Person who represents medical MJ patient interests
- ▶ Ad hoc member (expertise in medical condition under study)



Grant Approval & Duration

- ❖ State Board of Health approves (or disapproves) grants recommended by Scientific Advisory Council
- ❖ Maximum 3 years grant funding without renewal



Tentative Timeline

- ❖ August 29: first SAC mtg & approval of select RFA content
- ❖ (by) September 5: RFA posting
- ❖ (by) October 20: applications due
- ❖ November 21: SAC grant review and funding recs
- ❖ December 17: Board of Health approval
- ❖ "early 2015": grant funding contracts executed

Questions ?



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