

**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment

## CDPHE Role

- Medical Marijuana Registry
- Medical Marijuana Research
- Retail Marijuana Education
- Marijuana Surveillance
- Laboratory Certification



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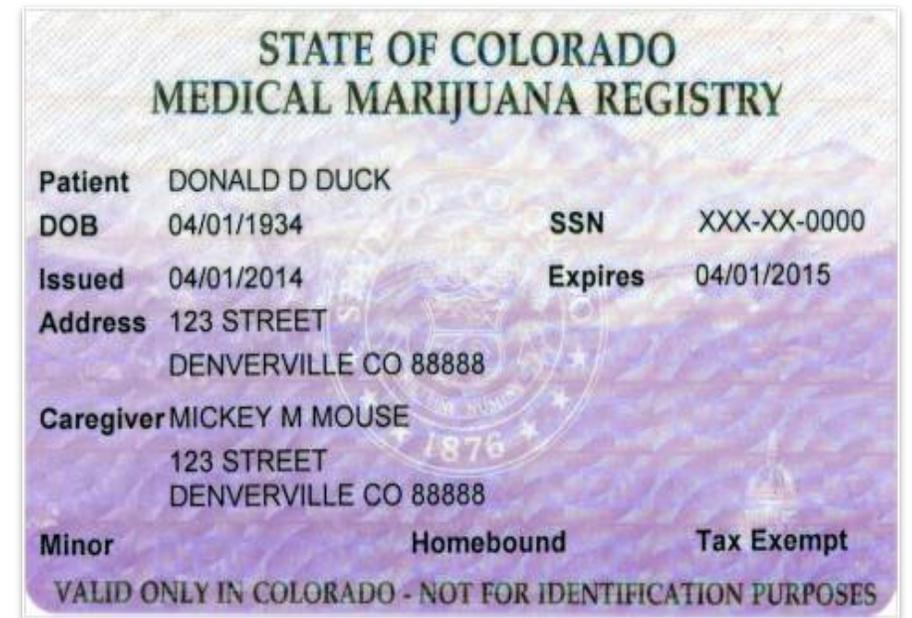
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# Medical Marijuana Registry



# Medical Marijuana Registry Role

- Issue Medical Marijuana Registry cards
- Maintain database of registered patients
- Review petitions for adding debilitating medical conditions to the medical use of marijuana regulations
- Administer grant programs for clinical and observational research related to potential therapeutic uses of marijuana

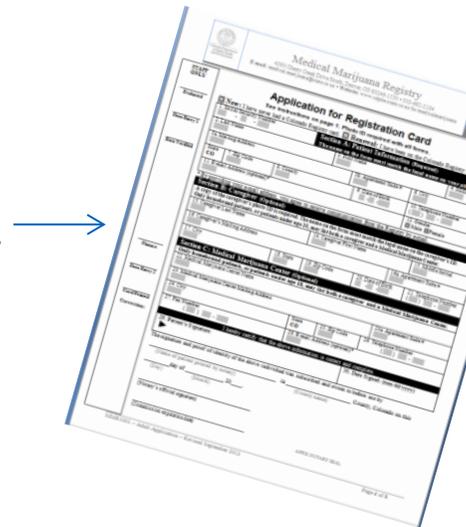


# The Registration Process



## Step 1:

Patient is examined by a Colorado licensed M.D. or D.O. in good standing, After examination. Physician completes "Physician Certification Form" with plant/oz recommendation



## Step 2:

Patient completes the application for registration card and signs it in front of a notary. Caregiver acknowledgement completed, if one is designated.



## Step 3:

Submit application by certified mail for proof of mailing.

## Step 4:

Paperwork is evaluated

## Step 4-Approved



### Complete App Includes:

- Application
- Physician certification dated within 60 days.
- \$15 application fee or fee waiver.
- Copy of valid CO ID or waiver documentation

## Step 4-Rejected:

Referred to payment processing and notice of rejection is sent to patient.



## Step 5:

All funds received by the Registry are nonrefundable. Check or money order are made payable to CDPHE. Cash is not advised. Credit cards are not accepted at this time.



## Step 6:

Cards are printed once an application is approved and payment has been processed. Cards are mailed standard first class mail to the address on the application.

## Processing Time:

Patients are encouraged to allow 45 - 60 days for the entire process, including physician exam. It takes no longer than 35 days for an application to be processed once received



# Current Status of Registry

As of December 2014:

- 283,587 total patients have applied for a registration card since 2001
- 115,467 active patients
- ~ 25% of patients with extended plant count
- 1,172 physicians on the registry with 820 physicians assigned to an active patient
- 3,111 caregivers with at least one active patient
- 4,696 patients assigned to a caregiver
- 3,038 patients have an increased plant count AND are assigned to a caregiver
- 25 FTE
- Avg 20,744 pieces of mail per month in 2014

*Note: data changes frequently based upon patient change requests*



# Medical Marijuana Research



# Summary of Evidence re: Medical Benefits

- Cannabis has some fairly well documented medical benefits:
  - ✓ Chronic neuropathic pain
  - ✓ Multiple sclerosis
  - ✓ Chemotherapy induced nausea & vomiting
  - ✓ Wasting syndrome (cachexia) with AIDS
- Clear need for clinical trials for most of the conditions for which cannabis already officially “accepted” as effective, as well as for many other conditions of interest:
  - ✓ PTSD
  - ✓ Epilepsy
  - ✓ Inflammatory bowel disease
  - ✓ Cancer
  - ✓ Other neurologic and psychiatric conditions
  - ✓ Opiate dependence and withdrawal

# *Medical Marijuana Research Grant Program*

- Senate Bill 14-155, “Concerning Grant Funding for Medical Marijuana Health Effects Studies”
- 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.”
- “In order to ensure objectivity in evaluating research proposals, the grant program shall establish a scientific advisory council.”
- \$10 million over 5 years from medical marijuana cash fund

# *Grants Approved by Board of Health*

1. Observational study of MJ for IBD in adolescents/young adults
2. RCT of CBD for tremor in Parkinson's Disease
3. Observational study of MJ for PTSD
4. RCT of MJ (4 potencies THC & CBD) for PTSD in veterans
5. Pharmacokinetics of high CBD oils for pediatric epilepsy
6. Observational study of high CBD oils for pediatric epilepsy
7. RCT of MJ versus oxycodone for chronic spine pain
8. Observational study of quality of life from using MJ in children with CNS tumors



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# Retail Marijuana Education



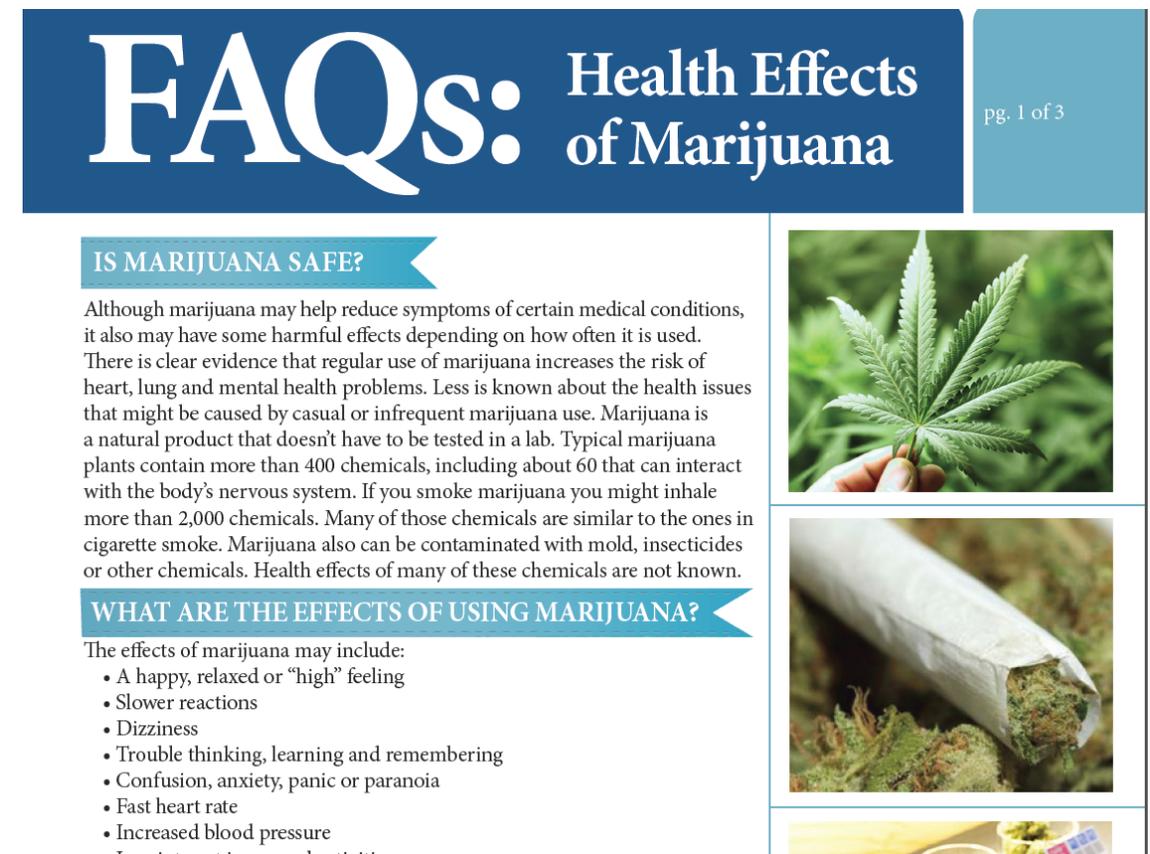
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# Retail Marijuana Prevention and Education Campaign (SB 14-215)

Ensure that all Colorado residents and visitors understand the parameters of safe, legal and responsible use of retail marijuana.

# Five Components of the Prevention and Education Campaign (SB 14-215)

1. 18-month campaign: health effects of marijuana & legal use
2. Ongoing education and prevention campaign: educates retailers on preventing youth access, the over-consumption of edibles, addresses high risk.



**FAQs: Health Effects of Marijuana** pg. 1 of 3

**IS MARIJUANA SAFE?**

Although marijuana may help reduce symptoms of certain medical conditions, it also may have some harmful effects depending on how often it is used. There is clear evidence that regular use of marijuana increases the risk of heart, lung and mental health problems. Less is known about the health issues that might be caused by casual or infrequent marijuana use. Marijuana is a natural product that doesn't have to be tested in a lab. Typical marijuana plants contain more than 400 chemicals, including about 60 that can interact with the body's nervous system. If you smoke marijuana you might inhale more than 2,000 chemicals. Many of those chemicals are similar to the ones in cigarette smoke. Marijuana also can be contaminated with mold, insecticides or other chemicals. Health effects of many of these chemicals are not known.

**WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF USING MARIJUANA?**

The effects of marijuana may include:

- A happy, relaxed or "high" feeling
- Slower reactions
- Dizziness
- Trouble thinking, learning and remembering
- Confusion, anxiety, panic or paranoia
- Fast heart rate
- Increased blood pressure
- Less interest in normal activities



# Prevention and Education Campaign (SB 14-215)

3. Maintenance of website portal: [colorado.gov/marijuana](https://colorado.gov/marijuana)

4. Alignment of messaging across state agencies

- Addressing agency concerns
- Partnering with other state agencies to provide resources and training to complement prevention work

The screenshot shows the official website for retail marijuana information in Colorado. The header includes the state logo, a search bar, and navigation links: Home, Get the Facts, Parents, Know the Laws, Using Too Much?, and More Information. The main content area features a prominent orange banner with a speech bubble icon and the text "Know the Facts for Your Family" and "Learn how to talk to your child about marijuana." Below this are three columns: "Latest Facts & Resources" with a bar chart icon and text stating "Today, users can get the same amount of THC from a single puff that people in the 1970s got from an entire joint."; "Impact on Youth" with a family icon and text stating "Approximately 55 percent of youth have tried marijuana at least once before reaching 12th grade."; and "Home Growers" with a house icon and text stating "Colorado residents 21+ can grow as many as 6 marijuana plants per person." A footer section contains a mission statement: "The goal of this website is to educate the general public on statewide current information and resources about the laws and data on retail marijuana. The state is working to expand the website to feature newly released Colorado information and campaigns to help you make healthy and informed choices."

# Prevention and Education Campaign

(SB 14-215)

## 5. Evaluation of the campaigns.

- Baseline statewide survey currently in field (high response rate)
- Baseline for high-risk or targeted populations occurring in December
- Annual assessments each year to monitor change
- Will review data from other sources to monitor trends



**GOOD *to* KNOW**

[www.GoodToKnowColorado.com](http://www.GoodToKnowColorado.com)

————— Marijuana in Colorado —————

*Whether you choose to use or not,*  
**YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW  
AS MUCH AS YOU THOUGHT.**



**GOOD *to* KNOW**

Be educated. Be responsible.

# *Monitoring Potential Health Effects and Changes in Use Patterns*



# Surveillance Role

SB 13-283

"Monitor changes in drug use patterns, broken down by county and race and ethnicity, and the emerging science and medical information relevant to the health effects associated with marijuana use."

# Retail Marijuana Public Health Advisory Committee (SB 13-283)

The Department shall appoint a panel of health care professionals with expertise in cannabinoid physiology to monitor the relevant information. The panel shall:

- Provide a report by 1/31/15 and every 2 years thereafter
- Establish criteria for 1) studies to be reviewed, and 2) reviewing studies and other data, and
- Make recommendations, as appropriate, for policies intended to protect consumers of marijuana or marijuana products and the general public.

# Duties of Advisory Committee

- Systematically review the scientific literature
  - ✓ Come to consensus on population health effects of marijuana use
- Develop public health statements
  - ✓ Come to consensus on translation of the science into simplified language
- Recommend public health related policies
- Recommend public health surveillance activities
- Identify research gaps important to public health

# Surveillance Activities

Target Pop.	Problem	Monitoring
Young Children	Accidental Poisoning	Pilot surveillance project Colorado Hospital Association (CHA) Data Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center Calls Child Health Survey(CHS) - risk factors
Youth	Increased Use/Abuse  Poisoning, Overdose, Abuse  Accidents/Trauma	Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (aka YRBS)  Colorado Hospitalization Data Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center Calls  Colorado Hospitalization Data Colorado Trauma Registry
Adults	Increased Use/Abuse  Poisoning, Overdose, Abuse  Accidents/Trauma  Contaminated Products	Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Tobacco Attitudes and Behaviors Survey (TABS)  Colorado Hospitalization Data Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center Calls  Colorado Hospitalization Data & Trauma Registry Pilot Surveillance (Ski-Related Injuries)  Food-borne Illness Surveillance related to Edibles Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center Calls
Pregnant/ Breastfeeding	Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities	Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) Active Surveillance (Birth Defects Registry)



# *Retail Marijuana Testing Facility Inspection Program*



## *Retail marijuana testing facility inspection program:*

- Coordinates inspection of retail marijuana testing facilities;
- Reviews all documentation and practices relating to laboratory methods, staff qualifications, and quality assurance;
- Ensures that testing facilities meet the rules promulgated by the Department of Revenue (DOR) and are competent to carry out specific scientific tests;
- Provides recommendations to DOR about suitability of the testing facilities for certification; and,
- Provides scientific consultation and recommendations to the DOR in regards to laboratory testing as it pertains to public health and safety.

As of January 15, 2015, sixteen Retail Marijuana Testing Facilities have been licensed by DOR.

Eight of those have been granted provisional certifications.

Testing Category	Potency	Microbials (Bacteria, Fungus)	Residual Solvents
Number of Labs Currently Certified	9	0	3

\*Inspections are ongoing



# Questions?

