Authorizing Cannabis for Medical Purposes

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CMA POLICY

Authorizing Cannabis for Medical Purposes

The legislation of cannabis for medical purposes varies across the provinces of Canada. Although the federal government has made the production and sale of cannabis legal for medical purposes, it is important to note that the provinces have the authority to regulate the use of cannabis within their borders. The following is a summary of the current policies in each province:

- **British Columbia**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **Alberta**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **Ontario**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **Quebec**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **New Brunswick**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **Newfoundland and Labrador**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **Nova Scotia**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **Prince Edward Island**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **Saskatchewan**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **Yukon**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **Northwest Territories**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

- **Nunavut**
  - The production, distribution, and sale of cannabis for medical purposes must be licensed by Health Canada.
  - Patients must register with a licensed provider or producer to receive cannabis for medical purposes.

The Canadian Medical Association recognizes the importance of providing patients with access to cannabis for medical purposes. However, it is important to note that the use of cannabis for medical purposes is not without risks and that patients should be closely monitored by their healthcare providers.

The CMA recommends that healthcare providers:

- **Assess the patient's medical history and current health status**
- **Educate patients about the risks and benefits of cannabis use**
- **Monitor patients for side effects and adjust treatment as necessary**
- **Provide patients with resources for accessing cannabis through legal channels**

The CMA also encourages healthcare providers to stay informed about the latest research on cannabis and its use for medical purposes.

**References**


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