

POSITION STATEMENT – MEDICAL MARIJUANA

Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care (Waypoint) has taken the following position on the use of Medical Marijuana. This will serve to stand as current practice.

Waypoint acknowledges that patients may be prescribed medical marijuana, but upon review of the associated literature (i.e. the Canadian Psychiatric Association, the American Psychiatric Association, Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada, the Canadian Medical Association, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario) and in discussion with our peer hospitals Waypoint has decided that the use of medical marijuana will not be initiated for our patients.

However, if a patient is admitted and is currently using medical marijuana, and has a valid Health Canada ID Authorization Card for the use of medical marijuana, they will be given the option of switching to an alternative cannabinoid that is available for dispensing from the Pharmacy Formulary or another appropriate intervention as medically indicated for their condition. Proof of Authorization is to be photocopied and a copy placed on the patient's Clinical Record.

Waypoint is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all patients, visitors and staff. As well, Waypoint strives to address and respect the needs of patients while adhering to applicable legislation and regulations. As such, and in keeping with the corporate policy – [“Tobacco / Smoke Free Environment: Healthy, Safe and Caring”](#), medicinal marijuana is not to be smoked or ingested on Waypoint property.

Related documents:

[American Psychiatric Association](#)

[Canadian Psychiatric Association](#)

[Marijuana Medical Access Regulations](#)

[Marijuana for Medical Purposes Regulations](#)

[Health Canada Drugs and Health Products](#)

[Information for Health Care Professionals - Marijuana \(Marijuana, Cannabis\)](#)

Volkow, N., Baler, R. D., Compton, W. M., & Weiss, S. R. (2014). Adverse Health Effects of Marijuana Use. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 370, 2219-2227.

Mittmann, N, Knowles, S. R., Seung, S. J., Cornish, W, Oh, P. I., & Paton, T. R. (2004). A Pharmacy and Therapeutics Perspective on Medical Marijuana Use in the Canadian Health Care System. *The Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy*, 57(3), 165-172.

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