# Determining a bona fide provider-patient relationship:

- The health care provider has reviewed the patient's relevant medical records and completed a full assessment of the patient's medical history and current medical condition, including a relevant, in-person, medical evaluation of the patient.
- The health care provider has created and maintained records of the patient's condition in accordance with medically accepted standards.
- The patient is under the health care provider's continued care for the debilitating medical condition that qualifies the patient for the medical use of marijuana.
- The health care provider has a reasonable expectation that they will continue to provide follow up care to the patient to monitor the medical use of marijuana as a treatment of the patient's debilitating medical condition.
- The relationship is not for the sole purpose of providing written certification for the medical use of marijuana.

### HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

Under the ND Medical Marijuana Program, health care provider is defined as: a physician, advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) or physician assistant (PA).

- Physicians and Physician Assistants must be licensed through the North Dakota Board of Medicine and have a license in good standing.
- APRN's must be licensed through the North Dakota Board of Nursing and have a license in good standing.

#### **Protections:**

Under state law, a health care provider is not subject to arrest or prosecution or denial of any right or privilege solely for providing a written certification or for refusing to provide a written certification.

#### **Under State Law:**

- ❖ A health care provider is not required to provide a written certification.
- A health care provider who holds a financial interest in a compassion center may not issue a written certification, refer a patient to a compassion center, refer a patient to a designated caregiver, or advertise in a compassion center.

Patient information in the Medical Marijuana Program is confidential under state law.

A patient must sign a consent for release of medical information related to their debilitating medical condition:

- The Division of Medical Marijuana is required to perform verification work.
- The Division of Medical Marijuana will monitor information to ensure a bona fide provider-patient relationship exists.

#### **Written Certification:**

- ✓ Mandatory form that must be a part of a patient's application.
- ✓ Can only be signed if a bona fide providerpatient relationship exists.
- ✓ Signed by health care provider
- ✓ NOT a prescription.



Registered dispensary staff
will be the patient
educators who will provide
patients information
regarding what usable
marijuana product would
work best for their
debilitating medical
condition.



## **Debilitating Medical Conditions:**

- A Terminal Illness
- > AIDS
- Agitations of Alzheimer's Disease or related Dementia
- > ALS
- Anxiety Disorder
- Anorexia Nervosa
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Brain Injury
- Bulimia Nervosa
- Cancer
- Crohn's Disease
- Decompensated cirrhosis caused by hepatitis C
- ➤ Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome
- Endometriosis
- Epilepsy
- > Fibromyalgia
- Glaucoma
- Interstitial Cystitis
- Migraine
- Neuropathy
- Positive status for HIV
- PTSD
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Spinal stenosis or chronic back pain
- Tourette Syndrome
- A chronic or debilitating disease or medical condition or treatment for such disease or condition that produces one or more of the following:
  - Cachexia or wasting syndrome
  - Severe debilitating pain
  - Intractable nausea
  - Seizures
  - Severe persistent muscle spasms

For further details see NDCC Section 19-24.1-01 (15)

### **Process Overview**

Patient has a debilitating medical condition

A bona fide provider-patient relationship exists

Patient applies for a registry identification card with NDDoH Health Care Provider executes a written certification Approved patient receives a registry identification card

Patient can purchase usable marijuana through a registered dispensary



#### Q:What does the written certification look like?

A:The written certification in in an online format through the Division's registration system. State law includes specific information regarding what is required on the form. For example, the form must include the health care providers practice location, license number and specialty.



## Q:What does the phrase medical use of marijuana mean?

A: Medical use of marijuana means the acquisition, use, and possession of usable marijuana to treat or alleviate a qualifying patient's debilitating medical condition.



Health & Human Services

0

#### Q: Can anybody use dried leaves and flowers?

A:All non-minor patients (those 19 years and older) are allowed to purchase and use dried leaves and flowers. In addition, health care providers can authorize an enhanced amount (up to 6 oz. in a 30-day period) for patients with the debilitating medical condition of cancer.



## Q: Can a health care provider complete a written certification for a minor (under 19)?

A:Yes, but the health care provider must document on the written certification that they have explained to the parent or legal guardian with responsibility for health care decisions for the minor the potential risks and benefits of the use of pediatric medical marijuana to treat or alleviate the debilitating medical condition.

For more information, visit www.health.nd.gov/mm

