

From: Virginia Board Pharmacy
Date: September 19, 2023
Subject: Medical Cannabis: Updated Information



Medical Cannabis Program: Updated Information

As a practitioner for medical cannabis please review this information and take action where necessary.

New Medical Cannabis Program Portal

The new medical cannabis program patient portal will become active on September 27, 2023. This portal will allow a practitioner to complete a digital written certification for the patient, which will in turn provide the patient with a digital card validating possession of a written certification for the use of medical cannabis which the patient may take to a licensed medical cannabis dispensing location to obtain medical cannabis products. The patient will still have the option to register with the Board of Pharmacy, and should they choose to do so, will be provided with a digital registered medical cannabis patient card that they may take to a licensed medical cannabis dispensing location to obtain medical cannabis products. Both digital cards will contain a barcode that will be scanned at the licensed medical cannabis dispensing location and provide the dispensary with the ability to review the written certification and patient demographic data to include name, address, and written certification and/or Board registration expiration date(s).

If you have not yet completed the enrollment process for the medical cannabis patient portal, please do so immediately so that your patients will have access to the digital card. This is the required format for providing a written certification to a medical cannabis patient. The Board will exercise enforcement discretion until December 31, 2023 while practitioners incorporate this new process into their daily practice. Patients presenting a written certification on a paper form issued after December 31, 2023 will not be able to obtain medical cannabis until a written certification is issued using the medical cannabis program portal. If you have previously enrolled in the portal, you will receive additional notifications by email prior to September 27, 2023.

To access the portal, practitioners must complete a brief enrollment process. Practitioners are required to enroll even if you have previously been registered with the Board. You will not be able to access the portal until you enroll. Practitioners may enroll by clicking here: <https://patients.va.biotr.ac/>. Directions to complete the enrollment are [attached to this email](#). Once your enrollment has been reviewed you will receive notification and will have access to the portal on September 27, 2023.

Questions may be directed to cbd@dhp.virginia.gov or (804) 367-4456.