

From: Virginia Board of Pharmacy  
Date: July 1, 2021  
Subject: Medical Cannabis: Updated Information



### Medical Cannabis: Updated Information

As a registered practitioner for medical cannabis please review this information and, where appropriate, share it with patients that you provide a written certification for the use of medical cannabis products.

#### **2021 Legislative Changes**

The 2021 General Assembly session resulted in several changes to the pharmaceutical processor program. Of most interest to registered practitioners for medical cannabis oil are changes made as a result of HB1988 and SB1333. You may find information on both of these bills here:

<https://viriniageneralassembly.gov/>.

#### **Botanical Cannabis**

Botanical cannabis will become available for dispensing from a pharmaceutical processor dispensary or a cannabis dispensing facility to a patient that maintains a valid written certification for the use of medical cannabis and registration with the Board of Pharmacy (BOP). Regulations are currently being developed to support this allowance and are expected to be implemented by September, 2021. Botanical cannabis may be dispensed once the regulations are in place and products are available. No more than four ounces of botanical cannabis shall be dispensed for each 30-day period. Any dispensed botanical cannabis is calculated into the total 90-day supply of medical cannabis products that may be obtained.

#### **Pharmaceutical Processors**

Currently, there are 4 permitted pharmaceutical processors from which patients may obtain medical cannabis products. All four processor dispensaries are open for dispensing medical cannabis products to registered patients. These pharmaceutical processors are: Dharma Pharmaceuticals, LLC, Abingdon; Columbia Care Eastern Virginia, LLC, Portsmouth, Dalitso, LLC, Manassas and Green Leaf Medical of Virginia, Inc., Richmond.

#### **Use of Telemedicine**

As of July 1, 2021, practitioners shall use their professional judgement to determine the manner and frequency of patient care and evaluation and may employ the use of telemedicine provided that the use of telemedicine includes the delivery of patient care through real-time interactive audio-visual technology, conforms to the standard of care expected for in-person care and transmits information in a manner that protects patient confidentiality.

### **Written Certification Limits**

The requirement for a practitioner to not issue more than 600 written certifications at any given time is removed as of July 1, 2021.

### **Revised Written Certification Form**

As of July 1, 2021, any prescriber intending to treat a minor patient with botanical cannabis must authorize such use on the written certification form. A revised written certification form containing information regarding botanical cannabis use for minors was sent in a separate email to all registered practitioners on June 28, 2021. ***Please begin using the updated form for all medical cannabis patients by July 1, 2021.*** Written certification forms dated prior to July 1, 2021 remain valid for up to twelve months from the date of issuance, unless otherwise indicated, and will be accepted at the dispensary.

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