



46TH ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE



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“The Green Conversation”

Part 2

California Cannabis Policies and the NP

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**No Disclosures, potential conflicts of interest,
financial or otherwise**

“I’m not here to judge, I’m here to educate”

-Kim King, APRN

“The APRN/Nurse/nursing student shall have a working knowledge of the current state of legalization of medical and recreational(adult) cannabis use.”

-NCSBN, July 2018

My goal here is to provide information about Cannabis policies and for you to
continue learning beyond today.

OBJECTIVES

- **Brief Discussion about Cannabis**
- **Timeline- California Cannabis Policies**
- **Identify current state Cannabis Policies and the NP**
- **Discuss practicing within your scope as a Nurse Practitioner**
- **Resources for Guidance**

Brief Discussion of Cannabis

- **Hemp plant has less than 0.3%, Delta-9- Tetrahydrocannabinol=THC=Psychoactive component**
- **Cannabidiol or CBD the non-Psychoactive component**
- **Endocannabinoid System (ECS)- is a cell-signaling biochemical network used to create homeostasis within the body to function optimally. (Made of receptors, enzymes and endocannabinoids)**
- **Cannabis with more than 0.3% of THC is considered a Schedule I narcotic under the Controlled Substance Act of 1972**
- **The federal Farm bill of 2018 legalized the manufacturing, growing and selling of the Hemp plant which produces less than 0.3% of THC**

Cannabis Policies Timeline

1996— CALIFORNIA legalized MEDICINAL CANNABIS(Compassionate use ACT) Prop 215

**2016— CALIFORNIA legalized
Adult-use(Recreational) CANNABIS use 21 years and older**

**(FEDERAL)2018— FARM BILL LEGALIZED the HEMP PLANT TO BE GROWN, MANUFACTURED & SOLD
WITH LESS THAN 0.3% THC.**

**2022 Ryan's Law allows terminally ill patients with valid medical cannabis card to use cannabis inside
healthcare facilities but excludes chemical dependency recovery facilities and State hospitals.**

**2023— Compassionate Access to Medical Cannabis act or Ryan's law with the addendum, SB 302 includes
patients 65 yo and older with chronic diseases to use medical cannabis in the hospital setting .**

[https://cannabis.ca.gov/
consumers/medicinal-cannabis/](https://cannabis.ca.gov/consumers/medicinal-cannabis/)

Eligible medical conditions in California:

Just a few qualifying conditions:

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)

Anorexia

Arthritis

Cachexia (wasting syndrome)

Cancer

Chronic pain

Migraine

Severe nausea

[https://cannabis.ca.gov/consumers/
medicinal-cannabis/](https://cannabis.ca.gov/consumers/medicinal-cannabis/)

Ryan's Law, SB 311 allows:

- Medicinal Cannabis can be used by terminally ill patients with <1 year to live, who are admitted in a hospital setting.
- Vaping or smoking medicinal cannabis is prohibited in or around a facility.
- Cannabis must be kept in a locked container in the patients room.
- Healthcare professionals(NP,RN or MD) are not allowed to acquire, retrieve, administer or remove medicinal cannabis for patient. Must be done by patient or caregiver.
- MMC(Medical Marijuana Card) or written documentation by physician stating health condition.
- Patient use of medicinal cannabis should be noted in patient chart.



Patients 65 yo included in Ryan's law, SB 302 passed in 2023 allows:

- Patients 65 years old or older with a chronic disease.
- With physician assessment and qualifying condition.
- They are a part of the MMP(Medical Marijuana state Program) provides them with a MMC.



Effective January 1, 2022 SB 311 Chapter 384, Statutes of 2021

Health care facilities may suspend patient use of medicinal cannabis if a federal regulatory agency, the United States Department of Justice, or CMS:

Initiates or takes formal enforcement actions against a health care facility for complying with the Act.

Issues a rule or otherwise provides notification to the health care facility that expressly prohibits the use of medicinal cannabis in health care facilities.

Prohibits compliance with a state-regulated medical marijuana program.

Practice within your NP Scope

- Healthcare Providers(NP,MD,DO,PA) are unable to prescribe because Cannabis is a Schedule I narcotic.
- 1996 Original California Cannabis law, the Compassionate Use Act legislation specifically states only MD's and DO's are allowed to complete the CDPH 9044 form.
- NP's are able to educate patients about cannabis based on NCSBN guidelines.
- In a hospital setting healthcare professionals are restricted from retrieving, administering or disposing of medicinal Cannabis.

Resources

- **DEPARTMENT OF CANNABIS CONTROL** WWW.CANNABIS.CA.GOV OR CALL 1-844-612-2232
- **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH MMICP** [HTTPS://WWW.CDPH.CA.GOV](https://WWW.CDPH.CA.GOV) OR 1-833-422-4255
- **NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARD OF NURSING** [HTTPS://WWW.NCSBN.ORG/NURSING-REGULATION/PRACTICE/MARIJUANA-GUIDELINES.PAGE](https://WWW.NCSBN.ORG/NURSING-REGULATION/PRACTICE/MARIJUANA-GUIDELINES.PAGE)
- **NATIONAL ACADEMIA OF SCIENCES,ENGINEERING&MEDICINE** [HTTPS://WWW.NATIONALACADEMIES.ORG/TOPICS/HEALTH-AND-MEDICINE](https://WWW.NATIONALACADEMIES.ORG/TOPICS/HEALTH-AND-MEDICINE)
- **FDA REGULATION CANNABIS** [PAGE-HTTPS://WWW.FDA.GOV/NEWS-EVENTS/PUBLIC-HEALTH-FOCUS/FDA-REGULATION-CANNABIS-AND-CANNABIS-DERIVED-PRODUCTS-INCLUDING-CANNABIDIOL-CBD](https://WWW.FDA.GOV/NEWS-EVENTS/PUBLIC-HEALTH-FOCUS/FDA-REGULATION-CANNABIS-AND-CANNABIS-DERIVED-PRODUCTS-INCLUDING-CANNABIDIOL-CBD)
- **[CANNAKEYS-HTTPS://CANNAKEYS.COM/GLOSSARY-2/](https://CANNAKEYS.COM/GLOSSARY-2/)** SUBSCRIPTION BASED PROGRAM TO HELP FIIND CANNABIS STUDIES ON VARIOUS MEDICAL CONDITIONS
- **AMERICAN CANNABIS NURSES ASSOCIATION** WWW.CANNABISNURSES.ORG
- **CANNABIS NURSES OF COLOR** WWW.CANNABISNURSESOFCOLOR.COM
- **TETRAGRAM APP- MEDICAL CANNABIS APP**

References

1. NCSBN Medical Marijuana Guidelines for Nurses (Journal of Nursing Regulation, July 2018).
2. Cannabis Basics, CDPH website updated Feb 2023. <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CCDPHP/sapb/cannabis/Pages/Cannabis-Basics.aspx>
3. Cannabis policies, 2021. DEPARTMENT OF CANNABIS CONTROL www.cannabis.ca.gov

REMINDERS

- C. CARRY/HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF CANNABIS
 - A. ABILITY TO EDUCATE YOURSELF, COLLEAGUES
- N. NURSES ARE THE KEY TO PATIENT EDUCATION/AWARENESS
- N. NO JUDGEMENT OF YOUR PATIENTS FOR USING CANNABIS
- A. ADHERE TO STATE LAWS, ALWAYS PRACTICE WITHIN YOUR SCOPE
- B. BEGIN TO FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH THIS TOPIC
- I. IDENTIFY PATIENTS WHO USE CANNABIS, CHECK IN WITH THEM
- S. STAY CONNECTED WITH NEW POLICIES FROM THE STATE

Thank you

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