

# Medical Cannabis New Condition Review Panel

OFFICE OF MEDICAL CANNABIS  
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016, 1:00 TO 5:00 P.M.  
(OR EARLIER DEPENDING ON PUBLIC TESTIMONY)  
179 ROBIE STREET EAST, SAINT PAUL, MN 55107

## Meeting Notes

### Activities

1. Welcome, agenda review – Michelle Larson and Charlie Peterson
  - a. Panel member introductions
    - i. Heather Tidd (Chair)
    - ii. Mikel Bofenkamp
    - iii. Elizabeth Melton
    - iv. George Komoridis
    - v. Susan Sencer
2. Process overview for public comment on Qualifying Conditions – Charlie Peterson
  - a. Comments being heard on the following conditions:
    - i. Schizophrenia
    - ii. Diabetes (Blood Sugar Control)
    - iii. Acquired absence of limb
    - iv. Autism Spectrum Disorder
3. Qualifying Conditions Public Comment – by condition:
  - a. Schizophrenia: the panel members gave an overview of what they learned when reading over the issue brief on Schizophrenia. It is understood to have six core domains (Nasrallah 2011): positive symptoms ( including the psychotic symptoms of delusions and hallucinations), disorganization of speech and behavior, negative symptoms (including amotivation and blunt or flat affect), cognitive deficits (including severe impairments in memory, executive functions, and learning), mood symptoms (including depression and suicidal urges as well as hostility and aggression), neuromotor symptoms (including varying degrees of catatonia, stereotypic movements and dystonia).
    - i. There were no members of the public who testified for Schizophrenia.
  - b. Diabetes (blood sugar control): the panel members gave an overview of what they learned when reading over the issue brief on Diabetes (blood sugar control). It was mentioned that the cannabinoid receptors can affect one’s metabolism and with the information provided, cannabis has some effect on increasing hunger. While some panel members thought it was surprising that cannabis controls hunger, if there is any possibility to explore we should take it.
    - i. There was one member of the public who testified for Diabetes (blood sugar control).
  - c. Acquired absence of limb: while there was little data and no preclinical work, some people have good effects in the anti-seizure pain medication.
    - i. There were no members of the public who testified for Acquired absence of limb.

d. Autism: one panel member thinks that since there are very few studies on autism, it would be helpful to hear patient stories. Another panel member believes that the best treatment is more in the domain of behavioral/psychological rather than medicine. This panel member is concerned giving this strong medicine to children and that skill training has shown effect on focusing/attention based skills.

i. There were two members of the public who testified for Autism.

#### 4. Next Steps

a. The next meeting will be held on Thursday September 22, 2016 in the same location, 179 Robie Street East, St. Paul, MN 55107 at 1:00 pm. The conditions that will be reviewed at this meeting are: Ehlers Danlos Syndrome, Arthritis, Treatment-Resistant Depression, Insomnia and PTSD.

b. There is a potential for an October meeting for the panel members to meet and discuss what they have heard from the public and read from the issue briefs.