



## What Is Medical Marijuana?

Stay on the safe side. Knowing what the experts and the law say about medical marijuana increases safe handling practices.

Medical marijuana is a plant that may help symptoms of certain health issues. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) does not currently recognize the plant for treatment of any disease or condition. However, the FDA supports medical marijuana research in the medical community.<sup>1</sup>

## The Difference Between CBD and THC

The Cannabis plant genus contains two natural compounds of interest: cannabidiol (CBD) and tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

CBD does not produce the “high” sensation or euphoric feelings. THC produces the “high” sensation. It can take between 30 minutes to two hours to feel the full effects of THC consumed in edibles, because THC is metabolized through the digestive system. THC may impair the ability to drive.

## Medical Marijuana Uses

The Michigan Medical Marijuana Program (MMMP) is a state registry that allows patients and caregivers to apply for and renew medical marijuana cards. The most common use for medical marijuana is for pain management, especially chronic pain. In Michigan, 91% of medical marijuana patients reported chronic pain as the reason for obtaining a medical marijuana card.

According to Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), the following conditions are eligible for medical marijuana use in Michigan<sup>2</sup>:

- Cancer
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Parkinson’s Disease
- Cerebral Palsy
- Glaucoma
- Crohn’s Disease
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder
- Colitis
- Tourette’s Disease
- HIV Positive and AIDS
- Alzheimer’s Disease
- Arthritis
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Autism
- Hepatitis C
- Nail Patella
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Ulcerative Colitis
- Chronic Pain
- A chronic condition or treatment that produces one or more of the following: cachexia or wasting syndrome, severe/chronic pain, severe nausea, seizures, severe/persistent muscle spasms

Medical marijuana, like any other medicine, should be stored in a safe and locked space to prevent someone from improper use.



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[www.baycounty-mi.gov/health/marijuana.aspx](http://www.baycounty-mi.gov/health/marijuana.aspx)

### Sources

<sup>1</sup><https://www.fda.gov/news-events/public-health-focus/fda-and-cannabis-research-and-drug-approval-process>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.michigan.gov/mra/0,9306,7-386-83746-449306--,00.html>