

A Nurses Guide to Medical Cannabis

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This document was researched, prepared and presented as public service by
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see also MERCYs “a Physicians Guide to OMMA”

INFO – Cannabis as Medicine

Medical Marijuana Pro/Con Pros & cons on **medical** marijuana. Science, risks, policies, & laws. This site presents in a simple, nonpartisan pro-con format, responses to the core question "Should marijuana be a medical option now?" We have divided questions about the topic into the issues and sub-issues listed below. All individuals and organizations quoted on our site are ranked based upon our unique credibility scale. **[Note: Although physicians and attorneys are listed on this site, we do not recommend or refer either.]** Visit:

<http://www.medicalmarijuanaprocon.org/>

Factbook: **Medical Marijuana**. Including -

10. **Organizations that have endorsed medical access to marijuana** include: the Institute of Medicine, the American Academy of Family Physicians; American Bar Association; American Public Health Association; American Society of Addiction Medicine; AIDS Action Council; British Medical Association; California Academy of Family Physicians; California Legislative Council for Older Americans; California Medical Association; California Nurses Association; California Pharmacists Association; California Society of Addiction Medicine; California-Pacific Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church; Colorado Nurses Association; Consumer Reports Magazine; Kaiser Permanente; Lymphoma Foundation of America; Multiple Sclerosis California Action Network; National Association of Attorneys General; National Association of People with AIDS; National Nurses Society on Addictions; New Mexico Nurses Association; New York State Nurses Association; New England Journal of Medicine; and Virginia Nurses Association.
11. **A few of the editorial boards that have endorsed medical access to marijuana** include: Boston Globe; Chicago Tribune; Miami Herald; New York Times; Orange County Register; and USA Today.
12. **Many organizations have favorable positions (e.g., unimpeded research) on medical marijuana.** These groups include: The Institute of Medicine, The American Cancer Society; American Medical Association; Australian Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health; California Medical Association; Federation of American Scientists; Florida Medical Association; and the National Academy of Sciences.

Visit: <http://www.drugwarfacts.org/medicalm.htm> for more.

MedicalMJ.org - Medical Marijuana News and Facts, The Coalition for Medical Cannabis. NEWS, INFO, LINKs and More. "Thursday, Feb 16, 2006. Legislation to legalize **medical** marijuana was tabled by a committee in the NM State House of Representatives, effectively killing the legislation for this session." Visit: <http://www.medicalmj.org/>

Medical Professionals

"Cannabis's accepted medical use in the United States is increasingly recognized by health care professionals and the medical community, including the Institute of Medicine. Several medical organizations support legal access to cannabis for medicinal purposes. A new medical journal released in 2001 focuses on the medicinal use of cannabis and cannabinoids. National clinical conferences on the medicinal use of cannabis have been held in the United States in 2000 and 2002 and are scheduled to continue on a bi-annual basis.. Most importantly, data on the number of physicians currently recommending therapeutic marijuana use to their patients demonstrate its acceptance by the medical community in the United States.

The most significant evidence of marijuana's acceptance by the medical community in the United States consists of data on the number of physicians currently recommending marijuana medical use by their patients:

"By any reasonable definition, marijuana has "currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States." Eight states have officially legalized its medical use. A minimum of 35,000 patients are currently using medical marijuana legally in these states. Over 2,500 different physicians have recommended it for use by their patients. As many as 5% of all registered physicians have recommended marijuana in Oregon and Northern California. Usage rates vary greatly among different regions. The average usage rate in the general population ranges from 80 to 90 per 100,000 in California and Oregon, where there are numerous patient support groups, to fewer than 10 per 100,000 in Colorado and Nevada, where cannabis medicine is still underdeveloped. As many as 1% of the population in Mendocino County, California, are legal medical marijuana users, while Canadian surveys suggest illegal medical usage as high as 2% - 4% in the general population. The widespread and growing popularity of medical marijuana and its potential for treating a wide range of conditions indicate a growing role in American medicine. These facts refute marijuana's current Schedule One misclassification as a drug lacking "currently accepted medical use"" (Gieringer 2002).

A considerable number of organizations representing health care professionals, the medical community, and the general public support granting greater access to medical cannabis for patients in need and recognizing explicitly marijuana's medical use both in the United States and in the international community." See more at:

http://www.drugscience.org/amu/amu_medprof.htm

Medical Professionals Get Credits for National Clinical Conference on Cannabis Therapeutics

The Fourth National Clinical Conference on Cannabis Therapeutics will be held in Santa Barbara, CA on April 6-8, 2006. This conference will present state of the art cannabis research with faculty from the US, England, Canada, Spain, Israel, and the Netherlands. Areas to be discussed include the use of cannabis for pain management, multiple sclerosis, mental health problems, cancer, glaucoma; use during pregnancy; an overview of the endogenous cannabinoids and their role in the human body; harm reduction measures and policy updates. Providing Patients Safe Access to Therapeutic Marijuana/Cannabis, which encourages the education of registered nurses regarding current, evidence-based therapeutic use of marijuana/cannabis.

Past educational credits for the work of this national group have been granted by The Colleges of Nursing and Medicine of The University of Iowa, The Virginia Nurses Association, The University of Virginia's Schools of Medicine, Nursing and Law, the **Oregon Department of Human Services**, Health Services and the **Oregon Nurses Association**, among other conservative professional health care organizations.

Patients' therapeutic cannabis use has always been supported by the academic and medical communities, which have publicly in large numbers called for the immediate access to cannabis under medical supervision," said Nurse Mathre. A list of such organizations can be found at <<http://www.medicalcannabis.com>>, or see below.

More information on the conference agenda, faculty, registration, and how to obtain Continuing Education credits is available at:

<http://www.medicalcannabis.com/conference.htm>

Editor,

Re: Greenberg on Reefer

This is one of the better articles on Sativex yet published. There are two other sparks that are igniting interest in the medical cannabis debate.

"The Petition to Reschedule Cannabis" was submitted to the DEA in October of 2004. This demand was forwarded with merit to their boss, the Department of Health and Human Services in the fall of 2004 and has been under review by that organization since that time. This is a 60 plus page document that lists about 50,000 pages of worldwide research on the therapeutic use of cannabis. The approval of this demand would end the war on cannabis. In a political sense the Petition is every politicians dream. The announcement that research on cannabis

has progressed to the point that it can be returned to the National Pharmacopeia, will be accomplished by scientists, and rescheduled by bureaucrats and not one elected official has to vote on the finding. Patients Out of Time is a principal in that filing.

We think that the finding demanded by the Petition, that cannabis is medicine, is inevitable.

As we enter into the final months before our next and "Fourth National Conference on Cannabis Therapeutics" we understand that medical conferences are boring and well off the vision of today's media. This will be an accredited conference as has all in the series, meaning attendees who will be medical doctors and registered nurses in the main, will get professional education credits for their attendance. Credit granted by such far out liberal institutions, such as previous education grantees, the Medical College of the University of Iowa; the Oregon Department of Human Services, Health Services; and the Pain Management Center, Department of Anesthesia, University of Virginia School of Medicine. This means nothing I suppose to the layman but to the federal offices that are paid to defile those that advocate for patient use of cannabis under medical supervision it is a chilling series of forums. Conferences that the federals do not want you to know about or write about and therefore never, ever discuss.

Maybe you should come to Santa Barbara next April to find out why. Please see www.medicalcannabis.com for details and contact information.

Sincerely,

Al Byrne, co-founder
Patients Out of Time
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Howardsville, VA 24562
(434) 263-4484 fax (434) 263-6753
al@medicalcannabis.com
www.medicalcannabis.com

Patients Out of Time is a patient advocacy organization with a universal constituency. They support the rights of patients to have a legal and safe access to the therapeutic use of cannabis.

The mission of their organization, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit, is the education of health care professionals and the public about the therapeutic use of cannabis. Their leadership is composed of medical and nursing professionals with expertise in the clinical applications of cannabis and five of the seven patients (two wish to remain anonymous) who receive their medical cannabis from the US government. Working closely since 1990, the Founders formalized their work in 1995 as a VA corporation.

Patients Out of Time is seeking a Registered Nurse willing to defend the federal government's position that cannabis (marijuana) has no medical

value. After a year of searching, Patients Out of Time has not found a single nurse who disagrees with the American Nurses Association (and thirteen other state nursing associations) position that cannabis is medicine and who can scientifically disprove that position to an audience of peers. Visit:

<http://www.medicalcannabis.com/> for more.

INFO – Medicine, Nursing and Med Profs in general

INFO (Petition) Accepted medical use in the United States; Medical professionals. Cannabis's accepted medical use in the United States is increasingly recognized by health care professionals and the medical community, including the Institute of Medicine. Several medical organizations support legal access to cannabis for medicinal purposes. A new medical journal released in 2001 focuses on the medicinal use of cannabis and cannabinoids. National clinical conferences on the medicinal use of cannabis have been held in the United States in 2000 and 2002 and are scheduled to continue on a bi-annual basis.. Most importantly, data on the number of physicians currently recommending therapeutic marijuana use to their patients demonstrate its acceptance by the medical community in the United States. The most significant evidence of marijuana's acceptance by the medical community in the United States consists of data on the number of physicians currently recommending marijuana medical use by their patients. See more at: <http://www.drugscience.org/pt/ca2.htm>

Research **medical** marijuana at the world's largest online library.
<http://www.questia.com/>

INFO - Links

INFO (Biz) Links and More. Information and Resources for Nurses Worldwide, Nurses.info is a web site dedication to the provision of quality health care information for the professional development of nurses and health professionals. They provide links to a range of educational and vocational information that will meet this outcome.

All research of information for this site has been undertaken by in-house consultants who are registered nurses. **Nurses.info is fully owned and financially sponsored by Australian Nursing Agency. Visit:**
http://www.nurses.info/medicine_cannabis.htm

INFO (Bro) This brochure is intended to be a starting point for the consideration of applying cannabis therapies to specific conditions. It is not intended to replace the training and expertise of physicians with regard to medicine or attorneys with regard to the law. But as patients, doctors and advocates who

have been working intimately with these issues for many years, Americans for Safe Access has seen firsthand how helpful cannabis can be for a wide variety of indications. They know doctors want the freedom to practice medicine and patients the freedom to make decisions about their healthcare.

For more information about ASA and the work they do, please see their website at safeaccessnow.org or call 1-888-929-4367. visit:

http://safeaccessnow.org/downloads/cancer_brochure.pdf

Medical Cannabis Facts by The nonprofit Angel Wings Patient OutReach, Inc., an advocate for the civil rights, human rights, and disability rights of medical cannabis patients, their caregivers, and their physicians. **If you would like to make a donation to help combat the unfair persecution of medical cannabis patients, you can make a tax-deductible contribution. Contact the Plaintiffs and their Attorneys at: Angel Wings Patient OutReach, Inc., P.O. Box 18767, Oakland, California 94619-8767 * phone: (510) 764-1499, or visit:**

<http://www.angeljustice.org/article.php?list=type&type=29>

INFO – Facts on Medical Marijuana: New Mexico, compiled by Drug Policy Alliance. March 2001. Marijuana's therapeutic uses are well documented in modern scientific literature for treating patients with illnesses such as AIDS, glaucoma, cancer, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, and chronic pain.

In 1978 New Mexico lawmakers passed the first medical marijuana law, the Lynn Pierson Act, named for a 26-year-old cancer patient. Currently the law allows marijuana to be used to relieve nausea associated with chemotherapy and to ease eye pressure from glaucoma in connection with a research project. More than 250 people used marijuana under the law until 1986, when lawmakers ceased funding the program. Visit:

http://www.drugpolicy.org/library/factsheets/marijuana_newmex_factsheet_library.cfm

INFO - Articles

INF (Art) “Medical Establishment Abandons Patients and Ethics: Is there a doctor (or nurse) in the house?”; Author: Ed Glick, RN; Pubdate: Fri, 1 Mar 2002; Source: Alternatives for Cultural Creativity (Salem, OR) – visit:

<http://www.alternativesmagazine.com>

MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT ABANDONS PATIENTS AND ETHICS: IS THERE A DOCTOR (OR NURSE) IN THE HOUSE?

Nursing is Caring

“Twenty years ago I began to learn what real suffering looks and feels like.

I watched helplessly while beautiful young men would, in three months time, age 50 years, dying from a disease no one knew anything about at the time.

I have watched tobacco-cancer eat the lungs, livers and hearts out of people. They had no idea, when they began using this legal herb, the consequences in store for them.

I've cared for all of these people because they were suffering, and because I am a nurse.

Today I sadly witness another widespread - and preventable - tragedy of human suffering. It is the pain of ill and dying people, legally persecuted for using an illegal herb, and simultaneously denied their appropriate medicine by the medical establishment. This is the everyday experience of cannabis patients, the "untouchables" of American medicine.

I've listened countless times as patients beg me to give them something I can't - permission to use, grow, smoke, eat, and possess one simple herb. They ask me to tell a narcotics "task-force" that they couldn't find their registry card, or explain to a doctor that the drug keeps them from vomiting up their protease inhibitors."

Visit:

www.letfreedomgrow.com/articles/or020501.htm for more.

Federal Foolishness and Marijuana

Jerome P. Kassirer, M.D., Editor, New England Journal of Medicine. 30 Jan 1997,
New England Journal of Medicine, published by the Massachusetts Medical Society

The advanced stages of many illnesses and their treatments are often accompanied by intractable nausea, vomiting, or pain. Thousands of patients with cancer, AIDS, and other diseases report they have obtained striking relief from these devastating symptoms by smoking marijuana. The alleviation of distress can be so striking that some patients and their families have been willing to risk a jail term to obtain or grow the marijuana.

Despite the desperation of these patients, within weeks after voters in Arizona and California approved propositions allowing physicians in their states to prescribe marijuana for medical indications, federal officials, including the President, the secretary of Health and Human Services, and the attorney general sprang into action. At a news conference, Secretary Donna E. Shalala gave an organ recital of the parts of the body that she asserted could be harmed by marijuana and warned of the evils of its spreading use. Attorney General Janet Reno announced that physicians in any state who prescribed the drug could lose the privilege of writing prescriptions, be excluded from Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, and even be prosecuted for a federal crime. Visit:

<http://www.sodaksafeaccess.org/endorsements.htm>

Cannabis in Medical Practice; A Legal, Historical, and Pharmacological Overview of the Therapeutic Use of Marijuana. Edited by Mary Lynn Mathre

This book is the collaborative effort of 17 experts from the countries of Brazil, Jamaica, The Netherlands and the United States who tell the story of medical marijuana in layman's language based on facts, scientific inquiry, common sense and compassion. Included are hundreds of references for those who wish to explore the subject of therapeutic Cannabis to a greater depth.

The legal dilemmas of the Cannabis prohibition are examined; patients, their pain, and their search for legally provided medicine through the court system are presented; legal procedures and issues related to medical use of marijuana are identified and explained. Attorneys and patients alike will find the information invaluable. **Visit:**

<http://www.druglibrary.org/olsen/medical/pot/book.html>

NEWS - Sources

Nurse Investigated for 'Sedition' After Writing Letter to Editor By E&P Staff. Published: February 11, 2006

http://editorandpublisher.com/eandp/news/article_display.jsp?vnu_content_id=1001995631&imw=Y

NEW YORK Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.) has asked Veterans Affairs Secretary James Nicholson for a thorough inquiry of his agency's investigation into whether a V.A. nurse's letter to the editor criticizing the Bush administration amounted to "sedition."

Merely opposing government policies and expressing a desire to change course "does not provide reason to believe that a person is involved in illegal subversive activity," he said. Bingaman said such investigations raise "a very real possibility of chilling legitimate political speech."

Laura Berg, a clinical nurse specialist for 15 years, wrote a letter in September to a weekly Albuquerque newspaper criticizing how the administration handled Hurricane Katrina and the Iraq Wwr. She urged people to "act forcefully" by bringing criminal charges against top administration officials, including the president, to remove them from power because they played games of "vicious deceit." She added: "This country needs to get out of Iraq now and return to our original vision and priorities of caring for land and people and resources rather than killing for oil....Otherwise, many more of us will be facing living hell in these times."

The agency seized her office computer and launched an investigation. Berg is not talking to the press, but reportedly fears losing her job.

Bingaman wrote: "In a democracy, expressing disagreement with the government's actions does not amount to sedition or insurrection. It is, and must remain, protected speech. Although it may be permissible to implement restrictions regarding a government employee's political activities during work hours or on government premises, such employees do not surrender their right to freedom of speech when they enlist in government service."

He said he wants the matter investigated so V.A. officials will have guidance about handling similar situations in the future.

Berg signed the letter as a private citizen, and the V.A. had no reason to suspect she used government resources to write it, according to the American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico, which last week asked the government to apologize to Berg for seizing her computer and investigating her.

V.A. human resources chief Mel Hooker had said in a Nov. 9 letter that his agency was obligated to investigate "any act which potentially represents sedition," the ACLU said.

Peter Simonson, executive director of the ACLU of New Mexico, told The Progressive magazine: "We were shocked to see the word 'sedition' used. Sedition? That's like something out of the history books."

In a press release, Simonson also said: "Is this government so jealous of its power, so fearful of dissent, that it needs to threaten people who openly oppose its policies with charges of 'sedition'?" Find this article at:

http://www.editorandpublisher.com/eandp/news/article_display.jsp?vnu_content_id=1001995631&imw=Y

MAP: **Cannabis** - Medicinal news from MAP. Such as ... PUB LTE: National **Nurses** Group Backs **Medical** Marijuana. Thu, 09 ... Marijuana Party **Cannabis Cannabis** - California **Cannabis** - Canada **Cannabis** - Medicinal **Cannabis** - Medicinal - Canada visit:

<http://www.mapinc.org/mmj.htm>

Legal Medical Marijuana Patients, Proponents Speak Before American Nurses Association

June 17, 1996 - Washington, DC, USA. Activists for medical marijuana, including Barbara Douglas and Irv Rosenfeld -- two of the eight remaining legal marijuana patients -- and Mary Lynn Mathre, RN of the cannabis reform organization Patients Out of Time, recently spoke at the Centennial Conference of the American Nurses Association (ANA) in Washington, D.C.. Their presentation, entitled "Therapeutic Cannabis and the Law: Ethical Dilemma for Nurses," was received "incredibly well" by

the numerous health-care professionals in attendance. Activists note that no members of the ANA mounted any vocal opposition to the theme of the presentation. Visit:

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=3604

The MarijuanaNews.Com - Original Marijuana Blog - with Richard Cowan MarijuanaNews.Com, [Freedom has nothing to fear from the truth ... No US Jails Allow Medical Cannabis. No Appeals Left ... California Nurses Association -- Representing 30,000 Registered Nurses -- Urges Judge Breyer Not to Wait For Appeals ... visit:](#)

http://www.marijuananeews.com/marijuananeews/cowan/medical_cannabis.htm

Ohio Patient Network (OPN) - is a non-profit coalition of patients, caregivers, activists and medical professionals who support the compassionate use of cannabis for various medicinal purposes. Their mission is to coordinate information between patients, medical professionals, and attorneys, as well as to educate the public. They are a 501(c)(3) non-profit coalition of patients, caregivers, activists and **medical** professionals who support the compassionate use of **cannabis** for various medical purposes. Contact: Ohio Patient Network, P.O. Box 26353 - Columbus, Ohio 43226-0353 * 1-888-OH-Patient (1-888-647-2843) or visit:

<http://www.ohiopatient.net/newsletter/>

Cannabis Buyers Clubs: Articles & Info; This page is more of historical value considering the events of the past two years. But this is a glimpse at a moment in time in California ... they'll just be pulling CBC stuff into this page then they organize it all a bit more as time permits ... Visit:

<http://www.marijuana.org/CBCNews&InfoPage.htm>

Supreme Court Rules Feds Can Arrest State-Recognized Medical Cannabis Patients

State Laws Authorizing Physician-Supervised Use Of Marijuana Unaffected By Ruling

Washington, DC: The US Supreme Court today (6/6/05) reversed a Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision which found that the federal prosecution of patients who cultivate and possess marijuana for their own medicinal use is an unconstitutional exercise of Congress' Commerce Clause authority. As a result, the court struck down an injunction barring the Justice Department from arresting the respondents - California medical cannabis patients Angel McClary Raich and Diane Monson -- for violating the federal Controlled Substances Act. Ms. Raich and Ms. Monson had filed

suit in federal court in 2002 seeking to bar the US Justice Department from taking legal action against them for their state-sanctioned use of medicinal cannabis. visit:

http://norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=6550

Beatty Fires Up Nurses

Carla Marinucci, Political Writer - San Francisco Chronicle, September 23, 2005.

visit: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2005/09/23/BAGCVESMKG1.DTL&hw=nurses&sn=001&sc=1000>

Actor Warren Beatty, met with thunderous applause and chants of "run, Warren, run" by a crowd of California nurses, vowed Thursday he'll continue to criticize Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger for the Republican governor's "insulting and bullying" attacks against the state's nurses, teachers and firefighters.

"Government is not show business," said Beatty, who was repeatedly interrupted by standing ovations as the keynote speaker of the California Nurses Association convention, which concludes today in Oakland." Government by show, by spin, by cosmetics, by photo ops, by fake events, by fake crowds, that's a mistake.

"Not facing facts is a mistake. ... And I'll tell you another mistake -- going after the nurses. Nurses save our lives. They take care of us," Beatty said.

The nurses union has been among Schwarzenegger's most vocal critics for much of the year since he tried to overturn lower patient-staffing ratios at hospitals that had been put in place by former Democratic Gov. Gray Davis.

They have been joined by other public employee unions opposing the governor's three Nov. 8 special election measures, which would toughen teacher tenure rules, change the state's budget process and give retired judges the power to draw election districts.

Nurses and their supporters cheered and waved a sea of "Stop Arnold" signs to greet Beatty at the speech, which -- after it was suggested he may announce a run for governor -- drew a crowd of national political and entertainment reporters.

Beatty told reporters, as he has in the past, that this was "not the time for this conversation" but didn't rule out the possibility of running for governor.

Beatty headlined a program including a "who's who" of the governor's biggest critics -- including Rose Ann DeMoro, the head of the California Nurses Association; Lou Paulson, president of the California Professional Firefighters; and Barbara Kerr, president of the California Teachers' Association.

Many nurses in the audience said they were grateful that they had a defender such as Beatty.

"We're honored that a lot of people in the public eye are taking a strong stand, because a year ago, it wouldn't have been popular to criticize the governor," said Jan Rodolfo of Oakland, an oncology nurse at Summit Medical Center. "Arnold didn't understand that the public sees this profession as a public service."

Beatty Speach Text: <http://www.calnurse.org/?Action=Content&id=1170>

Nursing Association Journal Backs Access to Medical Marijuana

May 2, 2001 - New York, NY, USA. Marijuana is a safe and effective medication and nurses should support legal access to it, asserts a commentary in the April issue of the American Journal of Nursing, the official journal of the American Nursing Association (ANA).

"Patients need professional guidance about the safe administration of cannabis, and they need access to a legal and unadulterated supply," concludes the article, entitled "Therapeutic Cannabis: A patient advocacy issue." An estimated 2.5 million nurses nationwide receive the publication. Visit:

http://www.norml.org/index.cfm?Group_ID=4292

National Nurses Society on Addictions

POSITION PAPER

Access to Therapeutic Cannabis

Seriously ill individuals are suffering because of the prohibitory federal policies which list cannabis (marijuana) as a Schedule I drug of the Controlled Substances, which means it cannot be used by patients or prescribed by physicians.

Therapeutic Value

Cannabis has been used medicinally throughout the world for centuries. Cannabis contains more than 60 cannabinoids which are unique to the cannabis plant, one of which is delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the main psychoactive cannabinoid. However it appears to be the combination of various cannabinoids which seem to have the greater therapeutic value.

Support for Therapeutic Cannabis

Thirty five states, have recognized marijuana's therapeutic potential and have passed legislation supporting its value. Therapeutic use of cannabis/marijuana is also supported by several organizations including the Alliance for Cannabis Therapeutics, the American Medical Student Association, the California Medical Association, Mothers Against Misuse and Abuse (MAMA), the National Lymphoma Foundation, the National Association of Attorneys General, Patients Out of Time, Physicians for AIDS care, and the Virginia Nurses Association. Visit: <http://www.druglibrary.org/olsen/MEDICAL/POT/nnsaposi.html>

American Nurses Association Endorses Access to Medical Marijuana

7/3/03 - Nine years of work by Patients Out of Time (<http://www.medicalcannabis.com>), a nonprofit organization devoted to the medical marijuana issue, paid off last week when the American Nurses Association (ANA) adopted a resolution calling for safe access to medical marijuana for patients under appropriate doctor's supervision. The ANA now joins dozens of other health professional organizations, including the National Society of Nurses on Addiction and the American Public Health Association, in calling for eased access to medical marijuana.

The measure overwhelmingly adopted by the nurses resolves that the ANA will:

- Support research in controlled investigational trials on the therapeutic efficacy of marijuana/cannabis, including alternative methods of administration.
- Support the right of patients to have safe access to therapeutic marijuana/cannabis under appropriate prescriber supervision.
- Support the ability of health care providers to discuss and/or recommend the medicinal use of marijuana without the threat of intimidation or penalization.
- Support legislation to remove criminal penalties including arrest and imprisonment for bona fide patients and prescribers of therapeutic marijuana/cannabis.
- Support federal and state legislation to exclude marijuana/ cannabis from classification as a Schedule I drug.
- Support and encourage the education of registered nurses regarding current, evidence-based therapeutic use of marijuana/ cannabis.

Visit: <http://stopthedrugwar.org/chronicle/294/nursesendorse.shtml> for more details.

American Nurses Association backs medical pot

by Pete Brady (07 Jan, 2004)

America's largest nursing group passes resolution supporting med-pot use and research.

Medical marijuana scored a major public health victory in June when the American Nurses Association (ANA) adopted a resolution calling for research, education and supervised use of medical marijuana.

The ANA is America's largest nursing association; it has hundreds of thousands of members, with chapters in 49 states. Its support of medical marijuana is a direct challenge to drug warriors, government-funded researchers, and Supreme Court rulings that have asserted that marijuana is a harmful drug with no medical value.

Passage of the resolution can be directly attributed to the work and vision of one medical marijuana advocate – registered nurse Mary Lynn Mathre. Visit:

<http://www.cannabisculture.com/articles/3149.html>

American Nurses Association Calls for Patient Access to Medical Cannabis/Marijuana

July 1st, 2003 - Patients Out of Time, represented by the non-profit's President, Mary Lynn Mathre, RN, MSN, CARN, testified on Thursday, June 26 at the American Nurses Association's 2003 House of Delegates Meeting. Held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC from June 24-27, Nurse Mathre had come a long way when she stood and addressed the Delegates. See more at:

<http://www.safeaccessnow.org/article.php?id=727>

Scottish NURSES SET TO BACK USE OF CANNABIS

Nurses are joining the fight to get cannabis products prescribed for patients. The move follows concern that people with conditions such as multiple sclerosis and cancer are not getting adequate pain relief from traditional treatments.

A motion calling for patients to be prescribed the drugs has been put forward by the Royal College of Nursing's Pain Forum and will be debated at the RCN's annual conference in Bournemouth this week.

Celia Manson, an RCN adviser, said nurses were concerned about the restrictions on current cannabis-derived products which could benefit so many people. "Few doctors are able to prescribe them at the moment. Nurses from the Pain Forum feel

there is potential for much greater use and these should at the very least be investigated."

Last year at its annual conference the British Medical Association voted for cannabis derivatives to be legalised for medical purposes. The BMA drew up a report which showed cannabinoids had potential for therapeutic use in a number of conditions including MS, spinal chord injury, stroke and spastic disorders. Visit:

http://www.marijuananeews.com/marijuananeews/cowan/scottish_nurses_to_back_medical_.htm

NURSES Support MEDICAL MARIJUANA

It is difficult for nurses to remain silent when patients are denied access to an effective medical treatment. That is why the **Wisconsin Nurses Association** supports the medical marijuana bill authored by Rep. Gregg Underheim (R-Oshkosh), known as AB 740.

In taking this position, we are squarely in the mainstream of the public health community. The **American Nurses Association**, the **American Academy of Family Physicians**, the **American Public Health Association** and the **American Academy of HIV Medicine** are just a few of the health care organizations that have acknowledged that marijuana can be a valuable treatment when used under medical supervision. See list, below, for more.

A large body of evidence indicates that marijuana can relieve a number of debilitating symptoms, including nausea, vomiting, certain types of pain and the pressure inside the eye that robs glaucoma patients of their sight. Moreover, it can do so with remarkable safety.

Unfortunately, the issue has become shrouded in fear and myth. Exaggerated claims and scientific misunderstandings have tended to overshadow facts and common sense.

For example, we are sometimes warned that marijuana is "addictive." In fact, only a very small percentage of marijuana users ever become dependent - a much smaller percentage than is seen with alcohol or tobacco.

Under proper medical supervision, drugs that are far more addictive and dangerous than marijuana are used beneficially by hundreds of thousands of patients every day. And unlike a great many drugs used for either medical or recreational purposes, marijuana has never caused a fatal overdose.

Contrary to claims sometimes made by opponents, marijuana can provide relief in a number of instances where conventional drugs fail or have unacceptable side effects. A great deal of research has shown that marijuana relieves pain through

different mechanisms than conventional pain drugs, including opioids, and can provide relief when these drugs fail.

Particularly encouraging results have come from recent studies involving pain associated with multiple sclerosis well as peripheral neuropathy, an extremely painful condition that afflicts HIV/AIDS patients and others.

It is true that a pill is available containing THC, the component most responsible for marijuana's "high." But research has shown that other components of the plant - called cannabinoids - play an important role in marijuana's therapeutic benefit and may even help to reduce the unwanted side effects of THC.

Just as important, the pill takes one to two hours to work and is absorbed slowly and unevenly. That is why the journal *The Lancet Neurology* has called oral dosing "the least satisfactory" way to administer cannabinoids. Patients report that the pill makes them too "stoned" to function, while with natural marijuana they can adjust the dose to provide relief without excessive intoxication. The Institute of Medicine, in a 1999 report commissioned by the White House, made the same point.

Some fear that allowing medical use of marijuana sends the wrong message, encouraging teens to experiment with it. But government-sponsored surveys have consistently shown that teen marijuana use has declined, not increased, in states with medical marijuana laws.

In reality, lying to children and teens about a drug's value and risks sends the wrong message. Young people should be taught that all drugs and medicines present risks and that medicine should only be taken under a provider's supervision when the patient is sick.

There is no reason to be frightened of medical marijuana. This is a drug with nearly 5,000 years of recorded medical use and that has been widely used therapeutically throughout the world. It is safer than many medicines Americans take every day.

There is simply no reason to arrest and jail patients battling cancer, MS, AIDS or other terrible illnesses for using marijuana with the recommendation of their health care providers.

Our Legislature should move swiftly to pass AB 740, and Gov. Jim Doyle should sign it into law.

Author: Gina Dennik-Champion

Note: Gina Dennik-Champion is a registered nurse and executive director of the Wisconsin Nurses Association.

Pubdate: Sat, 10 Dec 2005

Source: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (WI)

Website: <http://www.jsonline.com/>

Cited: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2005/data/AB740hst.html>
Bookmark: <http://www.mapinc.org/mmj.htm> (Cannabis - Medicinal)
Bookmark: <http://www.mapinc.org/people/Gregg+Underheim>
Newshawk: Is My Medicine Legal YET? www.immly.org

Nurses stand up for patients

Regarding the two letters saluting nurses and noting that May 6-12 is National Nurses Week, "Nurses assure public health" and "Thank nurses for their care" (May 6), I would like to take a moment to offer my thanks and appreciation to the nursing profession and state nurses organizations.

In 1999, both the Wisconsin Nurses Association (WNA) and the Wisconsin Public Health Association (WPHA) passed resolutions supporting giving patients legal access to medical marijuana and both urging, "the Governor of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Legislature to move expeditiously to make cannabis available as a legally prescribed medicine where shown to be safe and effective."

When Wisconsin lawmakers introduced a medical marijuana bill in late 2001, the WNA issued a press release stating "It is the position of the WNA that advocacy for this issue needs to occur, and that it is difficult for RN's to remain silent while seriously ill patients are denied access to an effective medical treatment." Visit:

http://www.mpp.org/WI/news_4147.html,
<http://www.wisinfo.com/dailytribune/wrdtopinion/278411088499467.shtml> and:
http://www.mpp.org/WI/news_4208.html

New Jersey Nurses For Medical Cannabis

In 2003 NJSNA passed a resolution on Therapeutic Marijuana/Cannabis, which encourages the education of registered nurses regarding current, evidence-based therapeutic use of marijuana/cannabis.

Also, the hard copy of "New Jersey Nurse" (Jan./Feb. 2006 edition) which just came out today, had a nice article on the Fourth National Clinical Conference on Cannabis Therapeutics entitled, "Patients 4 for 4; Federal Government Zero." The article had my by-line, but basically I just copied and pasted info from Patients Out of Time, inc. this quote: "The accreditation of our educational work by the University of California San Francisco's Office of Continuing Medical Education, the hosting of the forum by the Santa Barbara City College, coupled with the co-sponsorship of the California Nurses Association has ensured that the federal government's claim that cannabis has no medicinal value will again be completely rebutted."

Actually, our resolution passed in 2002 and it did more than encourage education. The resolution recognized the safety and efficacy of medical marijuana and it urged the governor and state legislators to expeditiously pass a medical marijuana bill into law.

Ken Wolski, RN, MPA
Executive Director
Coalition for Medical Marijuana--New Jersey
844 Spruce St.
Trenton, NJ 08648
609.394.2137
<http://www.cmmnj.org/>

Illinois Nursing Association Unanimously Backs Patient Access To Medicinal Cannabis

Chicago, IL: The Illinois Nursing Association (INA) supports the use of medical marijuana by qualified patients, and is calling upon Congress to reclassify cannabis so that doctors may prescribe it, according to a resolution passed unanimously by the organization earlier this month.

"It is the position of the Illinois Nurses Association to: Support the right of patients to have safe access to therapeutic cannabis under appropriate prescriber supervision; ... [to] support legislation to remove criminal penalties including arrest and imprisonment for bonafide patients and prescribers of therapeutic cannabis; [and to] support federal and state legislation to include cannabis classification as a Schedule III [non-prohibited] drug," the INA resolution states." Visit:

<http://www.cannabisculture.com/forums/showflat.php?Cat=&Board=wwwmedical&Number=1012163&Main=10110>

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Illinois Nurses Back Medical Marijuana Bill INA Joins Legislator Living with AIDS in Drive to Protect Patients

FEBRUARY 3, 2005 - SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS -- The 6,000-member Illinois Nurses Association (INA) has lent its support to legislation introduced by Rep. Larry McKeon (D-Chicago) to permit seriously ill patients to use and possess medical marijuana with their doctor's recommendation, without fear of arrest or jail under Illinois state law. The bill, HB 0407, has been referred to the Human Services Committee. Visit:

<http://www.mpp.org/releases/nr20050203.html>

Illinois Nurses Join Growing List of Nursing Groups Supporting Medical Marijuana

12/24/04 - The Illinois Nurses Association (INA) has joined at least a dozen state nursing associations and the American Nursing Association in endorsing the use of marijuana as a medicine. In a position paper submitted by the INA's Assembly on Health Policy on November 23, adopted unanimously by Board of Directors, and now prominently displayed on the group's web site (<http://www.illinoisnurses.org>), the INA declared that it is the position of the Illinois Nurses Association to:

- Support continued research in controlled investigational trials on the therapeutic efficacy of cannabis, including methods of administration.
- Support the right of patients to have safe access to therapeutic cannabis under appropriate prescriber supervision.
- Support and encourage the education of registered nurses regarding current, evidence based use of therapeutic cannabis.
- Support the ability of health care providers to discuss and/or recommend the therapeutic use of cannabis without the threat of intimidation or penalization.
- Support legislation to remove criminal penalties including arrest and imprisonment for bona fide patients and prescribers of therapeutic cannabis.
- Support federal and state legislation to include cannabis classification as a Schedule III drug.

Visit: <http://stopthedrugwar.org/chronicle/368/ina.shtml> for more.

New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA) Position Statement on Medical Marijuana

The intent of this position is to acknowledge the role of nurses to advocate for patient access to marijuana for medical purposes and support legislation that would legalize medical marijuana for symptom relief uncontrolled by conventional therapies.

Position

The New York State Nurses Association:

- Endorses the American Nurses Association Resolution (ANA, 2003) and Virginia State Nurses Association Resolution Regarding Safe Access to Therapeutic Marijuana and Legalization of Marijuana for Medical Purposes (VNA, 1995).
- Supports legislative efforts in New York State that would amend Article 33 of Public Health Law and allow the use of marijuana for certified patients.
- Endorses the use of marijuana for serious and life-threatening medical conditions as defined by proposed New York state legislation.

Visit: <http://www.nysna.org/programs/nai/practice/positions/position30.htm> for details.

Medical Marijuana: Virginia Nurses Association Reiterates Its Support

9/9/05 - The Virginia Nurses Association the first in the country to come out in favor of medical marijuana, has reconfirmed its support for therapeutic cannabis and called for immediate legislation to legalize its medicinal use. Representing some 80,000 Virginia nurses, the association declared last week that it "will continue" to seek the regularization of medical marijuana as a therapeutic substance.

"The Virginia Nurses Association will continue to support legislation that would legalize the medically prescribed use of cannabis/marijuana for the purpose of relieving pain and distressful symptoms of acute, chronic, or incurable illness," the group proclaimed. Visit: <http://stopthedrugwar.org/chronicle/402/vna.shtml>

Virginia Nurses Again Demand Medical Cannabis

(PRWEB) September 3, 2005 -- The Virginia Nurses Association, representing some 80,000 nurses, have recently reconfirmed their support for Medical Cannabis and are continuing their support for immediate legislation legalizing its medical use.

The Virginia Nurses Association (VNA), at their October 2004 VNA Delegate Assembly, resolved that:

"The Virginia Nurses Association will continue to support legislation that would legalize the medically prescribed use of cannabis/Marijuana for the purpose of relieving pain and distressful symptoms of acute, chronic, or incurable illness." Visit:

<http://ccguide.org.uk/news/shownewsarticle.php?articleid=10274>
and <http://www.emediawire.com/releases/2005/9/emw279873.htm>
and www.cannabisnews.com/news/thread21083.shtml
and http://www.medicalcannabis.com/press/pr_Aug_2005.htm
and <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2005/9/prweb279873.htm>
and <http://www.hempevolution.org/media/prweb/prw050904.htm> and on various
forum and chat rooms like -
<http://boards.marihemp.com/boards/msg22x141588.shtml>

California Nurses Association

CAN leaders writing as representatives of 30,000 registered nurses and members of the medical community in support of the Oakland Cannabis Buyer's Cooperative's efforts to alleviate the unnecessary suffering and needless pain of patients who meet the medical necessity standard to receive medical cannabis.

The recent decision to allow distribution of cannabis to patients who fit the medical necessity standard, as outlined by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, is appropriate. Many, many studies support the use of medical cannabis to control the side effects of chemotherapy as well as for specific illnesses such as glaucoma. To deny a patient's use of any drug that allows them relief from the ravages of illness would be immoral. Visit: <http://www.marijuana.org/CNA10-21-99.htm>

California Nurses Association Shaping Tomorrow's Health Care

September 21, 1995 - The California Nurses Association supports **AB 1529** (Vasconcellos) which would eliminate California's prohibition against possessing marijuana or growing marijuana for individuals using marijuana for medical purposes.

Many patients suffering from and receiving treatment for cancer, AIDS, glaucoma and multiple sclerosis receive relief from using marijuana. Marijuana helps patients with nausea, vomiting and muscle spasms where other medications are not effective. Currently, these patients must break the law to use marijuana to relieve their symptoms. This measure is a compassionate alternative for patients suffering from these diseases to obtain relief. Visit:

<http://www.freehomepages.com/oregonmedpot/nurse4.htm>

More ORGs

Medical Use of Marihuana

Health Canada grants access to marihuana for medical use to those who are suffering from grave and debilitating illnesses. It is important to note that the *Marihuana Medical Access Regulations* deal exclusively with the medical use of marihuana. They do not address the issue of legalizing marihuana for general consumption. To learn more about the Regulations and any recent changes, please view the page devoted exclusively to [Acts and Regulations](#). This information is pertinent to applicants and stakeholders, such as health professionals and law enforcement agencies. Visit:

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/dhp-mps/marihuana/index_e.html

INFO - Fact Sheets **On Medical Marijuana, by** The Drug Policy Alliance (DPA). DPA is the leading organization in the United States promoting alternatives to the war on drugs. On July 1, 2000, The Lindesmith Center merged with the Drug Policy Foundation to form the Alliance. Created in 1994, The Lindesmith Center was the first U.S. project of the Open Society Institute and the leading independent drug policy reform institute in the United States. The Drug Policy Foundation, founded in

1987, was the principal membership-based drug policy reform organization in the U.S. The Drug Policy Alliance now has offices in four states and Washington, D.C., and claims more than 25,000 members. Visit:

<http://www.drugpolicy.org/library/factsheets/index.cfm?keywordID=925>

SIMM (Stichting Institute of **Medical** Marijuana) was launched in The Netherlands in 1993. SIMM offers the highest quality of organically-grown medical cannabis on the market today. Since 1993, they have provided superior cannabis to patients, physicians, pharmacists and researchers. **Their Mission is to** make medical cannabis a normal herbal medicine, a medicine that is prescribed by doctors and obtained at the pharmacies and paid for by insurance companies. Just as other herbal remedies are treated in the pharmaceutical field. Visit:

<http://www.medicalcannabis.org/>

NEWS, INFO, Links - MEDICAL MARIJUANA DOCTORS AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS - as of 2002 ... psychiatrist and noted proponent of **medical** cannabis; Dr. Stephen Ellis, who ... Older Americans. California **Medical** Association. California **Nurses** Association. California Pharmacists visit:

<http://www.utopiasprings.com/medmjdoc.htm>

ACTION

ACT, Legis (Org) South Dakotans for Safe Access (SDSA) * They plan to put the issue of medical use of cannabis to South Dakota voters in the November 2006 general election. "The time has come ... The need is here." **Contact:** Bob Newland, Director, South Dakotans for Safe Access, HC 89 Box 184A, Hermosa SD 57744 * phone: 605-255-4032 or **visit:**

<http://www.hemphesis.net/safeaccess.htm>

Why should You donate to SDSA?

Because they'll do good things with your money. You probably get letters regularly, asking for some of your money so someone else can do good things with it. SDSA gets them frequently. Sometimes they send some money.

They want you to try to imagine that you are constantly, or at least frequently, under assault by the worst pain or nausea you've ever experienced.

Imagine that no prescription medicine will alleviate your discomfort (or that the medicine that does destroys your liver or costs as much as a new car every year).

Then, imagine that you know of a naturally-occurring herb that will take the pain or nausea away, or at least reduce it to a tolerable level, with no bad side effects.

Then imagine that your local politicians will put you in jail if you try to obtain some of this medicine. Visit:

<http://www.sodaksafeaccess.org/goodthings.htm>

for more about how you can help.

Oregon's Nursing Leadership Leaves patients Out in the Cold - Rally to welcome the Oregon Nurses Association to Convention!

Thursday, April 7, 2005 - All patients who want to make some progress for medical cannabis in Oregon should attempt to be at the ONA convention to help educate the nurses about an issue that they have been dragging their feet on. Real patients providing information will go a long way toward educating these medical professionals. We urge you to contact Nurse Ed and be there to educate and help gain the support of this important segment of the medical profession. The info is below.

Nurse Ed Glick is asking for help educating the Oregon Nurses Association about the real needs of medical marijuana patients. In the past we have found the nurses, one-on-one, to be very reasonable. MAMA arranged for Elvy Musikka to be there a few years back and the nurses were very interested in her story, but they still won't take a position to support access to medial marijuana. Visit:

http://mercycenters.org/events/Conf_ONA.htm

ORGs

Health Organization's Endorsements

Opponents of medical marijuana law reform often argue that few or no health authorities recognize cannabis as a legitimate therapeutic agent. Most recently, this notion was repeated by DEA Director Asa Hutchinson, who stated, "We all have sympathy for folks that need medication, but we have to listen to the scientific and medical community, and they're saying that marijuana has no legitimate medical purpose." This contention, however, is altogether untrue. In reality, numerous health and medical organizations from both the United States and abroad support the use of marijuana as a medicine.

The following list is a sampling of the various health and scientific organizations that back patient access to medical marijuana. It is intended to provide a cross-section of the medical community's broad support for medical cannabis, and present a referenced, fact-based response to those who claim otherwise. As the

medical cannabis issue continues to stimulate political debate, reformers and legislators need to consider the positions of the medical community to better make informed policy decisions regarding the medical use of marijuana.

Health Organizations Supporting **Immediate Legal Access** to Medical Marijuana

Organizations Supporting Access to Therapeutic Cannabis

AIDS Action Council - 1996
*Alaska Nurses Association - 1998
Alaska Voters - 1998
Alliance for Cannabis Therapeutics - 1981
+American Academy of Family Physicians - 1989, 1995
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
American Medical Students Association - 1993
+*American Nurses Association - 2003
*American Preventive Medical Association - 1997
+*American Public Health Association (APHA) - 1995
Arizona Voters - 1996 & 1998
+Association of Nurses in AIDS Care - 1999
Berkeley, CA - 1979
Breckenridge, CO - 1994
Burlington, VT - 1994
California Academy of Family Physicians - 1996
California Democratic Party - 1993
California Legislative Council for Older Americans - 1993
+California Medical Association - 1994
California Nurses Association - 1995
California-Pacific Annual Conference of the
United Methodist Church - 1996
California Pharmacists Association - 1997
California Voters - 1996
Cannabis Freedom Fund - 1996
Colorado Voters - 2000
*Colorado Nurses Association - 1995
*+Connecticut Nurses Association - 2004
Contigo-Connmigo - 1997
Consumer Reports Magazine - 1997
Crescent Alliance Self Help for Sickle Cell - 1999
Cure AIDS now - 1991
District of Columbia Voters - 1999
+Episcopal Church of the U.S. - 1982
Farmacy - 1999
Federation of American Scientists - 1994
Florida Governor's Red Ribbon Panel on AIDS - 1993
Florida Medical Association - 1997
Frisco, CO - 1994
Green Party - 1998

Hawaii Kokua Council of Senior Citizens - 2000
*Hawaii Legislature - 2000
*Hawaii Nurses Association - 1999
*Illinois Nurses Association - 2000
Institute of Medicine - 1982 & 1999
International Cannabis Alliance of Researchers and Educators (I-CARE) - 1992
Iowa Civil Liberties Union
Iowa Democratic Party - 1994 & 2000
Kaiser Permanente - 1997
Lancet - 1997
Life Extension Foundation - 1997
Libertarian Party - 1999
Los Angeles County AIDS Commission - 1996
Lymphoma Foundation of America - 1997
Madison, WI - 1993, 2004
Maine AIDS Alliance - 1997
Maine Voters - 1999
Marin County, CA - 1993
+Medical Society of the State of New York - 2004
Minnesota Democratic Farm-Labor Party - 1992
*Mississippi Nurses Association - 1995
Mothers Against Misuse and Abuse (MAMA) - 1992
Multiple Sclerosis California Action Network (MS-CAN) - 1996
National Association for Public Health Policy - 1998
National Association of Attorneys General - 1983
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL)
National Association of People with AIDS - 1992
*National Nurses Society on Addictions (NNSA) - 1995
Nevada Voters - 1998
New England Journal of Medicine - 1997
New Jersey Nurses Association - 2002
New Mexico Medical Society - 2001
*New Mexico Nurses Association - 1997
*New York State Nurses Association - 1995
*North Carolina Nurses Association - 1996
Oak Creek, CO - 2005
Oakland, California - 1998
Oregon Voters - 1998
Oregon Green Party - 2001
Oregon Democratic Party - 1998
Patients Out of Time - 1995
Physicians Association for AIDS Care
Physicians for Social Responsibility (Oregon) - 1998
Progressive National Baptist Convention - 2004
Republican Liberty Caucus National Committee - 1999
San Diego, CA - 1994
San Francisco, CA - 1992

San Francisco Medical Society - 1996
Santa Cruz County, CA - 1993
+Texas Democratic Convention - 2004
Texas Nurses Association -2005
Unitarian Universalist Association - 2004
United Methodist Church - 2004
*Virginia Nurses Association - 1994, 2004
*Virginia Nurses Society on Addictions - 1993
*Washington Hemp Education Network - 1999
Washington Democratic Party - 1998 & 2000
Washington Voters - 1998
Wisconsin Democratic Party - 1997
Wisconsin Public Health Association - 1999
Wisconsin Nurses Association - 1999

International and National Organizations

[AIDS Action Council](#)

[AIDS Treatment News](#)

[American Academy of Family Physicians](#)

[American Medical Student Association](#)

[American Nurses Association](#)

[American Preventive Medical Association](#)

[American Public Health Association](#)

[American Society of Addiction Medicine](#)

[Arthritis Research Campaign \(United Kingdom\)](#)

[Australian Medical Association \(New South Wales\) Limited](#)

[Australian National Task Force on Cannabis](#)

[Belgian Ministry of Health](#)

[British House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology](#)

[British House of Lords Select Committee On Science and Technology \(Second Report\)](#)

[British Medical Association](#)

[Dr. Dean Edell \(surgeon and nationally syndicated radio host\)](#)

[French Ministry of Health](#)

[Health Canada](#)

[Kaiser Permanente](#)

[Lymphoma Foundation of America](#)

[Multiple Sclerosis Society \(Canada\)](#)

[National Academy of Sciences Institute Of Medicine \(IOM\)](#)

[National Association for Public Health Policy](#)

[National Nurses Society on Addictions](#)

[Netherlands Ministry of Health](#)

[New England Journal of Medicine](#)

[New South Wales \(Australia\) Parliamentary Working Party on the Use of Cannabis for Medical Purposes](#)

[Dr. Andrew Weil \(nationally recognized professor of internal medicine and founder of the National Integrative Medicine Council\)](#)

State and Local Organizations

Alaska Nurses Association
Being Alive: People With HIV/AIDS Action Committee (San Diego, CA)
California Academy of Family Physicians
California Nurses Association
California Pharmacists Association
Colorado Nurses Association
Florida Governor's Red Ribbon Panel on AIDS
Florida Medical Association
Hawaii Nurses Association
Mississippi Nurses Association
New Jersey State Nurses Association
New Mexico Medical Society
New Mexico Nurses Association
New York State Nurses Association
North Carolina Nurses Association
San Francisco Mayor's Summit on AIDS and HIV
San Francisco Medical Society
Virginia Nurses Association
Life Extension Foundation
Whitman-Walker Clinic (Washington, DC)
Wisconsin Nurses Association

Organizations **Supporting Research into** Therapeutic Cannabis

American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry - 2000
+American Academy of Family Physicians - 1977
American Cancer Society - 1997
+*American Nurses Association - 2003
*American Nurses Association, Congress of Nursing Practice - 1996
American Society of Addiction Medicine - 2000
+Association of Nurses in AIDS Care - 1999
California Medical Association - 1997
California Society of Addiction Medicine - 1997
+*Connecticut Nurses Association - 2004
+Council of Health Organizations - 1971
Federation of American Scientists - 1995
+Medical Society of the State of New York - 2004
National Institute of Health Workshop
 on the Medical Utility of Marijuana -1997
+Northern New England Psychiatric Society
+Texas Democratic Convention - 2--4
Wisconsin State Medical Society - 1998
Women of Reform Judaism - 2000

Other Health Organizations Supporting Medical Marijuana **Research**

International and National Organizations

American Cancer Society
American Medical Association
British Medical Journal
California Medical Association
California Society on Addiction Medicine
Congress of Nursing Practice
Gay and Lesbian Medical Association
National Institutes of Health (NIH)
Workshop on the Medical Utility of Marijuana
Wisconsin State Medical Society

Organizations for NO **Criminal Penalty for** Therapeutic Cannabis use.

Additional AIDS Organizations

The following organizations are signatories to a February 17, 1999 letter to the US Department of Health petitioning the federal government to "make marijuana legally available ... to people living with AIDS."

AIDS Action Council
AIDS Foundation of Chicago
AIDS National Interfaith Network (Washington, DC)
AIDS Project Arizona
AIDS Project Los Angeles
Being Alive: People with HIV/AIDS Action Committee (San Diego, CA)
Boulder County AIDS Project (Boulder, CO)
Colorado AIDS Project
Center for AIDS Services (Oakland, CA)
Health Force: Women and Men Against AIDS (New York, NY)
Latino Commission on AIDS
Mobilization Against AIDS (San Francisco, CA)
Mothers Voices to End AIDS (New York, NY)
National Latina/o Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual And Transgender Association
National Native American AIDS Prevention Center
Northwest AIDS Foundation
People of Color Against AIDS Network (Seattle, WA)
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
Whitman-Walker Clinic (Washington, DC)

Other Health Organizations

The following organizations are signatories to a June 2001 letter to the US Department of Health petitioning the federal government to "allow people suffering from serious illnesses ... to apply to the federal government for special permission to use marijuana to treat their symptoms."

Addiction Treatment Alternatives
AIDS Treatment Initiatives (Atlanta, GA)
American Public Health Association
American Preventive Medical Association
Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (San Francisco, CA)
California Legislative Council for Older Americans
California Nurses Association
California Pharmacists Association
Embrace Life (Santa Cruz, CA)
Gay and Lesbian Medical Association
Hawaii Nurses Association
Hepatitis C Action and Advisory Coalition
Life Extension Foundation
Maine AIDS Alliance
Minnesota Nurses Association
Mississippi Nurses Association
National Association of People with AIDS
National Association for Public Health Policy
National Women's Health Network
Nebraska AIDS Project
New Mexico Nurses Association
New York City AIDS Housing Network
New York State Nurses Association Ohio Patient Network Okaloosa AIDS Support and Information Services (Fort Walton, FL)
Physicians for Social Responsibility - Oregon
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
Virginia Nurses Association
Wisconsin Nurses Association

Groups opposed to the deliberately vicious and brutal raids on sick and dying for such crimes as appearing on TV in support of Medical Cannabis.

Amherst, MA - 2000
Alaska Medical Association - 1972
+American Academy of Family Physicians - 1977
American Bar Association - 1977
American Medical Association - 1977
+*American Nurses Association - 2003
+American Public Health Association - 1971
American Social Health Association - 1974
+Association of Nurses in AIDS Care - 1999

+Berkeley, CA - 1972
 B'nai B'rith Women - 1974
 Central Conference of American Rabbis - 1973
 +*Connecticut Nurses Association - 2004
 +Council of Health Organizations - 1971
 District of Columbia Medical Society - 1973
 +Episcopal Church of the US - 1973
 Episcopal Diocese of New York - 1975
 Gray Panthers - 1975
 Illinois Bar Association - 1974
 Lutheran Student Movement - 1975
 Massachusetts Bar Association - 1974
 National Association for Mental Health - 1972
 National Association of Social Workers - 1975
 National Council of Churches - 1973
 National Education Association - 1978
 New York Bar Association - 1974
 +Northern New England Psychiatric Society
 Southern California Psychiatric Society - 1979
 +Texas Democratic Convention - 2004
 United Methodists - 1976
 +Unitarian Universalist Association - 1970, 2002
 Vermont Bar Association - 1974
 +Washington Democratic Party - 2000
 Non-U.S. Organizations
 Arachnoiditis Trust, UK - 2000
 Australian National Task Force on Cannabis - 1994
 Australian Medical Association (New South Wales) Limited - 1999
 British Medical Association - 1997
 Bundesverband Poliomyelitis (Federal Union for Polio),
 Germany - 1998
 Canadian AIDS Society - 2004
 Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police - 2001
 Canadian Medical Association - 2001
 Canadian Medical Association Journal - 2001
 Canadian Medical Journal - 2001
 Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe
 (German AIDS Support Organization) - 1998
 Deutsche Epilepsievereinigung
 (German Association for Epilepsy) -1998
 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Algesiologie
 (German Society for Algesiology) -1998
 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Drogen-und Suchtmedizin
 (German Society for Drug and Addiction Medicine) -1998
 Deutsche Gesellschaft niedergelassener Ärzte zur
 Versorgung HIV - 1998
 French Ministry of Health - 1997
 Health Canada - 1997

House of Lords (UK) Select Committee on Science and Technology - 1999
Infizierter
 (German Working Group for Therapists of the HIV infected) -1999
International Association for Cannabis as Medicine - 2000
Legalise Cannabis Alliance - 2000
New South Wales (Australia) Parliamentary Working Party on the Use of Cannabis
for Medical Purposes - 2000
Lancet (UK) - 1995, 1998
Medical Association of Jamaica - 2001
Medical Cannabis Research Foundation (UK) - 2000
National Commission on Ganja, Jamaica - 2001
National Council on Drug Abuse, Jamaica - 2001
Preventive Medical Center, Netherlands - 1993
Schmerztherapeutisches Kolloquium (Society for Pain
Therapists) Germany - 1998
Stichting Institute of Medical Marijuana, Netherlands - 1993
United Church of Jamaica and Cayman Islands - 2000

* Source(s) >> Patients Out of Time; visit: <http://www.medicalcannabis.com/GroupList.htm>

and >> **Minnesota chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws,**
visit: <http://www.normlmn.com/medicalEndorsements.htm>
