



February 8, 2017

Amendment 2 Implementation: Amendment 2, and the qualifying medical conditions, became effective on January 3, 2017. Section 381.986, Florida Statutes, remains in effect and the Florida Department of Health, physicians, dispensing organizations, and patients remain bound by existing law and rule.

It is the responsibility of the qualified ordering physician to follow Florida constitution and statute, diagnose patients and determine if medical marijuana is an appropriate treatment. In partnership with law enforcement, enforcement actions initiated by the Department against patients, doctors and businesses will be focused on those operating outside the regulatory structure in Florida law.

The Department has initiated rulemaking to implement Amendment 2. To view draft rule language, or to provide a comment, please visit the Office of Compassionate Use website. The Department began regional workshops Monday, February 6th, in Jacksonville. These workshops are open to the public and attendees are encouraged to provide comments. The remaining workshop schedule is:

Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Florida Department of Health, Tampa Branch Laboratory
3602 Spectrum Blvd., Tampa, FL 33612

Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Florida Department of Health in Orange County
6102 Lake Ellenor Drive, Orlando, FL 32809

Thursday, February 9, 2017, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Betty Easley Conference Center
4075 Esplanade Way, Room 148, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

The Department is committed to quickly moving through the rulemaking process to create a regulatory structure for Amendment 2. It is important to remember that while medical marijuana is available in Florida, it remains illegal under federal law.

Department of Health Approved Dispensing Organizations		
Dispensing Organization	Authorization Stage	Locations
Trulieve	(3) dispensing	Tallahassee, Clearwater, delivery
Surterra Therapeutics	(3) dispensing	Tampa, delivery
Modern Health Concepts	(3) dispensing	Miami-Dade, delivery
Knox Medical	(3) dispensing	Delivery
CHT Medical	(3) dispensing	Delivery
The Green Solution	(3) dispensing	Delivery
GrowHealthy	N/A	N/A

Florida’s Six Dispensing Organizations: These approved dispensing organizations are the only businesses allowed to grow, process, or sell medical marijuana in Florida. Each dispensing organization must receive authorization at three stages, (1) cultivation authorization, (2) processing authorization, and (3) dispensing authorization, prior to dispensing low-THC or medical marijuana. Currently, five of the seven dispensing organizations have received dispensing authorization and are authorized to deliver statewide. Aside from patients or their legal representatives, dispensing organization employees are the only individuals allowed to transport medical marijuana. Medical marijuana cannot be mailed.

The Department is not accepting applications to become a dispensing organization at this time. For more information about dispensing organizations, and the Department’s current rulemaking, please visit the Office of Compassionate Use website.

The Compassionate Use Registry: The Department of Health’s secure, electronic registration system for physicians, patients and legal representatives is available. There are no paper prescriptions for an authorized order of low-THC or medical marijuana. All orders of medical marijuana are recorded and dispensed via the Compassionate Use Registry. The Compassionate Use Registry is accessible to ordering physicians, law enforcement, dispensing organization staff, and Office of Compassionate Use staff.

Restrictions for Use & Administration: Section 381.986, Florida Statutes, prohibits patients from smoking low-THC or medical marijuana. This means that patients should not have whole flower as part of their order. Patients cannot use or administer the product on any form of public transportation, in any public place, place of employment if restricted by his or her employer, state correctional institution, on the grounds of a preschool/primary school/secondary school, on a school bus or in a vehicle, aircraft or motorboat. Florida law does not allow for home grow of low-THC or medical marijuana.

For More Information: If you have questions related to medical marijuana regulations, please reach out to the Office of Compassionate Use at 850-245-4657 and visit <http://www.floridahealth.gov/OCU>