

MMP-057

New Jersey Department of Health  
Medicinal Marijuana Program  
PO 360  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360

**MEDICINAL MARIJUANA PETITION**  
**(N.J.A.C. 8:64-5.1 et seq.)**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

This petition form is to be used only for requesting approval of an additional medical condition or treatment thereof as a "debilitating medical condition" pursuant to the New Jersey Compassionate Use Medical Marijuana Act, N.J.S.A. 24:6I-3. Only one condition or treatment may be identified per petition form. For additional conditions or treatments, a separate petition form must be submitted.

**NOTE: This Petition form tracks the requirements of N.J.A.C. 8:64-5.3. Note that if a petition does not contain all information required by N.J.A.C. 8:64-5.3, the Department will deny the petition and return it to petitioner without further review. For that reason the Department strongly encourages use of the Petition form.**

This completed petition must be postmarked **August 1 through August 31, 2016** and sent by **certified mail to:**

New Jersey Department of Health  
Office of Commissioner - Medicinal Marijuana Program  
Attention: Michele Stark  
369 South Warren Street  
Trenton, NJ 08608

Please complete each section of this petition. If there are any supportive documents attached to this petition, you should reference those documents in the text of the petition. If you need additional space for any item, please use a separate piece of paper, number the item accordingly, and attach it to the petition.

**1. Petitioner Information**

Name: Vivek T. Das, M.D.  
Street Address: 501 Omni Drive  
City, State, Zip Code: Hillsborough, NJ 08844  
Telephone Number: 908-904-1900  
Email Address: [REDACTED]

**2. Identify the medical condition or treatment thereof proposed. Please be specific. Do not submit broad categories (such as "mental illness").**

Fibromyalgia

**3. Do you wish to address the Medical Marijuana Review Panel regarding your petition?**

- Yes, in Person
- Yes, by Telephone
- No

**4. Do you request that your personally identifiable information or health information remain confidential?**

- Yes
- No

If you answer "Yes" to Question 4, your name, address, phone number, and email, as well as any medical or health information specific to you, will be redacted from the petition before forwarding to the panel for review.

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CHIEF OF STAFF

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5. Describe the extent to which the condition is generally accepted by the medical community and other experts as a valid, existing medical condition.

Fibromyalgia has a valid ICD-10 code M79.9.

6. If one or more treatments of the condition, rather than the condition itself, are alleged to be the cause of the patient's suffering, describe the extent to which the treatments causing suffering are generally accepted by the medical community and other experts as valid treatments for the condition.

(not applicable)

7. Describe the extent to which the condition itself and/or the treatments thereof cause severe suffering, such as severe and/or chronic pain, severe nausea and/or vomiting or otherwise severely impair the patient's ability to carry on activities of daily living.

Fibromyalgia in its severe form is associated with crippling, debilitating severe chronic pain often causing the patient to be bedridden for several days at a time.

8. Describe the availability of conventional medical therapies other than those that cause suffering to alleviate suffering caused by the condition and/or the treatment thereof.

A great number of conventional and complementary treatments for fibromyalgia are readily available but unfortunately they have limited benefit in severe cases.

9. Describe the extent to which evidence that is generally accepted among the medical community and other experts supports a finding that the use of marijuana alleviates suffering caused by the condition and/or the treatment thereof. *[Note: You may attach articles published in peer-reviewed scientific journals reporting the results of research on the effects of marijuana on the medical condition or treatment of the condition and supporting why the medical condition should be added to the list of debilitating medical conditions.]*

Please see attached.

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**10. Attach letters of support from physicians or other licensed health care professionals knowledgeable about the condition. List below the number of letters attached and identify the authors.**

I am a licensed physician for the NJ MMP. I am Board Certified in Anesthesiology, Pain Medicine, Hospice and Palliative Medicine. I am in full support of this petition because I treat the pain and suffering caused by fibromyalgia and I believe that those patients whose cases are refractory to conventional medical treatment should be allowed to participate in the NJ MMP on a compassionate basis. Thank you for your consideration.

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*I certify, under penalty of perjury, that I am 18 years of age or older; that the information provided in this petition is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge; and that the attached documents are authentic.*

Signature of Petitioner 	Date 08/31/2016
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PubMed

**Format:** Abstract

Neuro Endocrinol Lett. 2014;35(3):198-201.

**Clinical endocannabinoid deficiency (CECD) revisited: can this concept explain the therapeutic benefits of cannabis in migraine, fibromyalgia, irritable bowel syndrome and other treatment-resistant conditions?**

Smith SC, Wagner MS.

**Abstract**

**OBJECTIVES:** Ethan B. Russo's paper of December 1, 2003 explored the concept of a clinical endocannabinoid deficiency (CECD) underlying the pathophysiology of **migraine**, fibromyalgia, irritable bowel syndrome and other functional conditions alleviated by clinical cannabis.

**METHODS:** Available literature was reviewed, including searches via the National Library of medicine database and other sources.

**RESULTS:** A review of the literature indicates that significant progress has been made since Dr. Ethan B. Russo's landmark paper, just ten years ago (February 2, 2004). Investigation at that time suggested that cannabinoids can block spinal, peripheral and gastrointestinal mechanisms that promote pain in headache, fibromyalgia, irritable bowel syndrome and muscle spasm.

**CONCLUSION:** Subsequent research has confirmed that underlying endocannabinoid deficiencies indeed play a role in **migraine**, fibromyalgia, irritable bowel syndrome and a growing list of other **medical** conditions. Clinical experience is bearing this out. Further research and especially, clinical trials will further demonstrate the usefulness of **medical** cannabis. As legal barriers fall and scientific bias fades this will become more apparent.

PMID: 24977967

[PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

**Publication Types, MeSH Terms, Substances**

**LinkOut - more resources**

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