

MMP-059

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").

Autoimmune Disorders: Rheumatoid Arthritis, Systemic Lupus, Systemic Sclerosis/Scleroderma, Psoriatic Arthritis.

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

These conditions have valid ICD-10 codes:

Rheumatoid Arthritis M05.9.

Systemic Lupus Erythematosus M32.

Systemic Sclerosis/Scleroderma M34

Psoriatic Arthritis L40.59.

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.

These are chronic incurable illnesses which cause unspeakable pain, suffering and debility. The cases which get referred to me for symptom management often are associated with profound joint deformity, gait disturbance, and treatment side effects.

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.

Conventional rheumatologic treatment is readily available and runs the spectrum from low-risk medication to more involved treatment with chronic corticosteroid therapy or immune modulating medications which can be costly and require close monitoring for complications.

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 Autoimmune Disorders 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.

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

Harefuah. 2016 Feb;155(2):74-8, 133.

[MEDICAL CANNABIS - A SOURCE FOR A NEW TREATMENT FOR AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE?].

[Article in Hebrew]

Katz D, Katz I, Golan A.

Abstract

Medical uses of Cannabis sativa have been known for over 6,000 years. Nowadays, cannabis is mostly known for its psychotropic effects and its ability to relieve pain, even though there is evidence of cannabis use for autoimmune diseases like rheumatoid arthritis centuries ago. The pharmacological therapy in autoimmune diseases is mainly based on immunosuppression of different axes of the immune system while many of the drugs have major side effects. In this review we set out to examine the rule of Cannabis sativa as an immunomodulator and its potential as a new treatment option. In order to examine this subject we will focus on some major autoimmune diseases such as diabetes type I and rheumatoid arthritis.

PMID: 27215114

[PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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