Notice of Meeting/Workshop Hearing

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Board of Medicine

The **Boards of Medicine and Osteopathic Medicine's Physician Certification Pattern Review Panel** announces a public meeting to which all persons are invited.

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, August 27, 2020, immediately following the Boards of Medicine and Osteopathic Medicine's Joint Committee on Medical Marijuana or soon thereafter.

PLACE: ZOOM Platform at https://zoom.us/j/3842017952?pwd=RnFaQTlQSHdubGZGekRpMWh0WGhrQT09. The Meeting ID number is 3842017952 and the passcode if needed is 7m7VXP.

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: General business of the Panel. Committee meetings may be cancelled prior to the meeting date. Please check the Board Web Site at https://flboardofmedicine.gov/meeting-information/ for cancellations or changes to meeting dates or call the Board of Medicine at (850) 245-4131 for information.

A copy of the agenda may be obtained by contacting: Board of Medicine at https://flboardofmedicine.gov/meeting-information/.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this workshop/meeting is asked to advise the agency at least 10 days before the workshop/meeting by contacting: Board of Medicine (BOM) Meeting Materials at BOM.MeetingMaterials@flhealth.gov or call at (850) 245-4131.

If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1(800)955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800)955-8770 (Voice).

If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he/she will need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence from which the appeal is to be issued.

For more information, you may contact: Board of Medicine (BOM) Meeting Materials at BOM.MeetingMaterials@flhealth.gov or call at (850) 245-4131.

Board of Medicine and Osteopathic Medicine's Physician Certification Pattern Review Panel

August 27, 2020

ZOOM Platform at
https://zoom.us/j/3842017952?pwd=RnFaQTlQSHdubGZGekRpMWh0WGhrQT09

Meeting ID: 384 201 7952
Passcode: 7m7VXP

AGENDA

Roll Call – Immediately following (or soon thereafter) the Boards of Medicine and Osteopathic Medicine's Joint Medical Marijuana Committee Meeting.

Introductory Remarks:

Claudia Kemp, Executive Director, Board of Medicine
Kama Monroe, Executive Director, Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Election of officers:

Vice-chair

Discussion:

Preliminary Data Review

Old Business:

New Business:

Adjourn:

Preliminary Data Review:

6-Months of Physician Certifications: October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020

Under section 381.986(4)(j), Florida Statutes: "The Board of Medicine and the Board of Osteopathic Medicine shall jointly create a physician certification pattern review panel that shall review all physician certifications submitted to the medical marijuana use registry. The panel shall track and report the number of physician certifications and the qualifying medical conditions, dosage, supply amount, and form of marijuana certified. The panel shall report the data both by individual qualified physician and in the aggregate, by county, and statewide." The Physicians Certification Pattern Review Panel (Panel) is responsible for reporting its findings and recommendations by January 1 of each year to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The 2018 Physician Certification Pattern Review Panel (Panel) members requested a preliminary review of data. Preliminary data were provided to the panel on August 29, 2019. The meeting was successful and had become part of the panel's process. The meeting provided an opportunity for the panel to review the data that would be presented in the annual report. The Panel asked questions and provided feedback to board staff and the data team about how the data were presented and made suggestions used in preparing the annual report. This allowed the data team and board staff time to incorporate the panel's suggestions into the draft annual report before it was presented to the panel for review in mid-October.

This review contains data from the Medical Marijuana Use Registry data for physician certifications and physician licensure information from the Division of Medical Quality Assurance Licensure Database in three data sets.

1. **2019 Annual Report:** 9-months of data, January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018, published in the 2019 PCPR-Panel Annual Report.
2. **2020 Annual Report:** 12-months of data, October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019, published in the 2020 PCPR-Panel Annual Report.
3. **Preliminary Data 6-month Review:** October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020, data for the first six-months of the 2021 PCPR-Panel's Annual Report.

2020 Physician Certification Pattern Review Panel Members

Florida Board of Medicine

Shailesh Gupta, M.D.
Jorge J. Lopez, M.D.
Luz Pages, M.D.
Andre Perez, Consumer Member

Florida Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Joel B. Rose, D.O. Chair, Board of Osteopathic Medicine
Michelle Mendez, D.O.
Sandra Schwemmer, D.O. Chair, Physician Certification Pattern Review Panel

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I. Requirements for Qualified Physicians

Physicians may only order low-THC cannabis or medical marijuana if they hold an active and unrestricted license as a physician under Chapter 458, Florida Statutes, or an osteopathic physician under Chapter 459, Florida Statutes. Physicians must also successfully complete an approved 2-hour CME and examination and is required to complete the course and exam at each biennial renewal.

Only qualified physicians may issue certifications and order low-THC cannabis or medical marijuana for qualified patients.

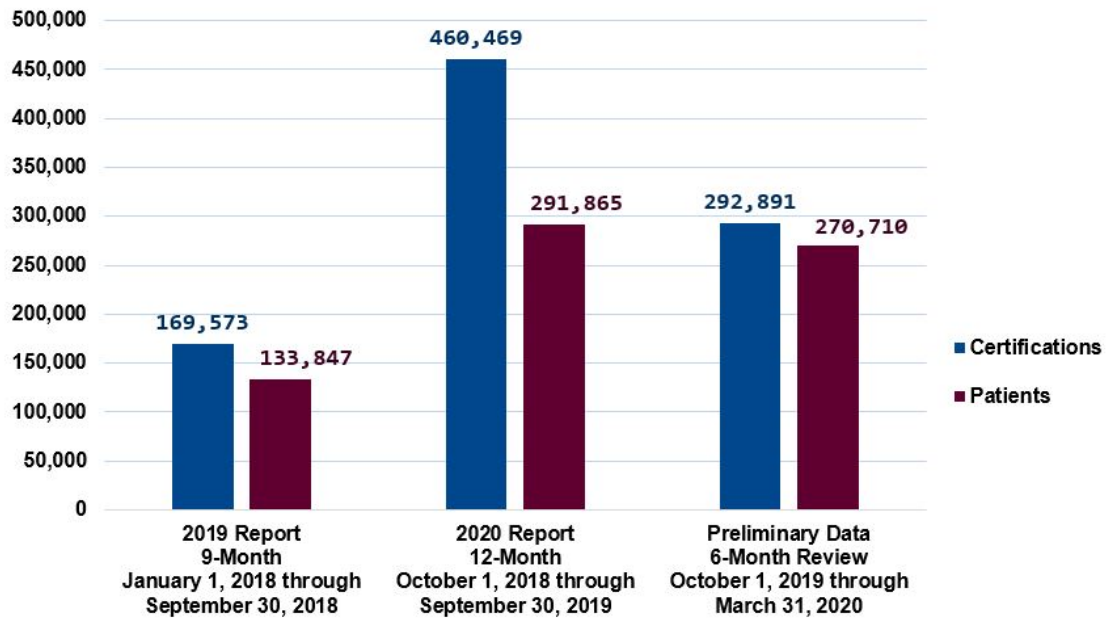
Only qualified physicians with active certifications during the time periods for the three data sets are included in the remainder of this report.

Table 1. Number of Qualified Physicians.

	2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018	2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Number of qualified physicians with Active Certifications	1,039	1,487	1,479
All Qualified Physicians	1,838	2,556	2,604

II. Trends in Physician Certifications

Figure 1. Number of physician certifications and patient counts in the 2019 Annual Report, 2020 Annual Report, and this 6-month review for the first half of the 2021 Annual Report.



Note: Patient counts reflect distinct individuals. Patients may have more than one active certification in each time period.

Table 2. Number of certifications in each data set.

	2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018	2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
All Certifications	**169,573**	**460,469**	**292,891**
Average number of certifications per physician	163	130	198
Range in number of certifications per physician	1 to 4,849	1 to 8,838	1 to 6,962
Median	33	50	33
Mode	1	1	1
All Patients	**133,847**	**291,865**	**270,710**

Figure 2. Trends in the percentage of physicians whose total number of certifications fall into one of four groups. Percentages are based on the number of physicians in each group divided by the total number of physicians in that data set.

2019 Annual Report: 9-months of data, January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018.

2020 Annual Report: 12-months of data, October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

Preliminary Data 6-Month Review: October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020.

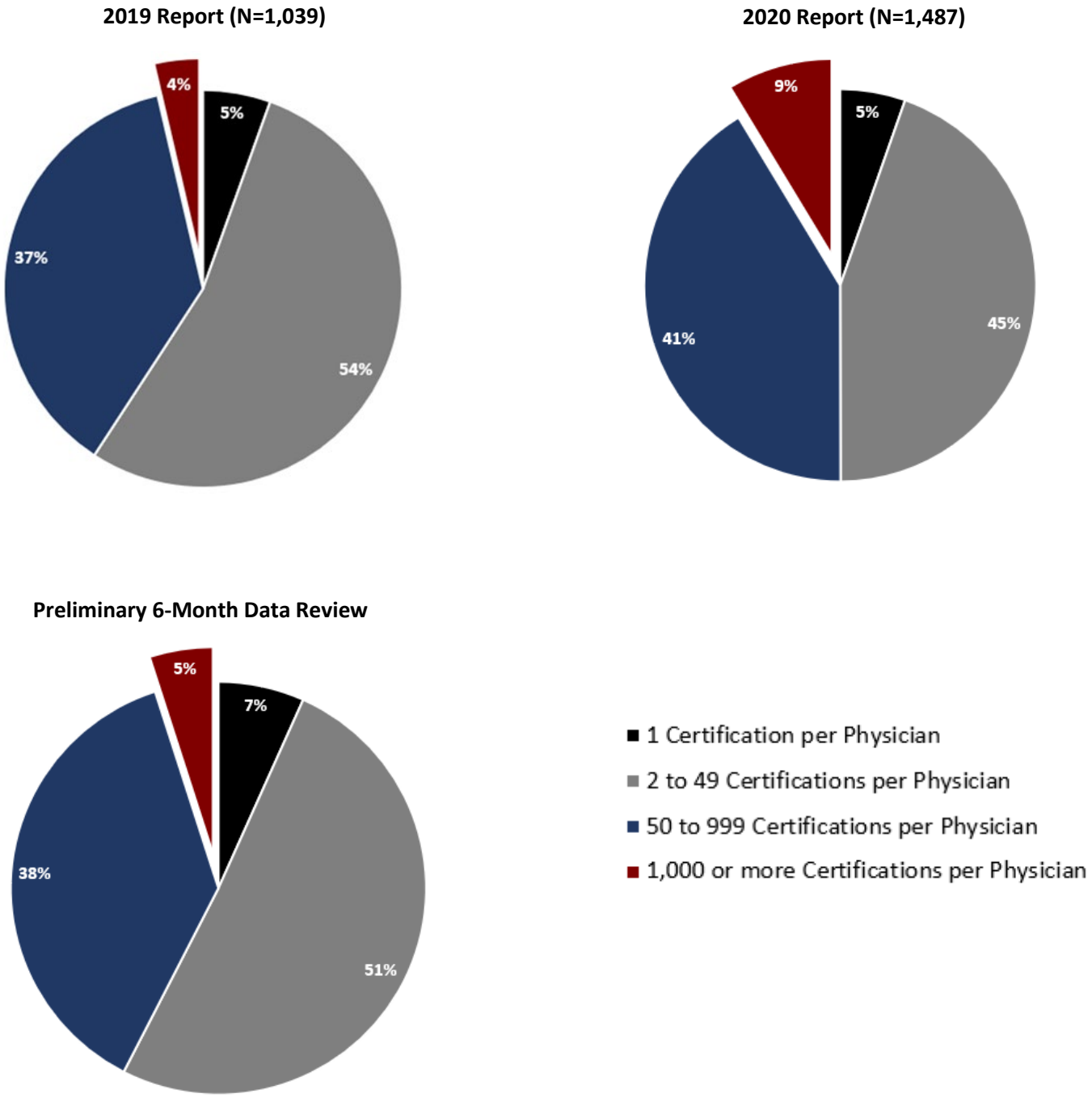
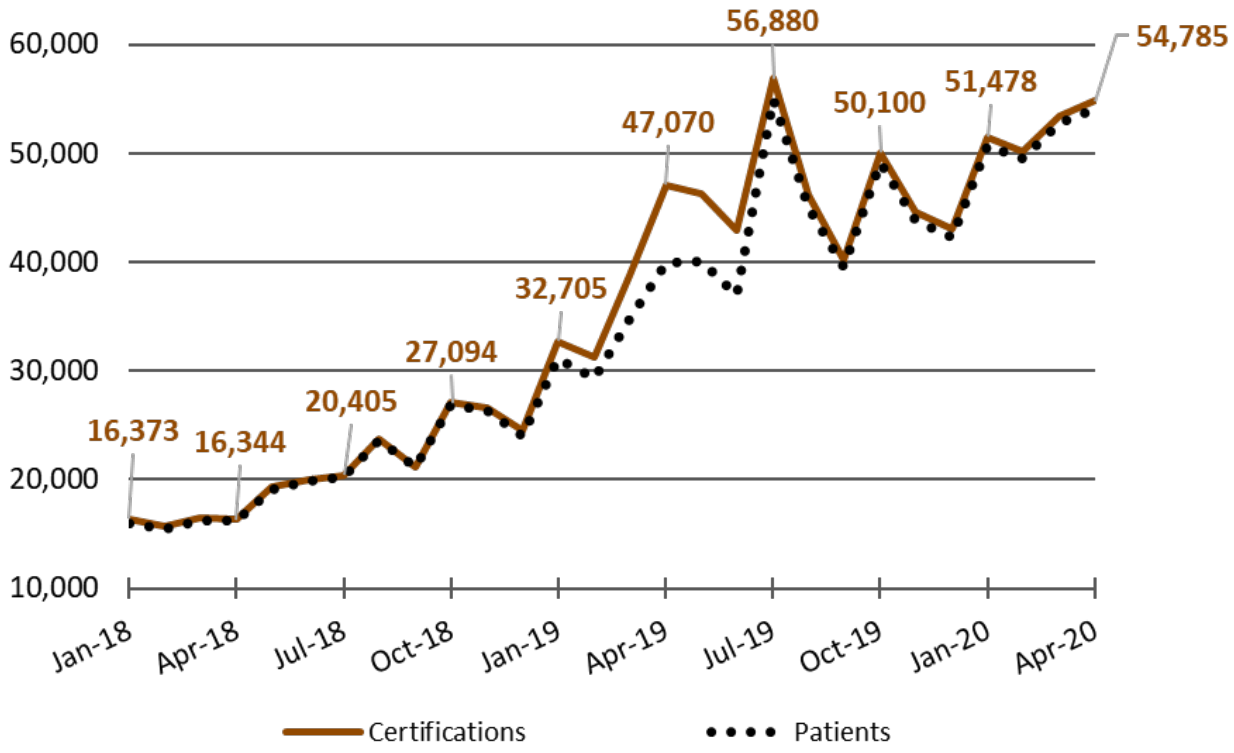


Figure 3. Trends in the number of physician certifications and patient counts from January 1, 2018 through April 30, 2020.



Note: Medical marijuana in a form for smoking became legal on March 18, 2019.

Table 3. Trends in the total number and percentage of qualifying conditions reported in each data set. Patients may have more than one qualifying condition per certification. Conditions listed in bold are the Top Three qualifying conditions reported by physicians.

	2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018		2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019		Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020	
Qualifying Condition	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
(a) Cancer	16,602	9.79%	36,749	6.9%	24,640	5.2%
(b) Epilepsy	4,197	2.47%	8,698	1.6%	6,949	1.5%
(c) Glaucoma	3,319	1.96%	7,867	1.5%	5,185	1.1%
(d) Positive status for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)	1,624	0.96%	3,861	0.7%	3,458	0.7%
(e) Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)	279	0.16%	626	0.1%	776	0.2%
(f) Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	**40,005**	**23.59%**	**128,030**	**23.9%**	**163,250**	**34.3%**
(g) Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	223	0.13%	408	0.1%	3,745	0.8%
(h) Crohn's disease	3,312	1.95%	7,931	1.5%	10,104	2.1%
(i) Parkinson's disease	2,824	1.66%	4,888	0.9%	4,048	0.9%
(j) Multiple sclerosis (MS)	3,499	2.06%	6,760	1.3%	53,672	11.3%
(k) Medical conditions of the same kind or class as or comparable to those enumerated in paragraphs (a)-(j)	**46,434**	**27.38%**	**135,088**	**25.2%**	**113,980**	**24.0%**
(l) A terminal condition diagnosed by a physician other than the qualified physician issuing the physician certification	427	0.25%	870	0.1%	1,354	0.3%
(m) Chronic non-malignant pain	**46,873**	**27.63%**	**193,941**	**36.2%**	**84,315**	**17.7%**
Total qualifying conditions reported:	**169,618**		**535,717**		**475,476**	
Total number of certifications:	**169,573**		**460,469**		**292,891**	
Total number of patients:	**133,847**		**291,865**		**270,710**	

III. Trends in Orders by Type, Route, and Average Daily Dose (mg/day)

All data in this section refers to the total number of orders, across all certifications. Note: within each certification, the number of orders and the maximum daily dose in milligrams per day (mg/day) for any order can vary.

Tables 4 and 5 provide the total number of orders by type and route for all certifications between January 1, 2018 and March 31, 2020. The number of orders, for each type and route within each certification, that were identified as outliers is not included.

Table 4. Total number of orders for Low-THC Cannabis, by route, in all certifications in each data set.

	2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018	2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Inhalation	231,106	308,841	716,715
Oral	241,527	328,842	737,291
Sublingual	34,860	80,910	356,610
Suppository	507	6,704	47,446
Topical	64,285	251,220	684,198

Table 5. Total number of orders for Medical Marijuana, by route, in all certifications in each data set.

	2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018	2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Inhalation	340,199	407,855	795,019
Oral	295,170	376,350	787,218
Sublingual	46,303	98,005	391,665
Suppository	878	7,592	50,234
Topical	91,111	292,757	733,396

Tables 6 and 7 show the averages of the physician's maximum daily dose ordered in milligrams per day (mg/day) for five routes of low-THC Cannabis and Medical Marijuana. These tables include comparison averages where orders with very high mg/dose were NOT removed for the calculations. See the definitions section for more detail on outlier calculation. The 2019 Annual Report did not include outlier calculations.

Table 6. Statewide average daily dose (mg/day) for all orders of Low-THC Cannabis, by route, in each data set. Average dose without outliers removed is included. The 2019 Annual Report did not calculate outliers.

Average Daily Dose (mg/day)	2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018	2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Inhalation	--	**183**	**200**
With outlier orders	737	638	6,518
Oral	--	**180**	**171**
With outlier orders	820	586	210
Sublingual	--	**144**	**180**
With outlier orders	309	224	212
Suppository	--	**176**	**173**
With outlier orders	144	451	188
Topical	--	**120**	**156**
With outlier orders	2,084	669	183

Table 7. Statewide average daily dose (mg/day) for all orders of Medical Marijuana, by route, in each data set. Average dose without outliers removed is included. The 2019 Annual Report did not calculate outliers.

Average Daily Dose (mg/day)	2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018	2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Inhalation	--	**683**	**261**
With outlier orders	650	193	211
Oral	--	**148**	**173**
With outlier orders	726	622	217
Sublingual	--	**140**	**175**
With outlier orders	175	237	218
Suppository	--	**168**	**173**
With outlier orders	164	188	197
Topical	--	**129**	**154**
With outlier orders	1,449	668	193

IV. Top Five Physicians by Reporting Measures

These tables provide information on the Top Five physicians in each data set and include:

1. Number of certifications.
2. The number and physician's percentage of the top three qualifying conditions: (f) PTSD, (k) Medical conditions of the same kind or class as or comparable to those enumerated in paragraphs (a)-(j), and (m) Chronic Nonmalignant Pain. Physician Specialty is included if available.
3. The highest average daily dose (mg) by type and route.

Note:

- Physician license numbers in this section have been de-identified with a unique identification (UID).
- Patients may have more than one qualifying condition in a single certification, and more than one certification in a reporting period.
- By statute, physicians are not required to include or maintain their specialty in the Practitioner Profile and may not reflect current information.

Physicians with the Highest Number of Certifications in each Data Set

Table 8. Top Five physicians with the highest number of certifications in each data set.

2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Number of Certifications	Number of Patients	UID	Number of Certifications	Number of Patients	UID	Number of Certifications	Number of Patients
AU	4,888	4,114	AU	8,838	6,147	AY	6,962	4,445
J	4,405	2,854	BA	8,763	6,059	AZ	6,240	6,140
CF	3,173	2,906	J	5,665	3,390	BA	5,604	5,424
CG	3,046	2,012	AX	5,608	3,025	J	2,803	2,753
AX	2,642	2,432	AV	5,184	4,035	BB	2,709	2,667

Table 9. Top Five physicians with the highest number of certifications including "Qualifying Condition (f) PTSD".

	2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018	2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Range in Total Number of Certifications	1,429 to 4,849	3,532 to 8,838	1,929 to 6,962
Range in Percentage of Physician's Certifications including (f) PTSD	32% to 82%	38% to 91%	78% to 95%
Physician Specialty Areas	• Anesthesiology • Family Practice, Hospice and Palliative Medicine • Internal Medicine • Not Listed	• Anesthesiology • Family Medicine • Family Practice, Hospice and Palliative Medicine • Pediatrics • Not Listed	• Family Medicine • Pediatrics • Not Listed

Table 10. Top Five physicians with the highest number of certifications including "Qualifying Condition (k) Medical conditions of the same kind or class".

	2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018	2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Range in Total Number of Certifications	2,619 to 4,849	3,730 to 8,838	2,560 to 6,962
Range in Percentage of Physician's Certifications including (f) PTSD	42% to 62%	49% to 71%	27% to 74%
Physician Specialty Areas	• Emergency Medicine • Family Practice • Family Practice, Hospice and Palliative Medicine • Pediatrics • Not Listed	• Family Practice, Hospice and Palliative Medicine • Pain Management, Anesthesiology • Pediatrics • Not Listed	• Emergency Medicine • Family Medicine • Family Practice, Hospice and Palliative Medicine • Pediatrics • Not Listed

Table 11. Top Five physicians with the highest number of certifications including "Qualifying Condition (m) Chronic nonmalignant pain".

	2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018	2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Range in Total Number of Certifications	992 to 2,613	3,721 to 8,763	1,656 to 6,962
Range in Percentage of Physician's Certifications including (f) PTSD	56% to 84%	51% to 91%	50% to 99.7%
Physician Specialty Areas	• Family Practice • Family Medicine • Pain Management, Anesthesiology • Not Listed	• Family Medicine • Pediatrics • Plastic Surgery • Not Listed	• Family Medicine • Pediatrics • Not Listed

Physicians with the Highest Average Daily Dose – Low-THC Cannabis by Route

Table 12. Low-THC Cannabis: INHALATION, highest Average Daily Dose (mg).

2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders
A	334,269	235	A	527,669	302	W	965,511	1,812
Q	72,000	5	B	60,000	3	X	50,400	8
D	20,125	4	X	12,680	15	Y	16,200	8
BK	15,319	445	AA	10,500	3	Z	14,000	9
U	14,400	4	E	8,417	107	A	10,000	2
Reported average: 1,451 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 183 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 200 mg/day		

Table 13. Low-THC Cannabis: ORAL, highest Average Daily Dose (mg).

2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders
A	363,898	235	A	530,254	302	A	10,000	2
X	17,588	7	B	60,000	3	I	8,524	17
BH	4,340	50	AA	14,000	3	AA	7,100	4
BL	3,683	15	I	8,331	29	AB	5,657	11
Q	3,000	5	C	5,922	420	AC	3,600	3
Reported average: 1,287 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 180 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 171 mg/day		

Table 14. Low-THC Cannabis: SUBLINGUAL, highest Average Daily Dose (mg).

2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders
A	527,083	235	A	14,788	302	A	10,000	2
BM	25,200	5	AA	14,000	3	I	9,000	17
BN	6,030	9	G	6,330	4	AB	4,646	11
M	5,251	540	H	6,000	2	AD	3,600	2
BO	3,125	61	BC	5,780	9	AE	2,500	244
Reported average: 271 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 144 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 180 mg/day		

Table 15. Low-THC Cannabis: SUPPOSITORY, highest Average Daily Dose (mg).

2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders
BP	800	1,419	A	810,100	302	AF	14,000	243
BQ	450	118	K	1,600	15	W	1,200	1,812
BR	300	1,508	V	1,500	68	AG	1,200	71
BS	269	1,460	M	1,470	809	AH	1,060	557
BT	260	211	C	1,420	420	AI	1,036	55
Reported average: 9,493 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 176 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 173 mg/day		

Table 16. Low-THC Cannabis: TOPICAL, highest Average Daily Dose (mg).								
2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders
A	607,173	235	A	536,481	302	AJ	17,500	1
BK	195,834	445	D	10,733	33	AC	14,000	3
BU	17,600	5	I	8,370	29	A	10,000	2
BH	4,800	50	C	5,934	420	I	8,494	17
M	2,267	540	BC	5,780	9	AK	5,500	72
Reported average: 1,768 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 120 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 156 mg/day		

Physicians with the Highest Average Daily Dose – Medical Marijuana by Route

Table 17. Medical Marijuana: INHALATION, highest Average Daily Dose (mg).								
2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders
A	362,231	235	A	593,778	302	X	25,290	8
Q	72,000	5	AT	127,216	6	AJ	14,000	1
P	34,400	3	O	35,000	2	AL	13,073	8
D	26,750	4	BD	21,000	3	AM	10,036	22
U	13,200	4	X	14,497	15	A	10,000	2
Reported average: 1,098 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 193 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 211 mg/day		

Table 18. Medical Marijuana: ORAL, highest Average Daily Dose (mg).

2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders
A	384,592	235	A	575,251	302	AJ	14,000	1
Q	72,000	5	P	93,132	28	A	10,000	2
BV	16,820	20	AT	22,480	6	AA	7,200	4
U	8,500	4	AA	14,000	3	AN	5,420	2
BW	6,000	22	Q	12,158	29	AO	4,950	3
Reported average: 1,157 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 148 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 173 mg/day		

Table 19. Medical Marijuana: SUBLINGUAL, highest Average Daily Dose (mg).

2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders
A	504,500	235	BE	55,909	34	AJ	17,500	1
BW	20,000	22	A	55,223	302	A	10,000	2
BL	5,600	15	AA	14,000	3	AO	3,900	3
BX	4,800	12	BD	9,650	3	AP	3,154	402
BF	3,655	43	BF	4,326	78	AE	2,499	244
Reported average: 630 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 140 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 175 mg/day		

Table 20. Medical Marijuana: SUPPOSITORY, highest Average Daily Dose (mg).

2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders
BY	19,998	530	U	2,400	3	AQ	4,800	105
BZ	2,000	21	BG	1,450	331	U	1,620	3
CA	1,400	480	C	1,420	420	AR	1,500	21
CB	1,086	148	BH	1,350	350	AI	1,036	55
CC	1,000	20	BI	1,200	31	AS	1,020	21
Reported avg dose: 382 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 168 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 173 mg/day		

Table 21. Medical Marijuana: TOPICAL, highest Average Daily Dose (mg).

2019 Report 9-month January 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018			2020 Report 12-month October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020		
UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders	UID	Average Daily Dose (mg)	Number of Orders
A	709,991	235	A	558,287	302	AJ	17,500	1
CD	280,000	3	X	50,400	15	A	10,000	2
BK	20,275	445	BD	20,600	3	AK	9,798	72
U	9,000	4	BJ	10,599	128	AM	9,720	22
CE	4,661	93	U	8,400	3	AT	9,600	3
Reported average: 1,336 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 129 mg/day			Average with no outliers: 154 mg/day		

V. Marijuana in a Form for Smoking

Certifications with orders for smoking began on March 18, 2019 when Senate Bill 182 (2019) was signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis, Florida Statute section 381.986 (4)(c).

Table 22. Number of certifications that contain at least one order for smoking in each data set.

	2020 Report ~ 7 months March 18, 2019 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
All Certifications with at Least One Order for Smoking	**136,861**	**245,678**
Average number of Certifications with smoking per physician	141	204
Range in total number of certifications with smoking per physician	1 to 4,140	1 to 6,229
Median	21	28
Mode	1	1
All Patients (with smoking certifications)	**128,040**	**232,586**

Table 23. All smoking orders, percentage of total qualified physicians with orders for smoking, and average ounces ordered in each data set.

	2020 Report ~ 7 months March 18, 2019 through September 30, 2019	6-Month Review Preliminary Data October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
All Orders for Smoking	745,804	1,379,096
Percentage of Physicians with Orders for Smoking	65%	81%
Average ounces ordered	2.44	2.46

Table 24. Trends in the total number and percentage of qualifying conditions reported in certifications containing at least one order for smoking. Patients may have more than one qualifying condition per certification. Conditions listed in bold are the Top Three qualifying conditions reported by physicians.

Qualifying Condition	2020 Report ~ 7-month March 18, 2019 through September 30, 2019		Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31 2020	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
(a) Cancer	8,970	5.74%	18,480	4.64%
(b) Epilepsy	2,217	1.42%	5,532	1.39%
(c) Glaucoma	2,075	1.33%	4,160	1.05%
(d) Positive status for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)	1,226	0.78%	2,846	0.72%
(e) Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)	182	0.12%	613	0.15%
(f) Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)	**41,421**	**26.52%**	**142,910**	**35.90%**
(g) Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	73	0.05%	3,225	0.81%
(h) Crohn's disease	2,256	1.44%	8,314	2.09%
(i) Parkinson's disease	713	0.46%	2,455	0.62%
(j) Multiple sclerosis (MS)	1,648	1.06%	44,652	11.22%
(k) Medical conditions of the same kind or class as or comparable to those enumerated in paragraphs (a)-(j)	**45,904**	**29.39%**	**97,957**	**24.61%**
(l) A terminal condition diagnosed by a physician other than the qualified physician issuing the physician certification	179	0.11%	921	0.23%
(m) Chronic non-malignant pain	**49,929**	**31.58%**	**65,969**	**16.57%**
Total qualifying conditions reported:	**156,193**		**398,034**	
Total number of smoking certifications:	136,861		245,678	
Total number of patients: (with smoking certifications)	128,040		232,586	

Table 25. Top Five physicians with the highest number of certifications containing at least one order for smoking.

2020 Report ~ 7-month March 18, 2019 through September 30, 2019			Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31 2020		
UID	Number of Certifications	Number of Patients	UID	Number of Certifications	Number of Patients
BA	4,140	3,916	AZ	6,229	6,135
AX	2,233	2,048	AY	6,168	4,063
AZ	2,212	2,205	BA	5,581	5,401
AU	2,119	2,037	BB	2,580	2,542
CL	2,004	1,862	J	2,527	2,497

Table 26. Top Five physicians with the highest number of certifications containing at least one order for smoking and including "Qualifying Condition (f) PTSD".

	2020 Report ~ 7-month March 18, 2019 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Range in Total Number of Certifications	963 to 4,140	1,653 to 6,229
Range in Percentage of Physician's Certifications including (f) PTSD	52% to 99%	78% to 99.9%
Physician Specialty Areas	• Anesthesiology • Family Medicine • Pediatrics • Not Listed	• Family Medicine • Pediatrics • Not Listed

Table 27. Top Five physicians with the highest number of certifications containing at least one order for smoking and including "Qualifying Condition (k) Medical conditions of the same kind or class".

	2020 Report ~ 7-month March 18, 2019 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Range in Total Number of Certifications	1,541 to 2,233	2,580 to 6,168
Range in Percentage of Physician's Certifications including (f) PTSD	50% to 73%	28% to 73%
Physician Specialty Areas	• Family Practice, Hospice and Palliative Medicine • Pain Management, Anesthesiology • Pediatrics • Not Listed	• Family Medicine • Family Practice, Hospice and Palliative Medicine • Pediatrics • Not Listed

Table 28. Top Five physicians with the highest number of certifications containing at least one order for smoking and including "Qualifying Condition (m) Chronic nonmalignant pain"[1].

	2020 Report ~ 7-month March 18, 2019 through September 30, 2019	Preliminary Data 6-Month Review October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020
Range in Total Number of Certifications	963 to 4,140	1,653 to 6,168
Range in Percentage of Physician's Certifications including (f) PTSD	56% to 99.7%	50% to 99.7%
Physician Specialty Areas	• Family Medicine • Pediatrics • Plastic Surgery • Not Listed	• Family Medicine • Pediatrics • Not Listed

Terms and Definitions

Average (AVG) daily dose - the average of all *maximum* daily doses ordered within a physician certification by route of administration and type (low-THC cannabis or medical marijuana).

Average ounces - the average of all "total ounces per 35-day order period of marijuana in a form for smoking" by certification, physician, county, or state.

Cannabidiol (CBD) for low-THC cannabis ordered by route(s) in the Medical Marijuana Use Registry is measured in milligrams per day.

Certifications for medical marijuana made by qualified physicians for patients with a qualifying medical condition.

Chronic nonmalignant pain - pain that is caused by a qualifying medical condition or that originates from a qualifying medical condition and persists beyond the usual course of that qualifying medical condition.

County is based on the primary practice location (address) physicians provided in the Medical Quality Assurance Licensure Database.

Dose - the milligrams (mg) per day for each route of administration a physician recommends in the Medical Marijuana Use Registry as part of a certification for marijuana. The "total mg/day" is the sum of all doses for a given form and type of marijuana ordered. All dose data entered was used.

Form is a term referenced in section 381.986, F.S., to describe the routes of administration, which is defined in rule 64-4.001, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

Low-THC cannabis - a plant of the genus *Cannabis*, the dried flowers of which contain 0.8 percent or less of tetrahydrocannabinol and more than 10 percent of cannabidiol weight for weight; the seeds thereof; the resin extracted from any part of such plant; or any compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of such plant or its seeds or resin that is dispensed from a medical marijuana treatment center.

Marijuana - all parts of any plant of the genus *Cannabis*, whether growing or not; the seeds thereof; the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant or its seeds or resin, including low-THC cannabis, which are dispensed from a medical marijuana treatment center for medical use by a qualified patient.

Marijuana delivery device - an object used, intended for use, or designed for use in preparing, storing, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing marijuana into the human body, and which is dispensed from a medical marijuana treatment center for medical use by a qualified patient, except the delivery devices intended for the medical use of marijuana by smoking need not be dispensed from a medical marijuana treatment center in order to qualify as marijuana delivery devices.

Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers (MMTCs) are licensed by the state to grow, process, and dispense marijuana to qualified patients who have certifications and identification cards issued by the Office of Medical Marijuana Use.

Medical Marijuana Use Registry (MMUR) is a secure, electronic, online medical marijuana use registry for physicians, patients, and caregivers that is accessible to law enforcement agencies, qualified physicians, and medical marijuana treatment centers.

Medical use - the acquisition, possession, use, delivery, transfer, or administration of marijuana

authorized by a physician certification. The term does not include:

1. Possession, use, or administration of marijuana that was not purchased or acquired from a medical marijuana treatment center.
2. Possession, use, or administration of marijuana in the form of commercially produced food items other than edibles or of marijuana seeds.
3. Use or administration of any form or amount of marijuana in a manner that is inconsistent with the qualified physician's directions or physician certification.
4. Transfer of marijuana to a person other than the qualified patient for whom it was authorized or the qualified patient's caregiver on behalf of the qualified patient.
5. Use or administration of marijuana in the following locations:
    a. On any form of public transportation, except for low-THC cannabis not in a form for smoking.
    b. In any public place, except for low-THC cannabis not in a form for smoking.
    c. In a qualified patient's place of employment, except when permitted by his or her employer.
    d. In a state correctional institution, as defined in section 944.02, F.S., or a correctional institution, as defined in section 944.241, F.S.
    e. On the grounds of a preschool, primary school, or secondary school, except as provided in section 1006.062, F.S.
    f. In a school bus, a vehicle, an aircraft, or a motorboat, except for low-THC cannabis not in a form for smoking.
    g. The smoking of marijuana in an enclosed indoor workplace is defined in section 386.203(5), F.S.

Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) Licensure Database contains information on health care practitioners in the state of Florida licensed under Chapter 458, F.S., and Chapter 459, F.S. The information includes an indicator for physicians who have qualified to order low-THC cannabis and medical marijuana for qualified patients.

Office of Medical Marijuana Use (OMMU) is charged with writing and implementing the Florida Department of Health rules for the use of marijuana, overseeing the statewide Medical Marijuana Use Registry, and licensing Florida businesses to cultivate, process, and dispense marijuana to qualified patients. More information about the Medical Marijuana Use Registry is available online at the Office of Medical Marijuana Use website: https://knowthefactsmmj.com/

Order period refers to consecutive order periods, up to three, each with a maximum number of 70 days. Within each order period, physicians can choose to order 10 options: low-THC cannabis and/or medical marijuana in up to five different routes of administration. Physician certifications for medical marijuana in a form for smoking may have up to six order periods, each with a maximum number of 35 days.

Outliers are individual data observations (such a mg/dose or total supply amount in mg) that are an abnormal distance from all other data observations in the set. Observations that fell more than 1.5 interquartile ranges below the first quartile or above the third quartile were considered outliers and removed from calculations for average daily dose and supply totals.

Physician certification - a qualified physician's authorization for a qualified patient to receive marijuana and a marijuana delivery device from a medical marijuana treatment center.

Physician county data is pulled from the most recent data available relative to the end of the reporting

period. “Not Practicing” physicians had an active status in the MQA Licensure database when county information was accessed; “Out of State” physicians had out-of-state addresses but were otherwise listed as active status.

Practitioner Profile information is drawn from the Division of Medical Quality Assurance’s Licensure Database and contains physician information that is posted in the online License Verification search.

Qualified patient - a resident of this state who has been added to the Medical Marijuana Use Registry by a qualified physician to receive marijuana or a marijuana delivery device for medical use and who has a qualified patient identification card.

Qualified physician - a person who holds an unrestricted license as an allopathic physician under chapter 458, F.S., or as an osteopathic physician under chapter 459, F.S., and is in compliance with the physician education requirements of subsection (3) of 381.986, F.S.

Qualifying medical conditions are required for physician certification. A patient must be diagnosed with at least one of the following conditions to qualify to receive marijuana or a marijuana delivery device:

(a) Cancer
(b) Epilepsy
(c) Glaucoma
(d) Positive status for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
(e) Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)
(f) Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
(g) Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)
(h) Crohn’s disease
(i) Parkinson’s disease
(j) Multiple sclerosis (MS)
(k) Medical conditions of the same kind or class as or comparable to those enumerated in paragraphs (a)-(j)
(l) A terminal condition diagnosed by a physician other than the qualified physician issuing the physician certification
(m) Chronic nonmalignant pain

Routes of administration is defined in rule 64-4.001, F.A.C., as the appropriate method for the derivative product to be taken into the body of the qualified patient, as certified by a qualified physician, but does not include smoking.

Smoking - burning or igniting a substance and inhaling the smoke. As defined by section 381.986(4)(c), F.S., qualified physicians may determine that smoking is an appropriate route of administration for a qualified patient. A statutory change on March 18, 2019 allowed physicians to determine that smoking medical marijuana is an appropriate route for a qualified patient. This allowed orders for smoking medical marijuana.

Supply - the total amount in mgs for all orders within a certification (daily dose multiplied by the number of days ordered) for all routes of administration other than smoking. For smoking, supply is the total amount in ounces for all orders within a certification.

Terminal condition - a progressive disease or medical or surgical condition that causes significant functional impairment, is not considered by a treating physician to be reversible without the administration of life-sustaining procedures and will result in death within one year after diagnosis if the condition runs its normal course.

Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) for medical marijuana ordered by route(s) in the MMUR is measured in

milligrams per day.

Type - low-THC cannabis or medical marijuana.