

Therapeutic Cannabis Medical Oversight Board
February 2, 2022, DHHS Offices, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord (with Remote-Zoom option)
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Virginia Brack, Heather Brown, Corey Burchman, Jerry Knirk (Chair), Molly Rossignol, Seddon Savage, Lisa Withrow

Members Absent: Jill MacGregor, Richard Morse, Tricia Tilley

DHHS Staff: Michael Holt, DPHS Program Administrator

Note: In-person quorum met

Meeting Convened at 5:38pm

Minutes

Minutes from meetings on 6/2/21, 9/1/21, 10/6/21, 11/3, 21, 12/1/21, and 1/5/22 were approved.

Motion: Knirk; Second: Brown; Vote: 6-0 (Rossignol not present yet)

Chairperson and Membership

Discussion on chair and alternate chair.

Jerry Knirk was approved to be chair, and Heather Brown was approved to be alternate chair, for another 2-year term.

Motion: Savage; Second: Rossignol; Vote: 4-3

Board membership vacancies and assignments were reviewed

Cornel Stanciu (psychiatry) resigned from the Board; suggested a replacement, Dr. Nikhil Teja. Holt to contact Hottat, and Brack to contact Chadury.

2021 Annual Report

Discussion: Burchman notes that his credentials should be listed

Annual report approved.

Motion to approve, with amendment noted above: Withrow; Second: Brack; Vote 7-0

TC101 Slide Deck

Discussion on formatting and references, and one edit to the Cannabis Use Disorder slide (reverse order of therapeutic cannabis and recreational use information).

Discussion on new “anecdotal” slides.

- Brown presented additional slides based on information collected from the ATCs regarding effectiveness of products relative to certain qualifying conditions
- Board agreed that anecdotal information was important to include in this slide deck
- There was a suggestion of a separate slide deck focused on the “patient experience.”

- Board agreed that the slides presented, in order to be included in the current TC101 slide deck, should be fewer and should not include testimonials, and a diagnosis-by-diagnosis listing was not the best approach.
- Holt argued that the slide deck, without this anecdotal effectiveness information was overwhelmingly cautionary.
- Withrow offered that providers who reach out to her, as they consider certifying patients for the cannabis program, want to know how cannabis works, in practice, on patients.
- Holt offered to work with Brown to consolidate the slides so that they could be included in this TC101 slide deck at a later time.
- TC101 slide deck, minus the anecdotal effectiveness slides, approved and approved to be posted to TCMOB webpage.

Motion: Rossignol; Second: Brack; Vote: 6-1

Legislative Update

Discussion on HB1598, relative to legalizing the possession and use of cannabis

- Matt Simon, Legislative Director for Prime ATC, expressed concern about the bill relative to the viability of the Alternative Treatment Centers and by extension the Therapeutic Cannabis Program
- Board agreed to take a neutral position on the bill, but agreed to provide a statement in support of the Therapeutic Cannabis Program relative to any legalization efforts
- Board approved the following language:
 - Any legislation that would legalize adult-use cannabis in New Hampshire should be evaluated in light of its potential impacts on the Therapeutic Cannabis Program. The TCP is valuable and must be preserved if adult-use legalization passes.

Motion: Burchman; Second: Brown; Vote: 4-0 (2 abstentions; 1 member left before vote)

Remaining Agenda Items

The following agenda items were not discussed due to time constraints:

- Discussion of the Listening Session from December 2021
- Member Updates
- Public Comments

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm