New York Physicians for Compassionate Care



New York Physicians for Compassionate Care represents more than 600 physicians across New York who believe that doctors should not be punished for recommending the medical use of marijuana to seriously ill patients and that seriously ill people should not be criminalized for using medical marijuana if their physicians told them such use may be beneficial.

A growing body of scientific evidence, including gold-standard randomized, doubleblinded, placebo-controlled trials, has made clear that medical marijuana is safe and effective in controlling chronic pain, alleviating nausea and vomiting associated with chemotherapy, treating wasting syndrome associated with HIV/AIDS, controlling muscle spasms due to multiple sclerosis, and managing epilepsy. Emerging evidence also suggests that medical marijuana may help patients living with cancer, Parkinson's, and other chronic and debilitating illnesses. Moreover, compared to other prescription medications, medical cannabis is a relatively safe, having no known lethal dose, few side effects, and few contraindications.

As physicians, we want the ability to offer our patients every possible treatment that might improve their health, alleviate their suffering, or improve their quality of life – that includes recommending the use of medical marijuana.



"It's disappointing that I cannot provide my patients with a therapy that I know can benefit them."

Dr. Craig Blinderman

'As a doctor I feel helpless when I can't give my patients an effective treatment for pain."

Dr. Sunil Aggarwal



■ Buffalo

People shouldn't have to break the law to get the medicine they need."

Dr. Julie Holland



• Practitioners and Medical Associations in Support of a Medical Marijuana Program