



MARYLAND MEDICAL CANNABIS COMMISSION

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

**EMERGENT AND SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO PURCHASE MEDICAL CANNABIS WHEN PATIENT
AMOUNT OF DRIED CANNABIS FLOWER OR THC REMAINING AVAILABLE TO
PURCHASE CANNOT BE VERIFIED IN REAL-TIME**

Exception period begins: upon receipt of this announcement, Tuesday, July 21, 2020

Exception period ends: 12PM (Noon), Tuesday, July 21, 2020

COMAR 10.62.30 'Dispensing Medical Cannabis' requires a licensed dispensary to verify the amount of dried medical cannabis flower or THC available to a qualifying patient in accordance with the patient's certified 30-day supply. This process is accomplished by dispensaries verifying the amount of THC remaining for the patient to purchase at the time they present to the dispensary through the METRC system via the MMCC patient registry.

According to COMAR 10.62.30 and normal operating procedure, if a dispensary is unable to verify the amount of dried cannabis flower or THC remaining for the patient to purchase, a legitimate sale of medical cannabis product cannot be completed.

Given the current intermittent inability of dispensaries to verify the amount of dried cannabis flower or THC available for patients to purchase due to technical difficulties, and in the interest of public health and safety, the Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission is making an ***emergent and temporary exception*** to the above process required under COMAR 10.62.30.

EXCEPTION CRITERIA:

For the time period of receipt of this notice until 12pm, (noon), July 21, 2020, when dispensaries are unable to verify the patient amount of cannabis available through the METRC system via the MMCC registration system, sales of cannabis products may be made under the following conditions:

1. Dispensaries are required to log into the MMCC Patient Registry and enter the Patient ID number. If the system returns a message that says 'Unable to contact METRC, the dispensary may make a sale of either:
 - a. 12 grams of dried flower, OR
 - b. Concentrated products not to exceed a total of 2500 mg THC

2. Each patient may make only one purchase during the specified time frame according to 1 and 2 above.
3. If the system is working properly and the amount of cannabis available for patients to purchase can be verified, the dispensary may make a sale in accordance with the patient's choice within the amount remaining available on his or her 30 day limit as normal.
4. If any dispensary becomes aware a patient limit has been exceeded for a 30 day period no further sales may be completed until a known amount available is verified.
5. Any patient that makes, or attempts to make, more than one purchase during the specified period, according to the exception criteria 1 and 2 above, is at risk for discipline as specified in COMAR 10.62.34, up to and including revocation of MMCC registration. Patients may make additional purchases at any time if the amount of cannabis available can be verified through the MMCC Registry.
6. Dispensaries making sales are at risk for discipline as specified in COMAR 10.62.34, up to and including \$ 5000 fine per violation and revocation of license in the following circumstances;
 - a. When the patient verification, or amount to purchase cannot be verified during the starting and ending time period stated in this announcement, or
 - b. Not in accordance of the above stated exception procedure under 1 and 2 above.
7. All patients' amount of cannabis purchases and amounts remaining available to purchase will be verified and reconciled when system outages are resolved.

This exception from normal operating procedure and written regulations in COMAR 10.62.30 in dispensing medical cannabis is a temporary and emergent measure to assist patients in obtaining needed medication. All patients' amounts of THC remaining available to purchase will be verified and reconciled when system outages are resolved.

This Special Exception Process to Purchase Medical Cannabis

Ends at 12PM (Noon), July 21, 2020.