

CANNABIS CARE:

Medical marijuana facilities as health service providers

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Medical Cannabis in CA: Political history

- 1992: Proposition P is passed in SF
 - Dennis Peron
 - Safety for dispensing
- 1996: Proposition 215 is passed. Marijuana can be used under a doctor's care.
- Still illegal Federally

Medical Cannabis in CA: Facility history

- Started out of Dennis Peron's home
- Social Club Model
- Pharmacy Model (Netherlands)
- Rules vary from city to city
- Oakland, Berkeley and SF
- Unincorporated areas
- What about the patients?

The Cannabis Care Study

1. A description of medical cannabis patients and facilities
2. A patient-based evaluation of services
3. A description of facility service utilization

Description of medical cannabis patients

- Demographics (gender, ethnicity, income..)
- Insurance
- Length of symptoms and treatment
- General health status (physical, emotional, general)
- Self-medication
- Substitution

Description of medical cannabis patients: alcohol history

- Previous alcohol treatment
- Their choice?
- Satisfaction with various types of treatment
- Commonalities between alcohol treatment and dispensary models

Patient-based evaluation of services

- General
- Access
- Interpersonal
- Privacy

Description of facility service utilization

- Site specific patient surveys
- Social model
- Wide variety of services

Research questions

1. What are the demographic characteristics of the medical cannabis patient population in the SF Bay Area who utilize medical cannabis facilities?
2. What is the reported physical, emotional and general health of medical cannabis patients in the SF Bay Area who utilize medical cannabis facilities?
3. What is the prevalence of reported self-medication with cannabis or other drugs among medical cannabis patients in the SF Bay Area?
4. What is the prevalence of reported substitution, using cannabis instead of other drugs, among medical cannabis patients in the SF Bay Area?

Research questions, cont.

5. What is the prevalence of medical cannabis patients in the SF Bay Area who report having sought treatment for alcohol related issues?
 - 5a. Among medical cannabis patients who have sought treatment for alcohol issues, what types of treatment were chosen and what is the related level of satisfaction with specific treatments?
6. What services, other than cannabis, do patients report using at facilities and how often to they use them?
7. How do patients rate facilities along four dimensions of client satisfaction?

Methods

- Exploratory, cross-sectional survey design
- N= 130
- Seven study sites (2 in Berkeley, 5 in SF)
- Facility-level and patient-level surveys
- Primary data collection
- Anonymous
- Sampled at facilities

Measures

- Facility survey, self-design
- Patient survey, self-design, RAND 36 item health survey, PSQIII

Sampling

- Approached facilities
- Sampled from inside facility
- Self-administered and researcher administered
- Asked everyone who came in
- Visited at different times

Results: Demographics

Gender	Men		Women		Transgen		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
	95	74	32	25	2	2	129	100

Age	18-24		25-35		36-45		46-55		56-65		>65		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
	20	15	30	23	34	26	28	22	14	11	2	2	128	100

Results: Demographics, cont.

Ethnicity

N.A.		A.A.		Cau		His		Asia		Ind		M.E.		Oth	
N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
23	18	26	20	77	59	15	12	9	7	3	3	6	5	9	7

Results: Demographics, cont.

Insurance

Yes		No		Total	
N	%	N	%	N	%
96	75	32	25	128	100

Insurance Type

HMO		PPO		Medi-Cal		Other		Total	
N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
18	14	15	12	48	38	14	11	95	100

Results: Demographics, cont.

Income

< \$20,000		\$20,000-\$34,000		\$35,000-\$49,000		\$50,000-\$99,000		> \$100,000		Total	
N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
74	59	17	14	12	10	15	12	8	6	126	100

Treatment and Symptom History (Months)

1 st Treated			1 st Symptoms		
Mean	Min/Max	SD	Mean	Min/Max	SD
120	1/684	120	162	0/720	146

Results: Health status

Patient Health Status (Rand 36 item survey)

1= perfect score

Physical		Emotional		General	
Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
.54	.34	.46	.44	.67	.23

Raw Score: 600 Phy; 300 Emo; 1600

Physical		Emotional		General	
Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
320	208	168	133	1068	372

Results: Alcohol Treatment

Participants' experience with alcohol treatment

	Yes		No		Total	
Alcohol Treatment	N	%	N	%	N	%
	24	20	95	80	119	100

Times in treatment	1-3		4-6		>6	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total = 22	16	73	5	23	1	4

Results: Alcohol, cont.

Your decision to enter treatment 1st time?

Yes		No		Total	
N	%	N	%	N	%
17	74	6	26	23	100

Results: Alcohol, cont.

Type of treatment entered

Type	Yes		No		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
In-patient	13	57	10	43	23	100
Out-Pat. (1 on 1)	6	26	17	74	23	100
Out-Pat. (group)	13	57	10	43	23	100
12 step	16	70	7	30	23	100
Halfway House	6	26	17	74	23	100
Other	4	17	19	83	23	100

Results: Alcohol, cont.

Satisfaction with treatment type

Type	In-Pat.		Out 1 on 1		Out group		12 Step		Halfway		other	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Not	3	13	2	9	3	13	8	35	3	13	2	9
Barely	1	4	1	4	3	13	0	0	3	13	0	0
Somewhat	4	17	3	13	4	17	4	17	0	0	0	0
Very	3	13	1	4	4	17	3	13	2	9	2	9
Extreme	3	13	3	13	4	17	4	17	0	0	0	0
N/A	9	39	13	57	5	28	4	17	15	65	19	83
N	14	61	10	43	18	78	19	83	8	35	4	17

Results: Self-Med/Sub.

Self-Medication

	Yes		No		Total	
Type	N	%	N	%	N	%
Alcohol	61	47	69	53	130	100
Non-Rx (legal)	99	76	31	24	130	100
Non-Rx (illegal)	72	55	58	45	130	100

Results: Self-Med/Sub, cont.

Substitution

Type	Yes		No		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Alcohol	65	50	65	50	130	100
Illegal Drugs	61	47	69	53	130	100
Rx Drugs	96	74	34	26	130	100

Results: Substitution

Why Cannabis?

Reason	Yes		No		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Side-effects	82	63	48	37	130	100
Withdrawal	56	43	74	57	130	100
Access	30	23	100	77	130	100
Acceptance	20	15	110	85	130	100
Symptom	72	55	58	45	130	100
Other	20	15	110	85	130	100

Results: Satisfaction

Patient Satisfaction (PSQIII)

1=Perfect Score

General		Interpersonal		Access	
Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
.8	.15	.87	.13	.77	.13

Raw Score: 25 General; 30 Interpersonal; 40 Access

General		Interpersonal		Access	
Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
20	4	26	4	31	5

Results: Satisfaction, cont.

Satisfaction with Privacy (created dimension)

1=Perfect Score

Privacy	
Mean	SD
.86	.15

Raw Score=10

Privacy	
Mean	SD
9	1.5

Used Cannabis Today?

Yes		No		Total	
N	%	N	%	N	%
105	81	25	19	130	100

Results: Satisfaction, cont.

Why did you choose this facility today?

Reason	Mean	SD
Location	6.3	3.5
Var. Meds	7	3.2
Var. Services	6.5	3.5
Staff	8.1	2.8
Hours	7.9	8.2
Comfort/Secure	8.2	2.9
Patients	5.9	3.9
Facil. Familiar	8.4	2.8

Results: Services Offered

Substance Use

- NA
- AA
- Harm reduction

Social Support Groups

- Women's groups
- Veteran's groups
- Men's groups
- Social lounge

Creativity/Art

- Writer's group
- Quilter's group
- Crochet class
- Crafts

Entertainment

- Puzzles
- Open mic
- BINGO
- Poetry reading
- Cartoons and cereal
- Internet
- Library

Results: Services Offered, cont.

Cannabis related

- Grow class
- Legal class
- Vapor lessons
- Activism
- Seminars

Day Trips

- Mineral springs
- Day Trippers

Social Services

- Counseling
- Housing
- Food
- Hospice
- Referrals

Community Events

- Clothing drives
- Neighborhood parties

Etc.

- Doggy day care

For more info. on Medical Marijuana

- Americans for Safe Access

www.safeaccessnow.org

- California NORML

www.canorml.org

- Dr. Frank Lucido

www.DrLucido.com