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3 Title: Research on the Personal and Public Health Effects of Recreational Marijuana
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5 Introduced by: Jordan Lippincott for the Medical Student Section
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8 Debbie Pumarada, Enrique Rodriguez-Fhon, Wyatt Shoemaker, and Sara Teising
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10 Referred to: Reaffirmation Calendar
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12 House Action: **REAFFIRMED**
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15 Whereas, in 2018, Michigan voters passed Proposal 18-1 creating the Michigan Regulation and
16 Taxation of Marijuana Act (MRTMA) allowing persons 21 and older to possess, process, or consume
17 marijuana in Michigan^{1,2}, and
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19 Whereas, in total, 10 states and the District of Columbia have legalized the recreational use of
20 marijuana and allow individuals to purchase, grow, and consume marijuana within their borders³, and
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22 Whereas, scientific research on recreational marijuana’s effect on personal and public health is
23 limited and many areas are unstudied^{4,5}, and
24

25 Whereas, health care providers may be asked about the short- and long-term effects of marijuana
26 use on patient health and without sufficient research and evidence, providers have a difficult time discussing
27 with certainty the impact of marijuana on health^{6,7,8}, and
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29 Whereas, multiple health care stakeholders including the American Medical Association (AMA)
30 (policy H-95.952), the American Academy of Family Physicians(AAFP), the American Psychological
31 Association, and the American College of Physicians recognize the need for further research into effects of
32 marijuana use^{9,10,11}, and
33

34 Whereas, the AAFP requests and AMA policy H-95.952 advocates for the alteration of the federal
35 schedule I controlled substance status of marijuana to provide for additional grant funding and research
36 guidelines to facilitate further clinical research into marijuana [9], and
37

38 Whereas, MSMS policy supports further research of medical marijuana for its health benefits and
39 impact on health; therefore be it
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41 RESOLVED: That MSMS encourages further research into the personal and public health impacts of
42 recreational marijuana use.
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45 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: \$1,000 or more for costs related to the adoption of new or
46 revised MSMS or AMA policy.

Relevant MSMS Policy:

Marijuana for Medical Use

MSMS supports the use of cannabinoids by routes other than smoking for medical uses, for which scientific evidence supports efficacy equal or superior to established therapies and encourages further research to elucidate the efficacy of cannabinoids in various medical conditions and its optimal dosage and route of delivery. (Res59-08A)

Marijuana (Pending final approval by the 2019 MSMS HOD)

MSMS considers marijuana use a public health issue with potentially severe adverse health effects and opposes the recreational use of marijuana. (Prior to 1990)

Edited 1998

Amended 2019 (Res46-18 AND 70-18)

Publish the Contents of Cannabis (Pending final approval by the 2019 MSMS HOD)

MSMS supports clear labelling of medical and retail marijuana products that identifies the content of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) & Cannabidiol (CBD), percent of potency of THC, warnings regarding use by adolescents, pregnant women, and other vulnerable populations, and other known risk factors (e.g., driving under the influence, potential effects on an unborn fetus, etc.) (Res61-18)

Resolution 63-18

RESOLVED: That MSMS convene a committee of physicians with expertise on the potential and known risks of marijuana, particularly as it concerns children and adolescence, to provide the Michigan Legislature with recommendations; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS communicate to members and other physicians in Michigan regarding the potential and known risks of marijuana use and of any recommendations presented to the Michigan Legislature should marijuana be legalized by the voters.

Relevant AMA Policy:

Cannabis and Cannabinoid Research H-95.952

1. Our AMA calls for further adequate and well-controlled studies of marijuana and related cannabinoids in patients who have serious conditions for which preclinical, anecdotal, or controlled evidence suggests possible efficacy and the application of such results to the understanding and treatment of disease.
2. Our AMA urges that marijuana's status as a federal schedule I controlled substance be reviewed with the goal of facilitating the conduct of clinical research and development of cannabinoid-based medicines, and alternate delivery methods. This should not be viewed as an endorsement of state-based medical cannabis programs, the legalization of marijuana, or that scientific evidence on the therapeutic use of cannabis meets the current standards for a prescription drug product.
3. Our AMA urges the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to develop a special schedule and implement administrative procedures to facilitate grant applications and the conduct of well-designed clinical research involving cannabis and its potential medical utility. This effort should include: a) disseminating specific information for researchers on the development of safeguards for cannabis clinical research protocols and the development of a model informed consent form for institutional review board evaluation; b) sufficient funding to support such clinical research and access for qualified investigators to adequate supplies of cannabis for clinical research purposes; c) confirming that cannabis of various and consistent strengths and/or placebo will be supplied by the National Institute on Drug Abuse to investigators registered with the DEA who are conducting bona fide clinical research studies that receive FDA approval, regardless of whether or not the NIH is the primary source of grant support.
4. Our AMA supports research to determine the consequences of long-term cannabis use, especially among youth, adolescents, pregnant women, and women who are breastfeeding.
5. Our AMA urges legislatures to delay initiating the legalization of cannabis for recreational use until further research is completed on the public health, medical, economic, and social consequences of its use.

¹ Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act (Law 1 of 2018),

[https://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(04by1qrqfk1iexvikuxuq1w\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-Initiated-Law-1-of-2018](https://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(04by1qrqfk1iexvikuxuq1w))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-Initiated-Law-1-of-2018)

² "Ballot Proposal 1 of 2018." House Fiscal Agency - Michigan House of Representatives, 16 Oct. 2018, www.house.mi.gov/hfa/PDF/TestPDF/Ballot_Proposal_2018-1_Marijuana_Initiative.pdf

³ "Marijuana Overview - Legalization." National Conference of State Legislatures, 14 Dec. 2018, www.ncsl.org/research/civil-and-criminal-justice/marijuana-overview.aspx

⁴ National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. 2017. *The Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids: The Current State of Evidence and Recommendations for Research*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/24625>

⁵ Biehl, Jason R., and Ellen L. Burnham. "Cannabis smoking in 2015: a concern for lung health?." *Chest* 148.3 (2015): 596-606.

⁶ Peachman, Rachel Rabkin. "Clinicians Support Medical Marijuana Use in Children With Cancer, but Lack Knowledge." *Jama* 319.9 (2018): 852-853.

⁷ Brooks, Elizabeth, et al. "The clinical implications of legalizing marijuana: Are physician and non-physician providers prepared?." *Addictive behaviors* 72 (2017): 1-7.

⁸ NIDA. "Marijuana." National Institute on Drug Abuse, 22 Jun. 2018, <https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/marijuana>. Accessed 3 Jan. 2019.

⁹ "Marijuana." AAFP.org, American Academy of Family Physicians, 2016, www.aafp.org/about/policies/all/marijuana.html.

¹⁰ Weir, Kristen. "Marijuana and the Developing Brain." American Psychological Association, *Monitor on Psychology*, Nov. 2015, www.apa.org/monitor/2015/11/marijuana-brain.

¹¹ "ACP Policy Compendium - Summer 2018." Policy Compendium, American College of Physicians, 17 Sept. 2018, www.acponline.org/system/files/documents/advocacy/acp_policy_compendium_summer_2018.pdf.