

**OREGON HEALTH DIVISION
STATE HEALTH OFFICER ADVISORY PANEL ON
MEDICAL MARIJUANA PETITIONS**

MEETING MINUTES

**Third Meeting
State Office Building
800 NE Oregon Street, Portland, OR
Monday, March 27, 2000**

Members Present:

Richard Bayer, MD
Joshua Boverman, MD
Edward Glick, RN
Amy Klare, Patient Advocate
Martin Lahr, MD
Stormy Ray, Patient
Kathleen Weaver, MD

***Ad Hoc* Alternate Member Present:**

Teresa Keane, RN, PMHNP

OHD Staff Present:

Kelly Paige, Med'l MJ Pgm

Process Facilitator:

Daniel M. Harris, PhD

Call to Order

Dr. Dan Harris, the process facilitator, called the meeting to order at 1:40 pm. Minutes of the panel's second meeting on March 20, 2000 were reviewed. Ed Glick requested that since the panel did not discuss individual petitions during the meeting but only discussed the application of testimony heard to the petitions as a group in general, the minutes delete reference to discussion of the petitions. This was done. Dr. Bayer then requested that several revisions be made based on his recollection of the meeting and on several concerns that he raised. He put forward a one-page statement of these revisions. He explained that he had already discussed this matter with several other panel members and that they concurred. Those members with whom he had not previously spoken objected, stating that they did not agree with the wording nor the implications of his proposed revisions. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the minutes would not reflect Dr. Bayer's suggested revisions but that his written statement would be appended to indicate that these concerns were voiced.

Dr. Harris then reviewed the agenda and briefed members on the plan for the meeting. He reviewed the process and protocol the panel accepted at its February meeting and that it agreed to follow in carrying out its *Charge*. He reminded panel members that their *Charge* directed them to "thoroughly and objectively" review and evaluate the available evidence and then to individually "advise the State Health Officer whether or not the petitioned for condition(s) should be included in the definition of 'debilitating medical condition' for purposes of the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act." He carefully emphasized that this meant that the panel was expected to focus on and direct their advice and recommendations to whether or not there was

sufficient evidence to add a petitioned for condition to the list rather than to focus on or advise and recommend regarding whether a particular petitioner should be granted a card for the use of medical marijuana under this Act.

Several members requested clarification regarding the type of evidence the panel was expected to rely on and the grading scheme (based on those used by U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the Agency for Health Care Policy and Research [now the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research]) that the panel was expected to use in evaluating the quality of the evidence and the strength of the recommendations that could be made based on that evidence. Dr. Harris reminded members of Dr. Higginson's directive to them at the panel's first meeting that the process was expected to be science based; he also reminded them that the grading scheme is generally accepted as a standard in evaluating the science-based medical literature. However, each individual panel member was free to decide for him/herself what evidence qualified as science-based and how to apply the grading standard, but each member was also expected to document what evidence was relied on and how that evidence was evaluated in making their advice and recommendations to the Division.

Dr. Harris and the panel then reviewed how the process would proceed. Panel members will discuss their individual findings and recommendations at this meeting and then submit to the process facilitator their final worksheets (one for each of the 8 petitioned for conditions) documenting those findings and recommendations. The facilitator will then develop a report to the State Health Officer containing a write up of the panel's process and a summary of the advice and recommendations of the panel members; appendices will contain the unedited verbatim worksheets for each reviewed petitioned for condition from each panel member, *all* of the evidence reviewed by the panel (a tape recording of the testimony heard at the panel's March 20, 2000 meeting will also accompany the report), and the minutes of each of the panel's meetings. Panel members will have until 9:00 am on Wednesday, March 29, 2000 to submit their work; Dr. Harris will then complete his report by 5:00 pm on Friday, March 31, 2000.

Prior to submitting the report to the Health Division, Dr. Harris will distribute it (minus the appendix material) to panel members for their review and comment; members will have until 5:00 pm on Monday, April 10, 2000 to complete their review and deliver their comments to Dr. Harris. He will then consider the comments and make appropriate revisions to the report based on them. The final report with all appendix material will be submitted to the Division by 5:00 pm on Friday, April 14, 2000. Once the final report has been delivered to the Division, panel members will be able to receive copies of each other's worksheets on request directly from the Division.

Discussion of Individual Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations

The panel then spent the remainder of the meeting presenting, discussing, and answering each other's questions about their individual findings, conclusions, and recommendations for each of the 8 petitioned for conditions. All agreed that the process of sharing this information and having this interchange was useful in finalizing their individual work.

Thank You's

On behalf of the Division, as well on his own behalf, Dr. Harris thanked panel members for their participation in this process and their willingness to volunteer their time, effort, and expertise to assist the Division in carrying out the direction and intention of the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act and its related Administrative Rules regarding petitions for adding indications to the list of debilitating medical conditions that qualify for the medicinal use of marijuana. In turn, panel members thanked him and Ms. Kelly Paige for their hard work on this process as well.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the panel, Dr. Harris adjourned the meeting at 5:10 pm.

Daniel M. Harris, PhD
Process Facilitator