

OREGON HEALTH DIVISION

Duties and Responsibilities of Expert Advisory Panel Membership

Members of Expert Advisory Panels are appointed by the State Health Officer to gather and review evidence in common and to then individually arrive at recommendations advising him regarding how he should rule on petitions requesting that the list of “debilitating medical conditions” under the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act be expanded to include the petitioned medical condition. Panel members - who are physicians licensed by the state of Oregon, other health professionals, designees of the State Health Officer, and patients and patient advocates - volunteer their time and expertise to assist the State Health Officer in evaluating received petitions.

You were asked to serve on this Panel because of your familiarity with and/or ability to evaluate the use of medical marijuana for the treatment of the petitioned condition(s) received by the Oregon Health Division. You are not appointed to represent any group or pre-established point of view or perspective, but rather to fully, fairly, and objectively review and evaluate the available evidence regarding the use of medical marijuana for the petitioned condition(s) and that alone. You are to base your individual advice and recommendations to the State Health Officer regarding the inclusion of that condition(s) as a “debilitating medical condition” for purposes of the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act solely on the available evidence reviewed, taking the quality and sufficiency of that evidence into consideration.

As a Panel member, your primary responsibility is to the people of Oregon - to promote and protect their health, safety and welfare. You must work for the benefit of the public first, with the benefit of any particular group, perspective, or special interest taking a secondary position. If you are an interested party to any matter under discussion by this Panel, you should inform the Panel of the nature and extent of this interest and then set it aside in order to objectively participate in the Panel’s work regarding that matter. If you find that you cannot sufficiently set aside your interest to be objective on a particular matter, you should recuse yourself on that matter.

Serving on an Expert Advisory Panel requires a commitment of attending 3 meetings over a 6 to 8 week period. Meetings are an average of approximately 2 hours long and usually require some preparation time for reading material sent out in advance of a meeting. - Meetings are generally held in the Portland metropolitan area during regular business hours; members living outside of this area have the option of attending by telephone. Members are asked to try to attend all meetings, and every attempt will be made to schedule meetings at members’ convenience. Participation on a Panel is voluntary; the Division is not able to reimburse members for their time; however, some travel expenses may be covered and refreshments will be made available during meetings.

The State Health Officer will issue a *Charge* to the Panel outlining the scope of the work to be performed. Division staff and/or a consultant will direct and support your work and facilitate Panel meetings. The goal is to allow all Panel members to follow an agreed upon protocol in common in reviewing and evaluating the available evidence and to then arrive at their individual recommendations to the State Health Officer regarding the petitioned condition(s) based on that reviewed evidence. Division staff or its consultant will communicate these individual recommendations to the State Health Officer in a final report.