



# Medical Marijuana Indicator used in the Arizona CSPMP

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# When the Medical Marijuana Program started in AZ

- ❖ The Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS) Marijuana Program began in 2010 when Arizona voters passed Proposition 203, the initiative creating the Arizona Medical Marijuana Act
  - Allowed marijuana use for qualifying patients with a debilitating medical condition (defined in A.R.S. 36-2801)
  
- ❖ Recreational Marijuana legalized in 2020, but this did not eliminate the Medical Marijuana Program in Arizona
  - Arizona currently has over 100,000 medical marijuana patients



# Who Regulates Marijuana in Arizona

- ❖ The Bureau of Marijuana Licensing, part of the Arizona Department of Health Services is responsible for licensing and regulating marijuana (medical and recreational):
  - Qualifying patients/caregivers
  - Marijuana labs and testing facilities
  - Medical and recreational dispensaries and their agents
  - Marijuana dispensations
- ❖ AZ CSPMP is housed under the Board of Pharmacy, separate from the Department of Health Services
  - Arizona State Board of Pharmacy has no regulatory authority regarding marijuana



# Arizona CSPMP and Medical Marijuana

- ❖ 2011 - HB 2585 was passed. This revised statute language and required the AZ CSPMP to identify patient's in Arizona who possess a Medical Marijuana card (A.R.S. 36-2602 (A)(3))
  - This did not require the CSPMP to track Marijuana dispensations
  - CSPMP only needs to identify those who possess medical marijuana card
  
- ❖ Department of Health Services adopted rules for qualifying patients and card issuing physicians
  - Physicians must attest to querying the patient's PMP profile before issuing medical marijuana certification (Admin code R-9-17-202)

# How does AZ indicate a patient holds a medical card?

- ❖ The Arizona CSPMP is contracted with Bamboo Health
  - Contract language establishes the need for AZ CSPMP to identify marijuana card registrants.
- ❖ In the Rx Summary of the patient's CSPMP report, an indication of a medical card is listed
  - This is also viewable in CSPMP Gateway reports

Report generated on **04/02/2024**. Report Date Range: 04/02/2023 - 04/02/2024

### RX Summary

Summary		Narcotics (excluding Buprenorphine)		Buprenorphine	
Total Prescriptions	9	Current MME/day	0.00	Current mg/day	0.00
Total Private Pay	0	30 Day Avg MME/day	0.00	30 Day Avg mg/day	0.00
Total Prescribers	2	Current Qty	0	Current Qty	0
Total Pharmacies	1				

- [Medical Marijuana Certificate](#)

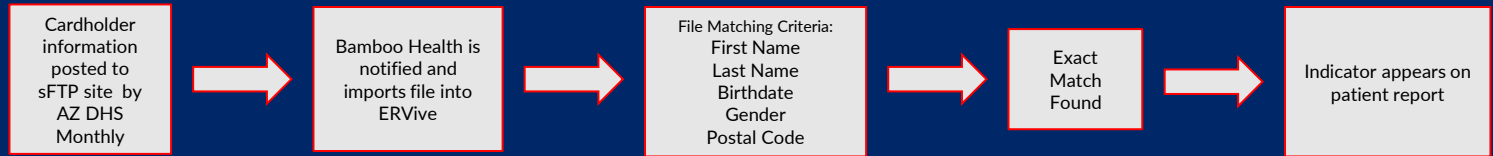
### State Indicators (1)

- ! [Medical Marijuana Card](#)

[Details](#)

# Data Transfer from DHS to CSPMP vendor (Bamboo Health)

- ❖ Marijuana data is collected and maintained by Department of Health Services
  - Marijuana cardholder information is confidential
  - Not subject to disclosure to anyone other than DHS (ARS 36-2810)



- ❖ DHS posts a monthly file of patient names to SFTP site
  - If an exact match is found in the data file, the indicator will appear on the patient's report
  - If indicator currently exists and no match is found in new file upload, indicator falls off report
  - Cards are valid for 2 years or when a patient relinquishes the card



## CSPMP Assists DHS in Verifying Prescriber Compliance

- ❖ **Biannual compliance checks for prescribers who issue MMJ certifications**
  - DHS sends CSPMP a file of prescribers issuing mmj cards and how many cards issued within previous 6 months
  - CSPMP pulls audit trails and notates number of queries for each provider within that time frame
    - Total number of queries is compared to the total number of patients who received MMJ certificate for each prescriber
  - Prescribers identified with a query rate below 80% are referred to their respective licensing board by DHS



# Challenges for CSPMP Administrators

- ❖ **Medical marijuana cardholder information is confidential - data is not visible to CSPMP or vendor**
  - Challenges with verifying prescriber compliance
    - We can calculate the total number of patient queries for each prescriber, but can't confirm the queries were for patients receiving MMJ card
  - CSPMP team can't inspect what we expect
    - Patient calls and states their card expired 3 months ago, but indicator still appears on their PMP report
      - Unable to open raw data file to confirm whether or not a patient should have an indicator
      - A medical card may expire before the next monthly upload
      - Collaborative effort between CSPMP/Bamboo Health/AZ DHS to verify monthly process is uploading correctly





# Interagency Service Agreement with Department of Health Services

- ❖ 5 year ISA between DHS and AZ CSPMP
  - Overall goal is to upkeep the CSPMP system to make it easy for prescribers to use
- ❖ Funding allows:
  - Upgrades and monthly maintenance to CSPMP system
  - Assists with staffing needs
  - Helps fund PMP integrations