State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

Utah Department of Health
Executive Director's Office

W. DAVID PATTON, Ph.D.
Executive Director

ROBERT T. ROLFS, M.D., MPH
Deputy Director
Chief Medical Officer

MICHAEL HALES, MPA
Deputy Director, Medicaid and Health Finance

July 1, 2014

Re: Important Hemp Extract Information for Utah Neurologists

Dear neurologist,

As you are aware, the Hemp Extract Registration Act was passed during the 2014 Utah state legislative session. This Act becomes effective in July 1, 2014. The Department of Health administrative rules that implement the Act become effective July 8, 2014..

Why are we sending you this letter?

We realize that many Utah neurologists may not yet feel comfortable with or fully informed about the hemp extract registration process. It is likely that some of your patients will have questions for you about hemp extract or perhaps request a certification from you. To assist you, here is some information to help you better understand your role in the process.

What does the Act say?

The Act permits patients with intractable epilepsy to use hemp extract if a neurologist certifies in writing that the patient may benefit from treatment.

INTRACTABLE EPILEPSY

The Act defines intractable epilepsy as "epilepsy that, as determined by a neurologist, does not respond to three or more treatment options overseen by the neurologist."

HEMP EXTRACT REGISTRATION CARD

The patient (or the parent or legal guardian of a minor patient, if the parent or legal guardian is a Utah resident) must register with the Department of Health to receive a Hemp Extract Registration Card. The Card is not a prescription; it only allows the patient to possess hemp extract in certain circumstances without violating state law. The Card is valid for one year.

What does this mean for you?

You may be asked by a patient (or the parent or legal guardian of a minor patient) or the Department of Health to provide written certification and documentation as part the Card registration process. Given your established relationship with your patient, you are in the best position to determine if hemp extract may be beneficial.

Eligibility requirements

NEUROLOGIST QUALIFICATIONS

- Licensed to practice in Utah
- Board certified in neurology

PATIENT QUALIFICATIONS

- A Utah resident over age 18 who suffers from intractable epilepsy; or
- A minor who suffers from intractable epilepsy, if their parent or legal guardian is a Utah resident

Certification requirements

You may be asked to prepare two documents:

	Written Certification	Evaluation Record
WHAT IT IS	This is a statement signed by you indicating that the patient: • Suffers from intractable epilepsy • May benefit from treatment with hemp extract This is not a prescription. The certification should be consistent with the evaluation record.	The Act requires you to keep an "evaluation and observation [record] of a patient who is a registrant or minor under a registrant's care, including the patient's response to hemp extract". The evaluation record must be transmitted to the Department of Health within five days after signing the written certification for the patient or parent. The evaluation record must be submitted at least annually.
HOW TO PREPARE IT	Prepare and sign either of the following: • A Written Certification form provided by the Department of Health • A statement on your own letterhead	For the patient's initial request, prepare and sign either of the following: • An Evaluation Record form provided by the Department of Health • A letter on your own letterhead **MANDATORY INCLUSIONS FOR INTIAL REQUEST** • Patient's name and date of birth; • Date of clinic office visit; • Your name and DOPL number and expiration date; • Patient's diagnosis of epilepsy; and • An indication that the patient currently suffers from intractable epilepsy
WHO TO GIVE IT TO	Provide the form or the statement to the patient or parent/guardian of a minor, so the it can be submitted with the application .	Send or transmit the form or the statement to the Department of Health within five days of signing the written certification. These records may be sent on from a secure encrypted e-mail or mailed to the address below.

Complete Information

To ensure full compliance with the Act, please refer to the requirements in the Utah Health Code, Title 26, Section 56, and Administrative Rule 428-55.

Contact Us

If you have questions, please contact us at:

Office of Vital Records & Statistics
288 North 1460 West
P.O. Box 141012
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Phone: (801) 538-9326
Fax: (801) 536-0954
Email: hempregistry@utah.gov