

Guidance in Relation to Medical Cannabis



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Guidance in Relation to Medical Cannabis Users as per the Equality Act 2010

How to avoid civil litigation for discrimination arising from disability

The following information is to notify individuals, businesses and /or organisations of their legal duties in respect of the treatment of those who are using legal cannabis for medical conditions.

Cannabis (oil and/or flower) has been legally available under prescription in the UK since 1st November 2018.

If you come across a medical user who is in possession of cannabis flower (only to be vaped) or cannabis oil, you must treat them the same as any other medical patient with a condition/disability.

The person should explain to you when asked that they are a medical cannabis user and that they use their medicine to treat their condition/disability (they are not required to inform you of what their condition/disability is).

You cannot refuse entry to an establishment or event based on their medication or disability, nor can you refuse their right to use their medication (i.e.: vaping indoors) as this would be a breach of Section 15 (1) of the Equality Act 2010.

Section 15 (1) of the Equality Act 2010 States:

15 Discrimination arising from disability

(1) A person (A) discriminates against a disabled person (B) if—
(a) A treats B unfavourably because of something arising in consequence of B's disability, and
(b) A cannot show that the treatment is a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim.
(2) Subsection (1) does not apply if A shows that A did not know, and could not reasonably have been expected to know, that B had the disability.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/section/15>

Cannabis is legal medication in the UK.

Cannabis (oil and/or flower) is legally available under prescription in the UK following changes in law on 1st November 2018: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/medicinal-cannabis-information-and-resources>

To date (July 2022), there are almost 20,000 medical cannabis patients and 17 medical cannabis clinics in the UK and this number is increasing exponentially. It is therefore likely that you will come across medical cannabis users and you must treat them the same as anyone else irrespective of your preconceived ideas around cannabis as this could lead to litigation in a civil court for 'discrimination arising from disability', breaches of equality and human rights and/or health and safety violations (serious adverse medical reaction resulting from denial of medication).

Cannabis is prescribed for a wide range of conditions including pain, neurological, psychiatric, gastrointestinal, oncological, paediatric, palliative, dermatological and complex care.

Definition of a disability.

The definition is set out in section 6 of the Equality Act 2010. It says you're disabled if:

- you have a physical or mental impairment
- your impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on your ability to do normal day-to-day activities

Some impairments are automatically treated as a disability, even if they don't affect your day-to-day activities.

These are covered in Schedule 1, Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010 and in Regulation 7 of the Equality Act 2010 (Disability) Regulations 2010. <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/work/discrimination-at-work/checking-if-its-discrimination/check-if-youre-disabled-under-the-equality-act-work/>

Are medical cannabis users disabled in law?

Most, if not all the above-mentioned conditions to which cannabis is prescribed can meet the lawful definition of a disability depending on the individual's circumstances.

A long-term effect means something that affects the person for at least a year. For example, if they had an operation that will make walking difficult for at least a year.

The impairment is still considered long term if the effects are likely to come and go. These are known as 'fluctuating or recurring' effects.

The definition of what is long term is in Schedule 1 of the Equality Act 2010. A substantial effect on their day-to-day activities means one that's 'more than minor or trivial'.

It is important to be aware that many disabilities are not obvious.

Reasonable adjustments and mutual considerations.

The policy of the Act is not a minimalist policy of simply ensuring that some access is available to disabled people; it is, so far as is reasonably practicable, to approximate the access enjoyed by disabled people to that enjoyed by the rest of the public. The purpose of the duty to make reasonable adjustments is to provide access to a service as close as it is reasonably possible to get to the standard normally offered to the public at large (and their equivalents in relation to associations or the exercise of public functions).

The reasonable adjustments for medical cannabis users should be straight forward as you would simply treat them the same as anyone else with a medical condition/disability who needs to carry and take their medication as required.

It is important also that the user is polite and considerate to staff and the public when carrying and using their medication as far as is practical dependant on their condition/s as this allows for mutual considerations and reasonable adjustments to take place.

Cannabis Oil Vs. Flower.

Medical cannabis is provided in two forms, an oil which is taken orally and the flowering tops of cannabis plants for vaporisation. The oil often takes longer to take effect and is often taken at certain intervals whereas the flower provides an almost instant effect and is administered as required. This quick effect is often helpful for people suffering from neurological pain conditions, epilepsy, psychological conditions etc...

It is therefore important that the medical user can always carry their medicine with them.

by Seed our Future Ltd

The endocannabinoid system

The endocannabinoid system was discovered in Israel in 1972 it is said to be the 13th system of the human body, a chemical communication system that connects all the other body systems and organs together. deterioration of the system would result in the communication between your other body systems or and organs to fail in functioning correctly, via the receptors found throughout the human body,

Cannabinoid's were once widely available in the forner and flora, but since the mid 60s an eradication programme has took place, mostley due to the misinformation of the misuse of drugs act and American propaganda, The plants that supports more cannabinoid than anything else on earth, it is called the key to the human body because it fits into the lock perfectly, a lock which is said to bring forth healthy productive life. We are not talking mass amounts or using to get high (stoned) but to trigger the endocannabinoid system.

The endocannabinoid system is as important to healthy life as your respiratory system your pulmonary system or any of your other body systems. only now 50 years after its discovery is modern medicine beginning to realise the mistake it made, not including this non pharmaceutical medicine, It is now used as an alleviate to many of the side effects brought on through sort and long term use of pharmaceuticals, the irony is as it is kept illegal under the Misuse of Drugs act, because of its so-called negative side effects and having no medical benafits,

The information that was used back in the 60s and 70s to then revised the Misuse of Drugs act. (coincidentally also 1972) was THC Delta 6 which is a synthetic cannabinoid and has no relation to the natural cannabinoid THC delta 9 which can only be found in the natural cannabis plant.

After years of misinformation and propaganda that is now being overturned on daily basis, since 2018 its been prescribed for more and more so-called conditions, which it is believed are caused because of depletion of the endocannabinoid system.

Even though the cannabis plant itself is the most researched thing on earth, more man hours have gone into the research and development across all forms of health and industry, after over 5000 years of known accepted research they are still in resistance and say they still require more!

the obvious facts the main reason this plant is not widely used is because of misinformation and propaganda at the hands of pharmaceutical companies and governments who have put profit before health care

we look forward now to working with other organisations within the United Kingdom and world wide as the propaganda begins to diminish, we can see individuals returning back to healthy life, where they had been written off by conventional health organisations.

The UK still currently limited to only 12 body systems for the NHS as of Jan 2025 the end or cannabinoid system is not yet being taught?

How cannabis may have helped Prince Harry's



Mental health – the science and expert opinion Prince Harry comments are not only relatable to many, but are backed up by a growing body of research.

Prince Harry's revelation that cannabis has helped his mental health is not only relatable to many, but is backed up by a growing body of research. Prince Harry has caused a media frenzy with his admission that cannabis helped his mental health. But far from the derogatory headlines and hashtags, he's not 'deluded' as many are making out.

In fact, he's just one of many who have found cannabis helpful to manage a myriad of mental health symptoms, thousands of whom are now legally prescribed it for this very reason.

Speaking in an interview with the physician and author Dr Gabor Maté – who is well-known for his work on trauma and addiction – Harry revealed that cannabis 'really helped' at points in his life when he was struggling with his mental health.

The conversation, which was live-streamed on Saturday 4 March, explored the trauma Harry experienced losing his mother Princess Diana in a car crash at the age of 12.

The Duke of Sussex opened up about his consumption of illegal drugs, admitting that he was using cannabis and 'other drugs' by the age of 17. However, while cocaine 'didn't do anything for him', the Prince went on to say: "Marijuana is different, that actually really did help me."

He also discussed his use of psychedelics such as ayahuasca to help him 'deal with the trauma and pains of the past'.

While his claims have been widely criticised by anti-drug commentators, the revelation that made the front pages of the mainstream press, will have resonated with many.

Prince Harry's mental health

The rise in prescription cannabis for mental health In the UK, cannabis is now legally available on prescription for a wide range of psychiatric conditions, including, anxiety, depression, PTSD and substance use disorder, alongside neurological and neurodivergent disorders such as Tourette's, autism and ADHD.

Data from Drug Science's observational study T21 shows that anxiety is the second most common condition prescribed for, following chronic pain.

In the last few years alone, Cannabis Health has profiled the experiences of dozens of patients who say cannabis has helped them with their mental health. For some of these people their symptoms were so significant that they struggled to leave the house before accessing cannabis, never mind holding down a job or functioning in society.

Dont Be Like Harry get a prescription

But it's not just word-of-mouth which points to cannabis potentially having a positive impact on mental health. An increasing amount of research is backing this up too.

Data from T21 revealed that 86% of patients reported an improvement in anxiety or depression after three months of medical cannabis treatment. The UK Medical Cannabis Patient Registry also found statistically significant improvements in anxiety, pain and sleep quality scores as well as general quality of life at one and three months following treatment.

Researchers also reviewed data from 162 patients with PTSD enrolled on the registry. They reported experiencing an improvement in PTSD-specific symptoms, general health-related quality of life, sleep, and anxiety outcomes at a six month follow-up appointment.

Looking globally, in what is thought to be the largest dataset of its kind, Canadian researchers surveyed over 7,000 patients authorised to access medical cannabis products. According to their findings, published in 2022 in the journal Psychiatry Research, patients with symptoms of anxiety and/or depression reported sustained improvements following the use of cannabis.

Researchers at Washington State University also analysed data from hundreds of people who recorded their symptoms before and after cannabis consumption using the tracking app Strainprint. Their findings showed that in people who self-reported as having PTSD, cannabis reduced the severity of intrusive thoughts by about 62%; flashbacks by 51%, irritability by 67% and anxiety by 57%

HOW TO APPLY FOR MEDICAL CANNABIS IN THE UK?

Since November 2018 cannabis has been available in the UK. Firstly you need to choose a Clinic / Dispensary, as of July 2024 there are over 30 private clinics approved for administering and production of Cannabis. Most of us in the group are using Curaleaf clinic Medical Cannabis UK | Curaleaf Clinic - Formerly Sapphire Clinics so this is what I will base my advice on.

Step 1

Register with your chosen clinic ie:- Medical Cannabis UK | Curaleaf Clinic - Formerly Sapphire Clinics you'll be asked a short set of questions about you and your condition. They will also ask to access your medical records. (You do not have to inform your Doctors)

Step 2

They will now look at your medical records to see if you are deemed eligible for medical cannabis. Then ask you to book an online consultation with one of their specialists. Please note as of 2024 it costs £50.00 for this. The consultant will discuss your medical condition, ask if you have used cannabis before, if you smoke, alcohol use and general health condition. They will also discuss possible treatment options for you ie:- Flowers, Oil or Chewable pastilles. If you specifically want a treatment option, you have to tell them the option that you prefer.

Step 3

Shortly after your consultation your Doctor will discuss your case with a team of other experts to make sure medical cannabis is right for you. They will update you on their decision within 7 days.

Step 4

If approved you will receive a prescription via email for your chosen medicine, once you have paid for your medication online, it will be sent to your home using a secure courier service. Please note you must be home as you will be sent a code to give to the courier to get your package.

Step 5

You will have a follow up consultation 4 weeks after starting your treatment, this is £50.00 but free if you have signed up for the access scheme, which means you are willing to fill in questionnaires about your health and symptoms and report any changes. You will have 4 follow up appointments in the first year, but after that it is usually only 2 a year, unless you have a problem regarding the medication during this time period.

Can medical users vape their medicine indoors?

As with any medication, it is needed to alleviate or prevent the symptoms of a condition and often in the case of vaping cannabis, the medical user will decide when it is needed. This is not dissimilar to the use of an asthma inhaler or an insulin injection for diabetes.

The vaporiser is a medical device that does not cause combustion and so is absent from legislation for smoking or vaping e-cigarettes indoors.

Does vaping cannabis infringe on the rights of other members of the public?

Some members of the public may object to seeing people vaping, especially in an indoor space as this is not the norm. There may also be people who dislike the smell of cannabis or believe that an illegal activity is occurring.

It is important to understand that the vape device is a medical device (which does not cause combustion – less smell) which administers medical treatment needed for the person's condition.

'It is never unlawful to treat a disabled person more favourably than a non-disabled person. Therefore, service providers may provide services on more favourable terms to a disabled person compared to a non-disabled person.'

https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/servicescode_0.pdf

Proving disability.

For discrimination arising from disability to occur, the service provider needs to know that the person has a disability and so the person with the disability should inform them of this when a situation occurs, however there is no requirement to prove their disability.

'We don't generally believe anyone should have to prove their disability prior to starting litigation for discrimination.'

'Accessing services: We do not believe Service Providers should generally require proof of disability before making services accessible or providing adjustments. The Codes of Practice on Services make no mention of proving your disability except at the level of legal claims.

<https://www.reasonableaccess.org.uk/legal-stuff/disability-proof/>

What is unfavourable treatment?4

For discrimination arising from disability to occur, a disabled person must have been treated 'unfavourably'. This means that he or she must be put at a disadvantage. Often the disadvantage will be obvious, and it will be clear that the treatment has been unfavourable: for example, a person may have been denied a service or given a poorer service. Being denied a choice or excluded from an opportunity is also likely to be unfavourable treatment.

Sometimes the unfavourable treatment may be less obvious. Even if a service provider thinks that they are acting in the best interests of a disabled person, they may still treat that person unfavourably.

https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/servicescode_0.pdf



Driving guidance for patients using medical cannabis

UK law requires that drivers tell the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) about any medical condition that could potentially affect their driving. For certain conditions that are deemed to pose an inherent threat to safe driving, including epilepsy (for which medical cannabis can be prescribed), DVLA must be informed. DVLA produces guidance for medical professionals on assessing fitness to drive to help them advise patients on whether to notify the DVLA of a medical condition. The guidelines give an outline of the elements required for safe driving (such as attention and concentration, good reaction time, and coordination) but apart from conditions where there are clearly laid down criteria for driving eligibility based on clinical history, such as epilepsy, it is down to the individual driver to judge whether their ability to drive safely is impaired.



In line with DVLA guidance, prescribers should give patients advice on driving while using medical cannabis, as they would with any other medication. This advice covers the main point that the patient should not drive if they feel impaired, and sometimes includes more specific guidance to support safe consumption. Prescribers should also consider the interaction of medical cannabis with other medications and monitor patients' responses to their medication, including those likely to impair driving. Prescribers interviewed expressed little concern that patients would not adhere to the guidelines and did not see compliance with medical cannabis as being inherently different to compliance with other prescription medicines. Literature on adherence to safe driving guidelines mostly relates to recreational cannabis use, but suggests that adherence may be higher among users with a medical need as their main aim is to alleviate symptoms rather than to get high.

Medical Cannabis Frequently Asked Questions :-

What is the difference between medical cannabis and what you get from your local dealer? not a lot!

Firstly if medically supplied you are legal, you will also find more choice of flower with more information about your chosen flower ie THC / CBD level, flavour and you can be assured, it will be the correct dryness and clean.

How do I know if I qualify for medical cannabis?

If you have a medical condition that you have previously been prescribed two or more medications for and the symptoms are still there you should qualify.

What about other medications I'm taking?

It should be fine but like everything if you start to feel unwell please stop, but remember before you are prescribed anything you will see a doctor and they will have access to your medical records so they will know about the medication you are on and inform you off any problems. most people end up stopping a lot of other medications as Cannabis will do their job better with less side effects.

What conditions will medical cannabis help with?

- ADHD.
- Agoraphobia.
- Anorexia.
- Anxiety.
- Arthritis.
- Autism spectrum disorder.
- Back pain.
- Binge Eating Disorder (BED).
- Breast pain (Mastalgia).
- Bulimia Nervosa.
- Cancer
- Cancer related symptoms.
- Cancer-related appetite loss.
- Cancer-related pain.
- Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting (CINV)
- Chronic pain.
- Cluster Headaches.
- Complex Regional Pain Syndrome
- Crohn's Disease.
- Depression.
- Eating Disorder.
- Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes (EDS).
- Endometriosis.
- Epilepsy-Adult/Child.
- Fibromyalgia.
- Gastrointestinal conditions.
- Glaucoma
- Insomnia.
- Mental health conditions.
- Migraine.
- Multiple Sclerosis.
- Musculoskeletal pain.
- Neuropathic pain
- Neurological conditions.
- Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD).
- Palliative care.
- Parkinson's Disease.
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).
- Sciatica.
- Tourette's syndrome.
- Ulcerative Colitis.
- And many more conditions



The Best Medical Cannabis Clinics in the UK

Curaleaf Clinic

Curaleaf clinic pioneers in delivering specialised medical cannabis services and alternative treatments online, with a focus on compassionate, patient-centred care. www.curaleafclinic.com

Releaf

Releaf is a leading UK medical cannabis provider, offering innovative healthcare, personalised treatment, and benefits for Releaf+ subscribers. www.releaf.co.uk

Integro

Integro Clinics in the UK offers comprehensive medical cannabis solutions online, enhancing patients' quality of life. www.integroclinics.com

CB1 Medical

With an emphasis on holistic treatment plans, CB1 Medical is opening doors for patients previously locked tight. www.cb1medical.com

Treat It

Treat It Clinic provides premium care for UK patients suffering through the burden of chronic pain. www.treat-it.clinic

Leva

Leva empowers pain control through specialist consultations and video appointments, offering effective home-based pain management. www.levaclinic.com

Wellford Medical Clinics

Wellford Medical Clinics is a brand-new UK based cannabis therapy clinic partnered with highly-qualified professionals to provide an unrivalled level of care and service. www.wellfordclinics.com

Cantourage Clinic

Cantourage Clinic offers personalised care, medical cannabis, and follow-up appointments, empowering patients through a private program and informative website resources. www.cantourageclinic.com

Mamedica

Mamedica is a leading UK medical cannabis provider with digital appointments, specialist doctors, and their own strains for patient well-being. www.mamedica.co.uk

Alternaleaf

Alternaleaf is a global leader in providing medical cannabis access to patients, with branches in the UK, Australia, and Canada. www.consult.alternaleaf.co.uk

History The concept of putting the resources into the hands that need them working together collectively for the great of good of all are not new in fact some of the greatest of achievements known to humanity have come about because small groups of individuals were willing to step forward and bring forth change.

2nd Oct 2009 - bobsbackyard the UKs first Aquaponics

8th Oct 2009 - We built a vertical grow system

June 2010 - Bob's Backyard Started.

Educational Aquaponics and Hydroponics website.

The aim of bob's backyard is to link individuals, schools and organizations with projects in our developing word sharing and developing the technique makes a difference where it is needed most. Bob's Backyard introduced aquaponics to the UK schools curriculum in conjunction with one of the largest hydroponics suppliers in the UK. bobsbackyard.darcktyradio.com

23rd April, 2011 - Ashton Allotment Action Started.

Restoring Ashton-Under-Lyne Allotments.

On St. George's Day, Saturday 23rd April, 2011 we started a Green revolution in Ashton-Under-Lyne, Tameside, in the tradition of English radical group The diggers who during the period of the English Commonwealth, in 1649 reclaimed the common land of St. George's Hill from the Lords of the Manor by digging and cultivating it. After years of delay by Tameside Council prospective allotment holders in Ashton have now organized ourselves to take over control of the land on Ashton Moss that had been allocated for the replacement allotments, supported by sympathetic volunteers we came together in a day of action to reclaim the allotments from Cordingleys who have neglected and mismanaged the land.

Ashton Allotment Action Website

25th June 2011 - We were on the BBC

Ashton allotment action group stared on the BBC one show, postcode lottery.

Dec 2012 - The Darkcity Radio show started on CMR Radio.

The Darkcity Show was a show on a host subscribed web-based alternative media radio station.

Dec 2012 - The Darkcity Radio show started on Revolution Radio.

The Darkcity Show was a show on a the then largest web-based alternative media radio station based in USA.

Jan 2013 - Darkcity Radio Started.

Free Web Based Streaming Talk Show Platform Darkcity Radio the worlds first only open source, ad free , free web-based streaming talk show platform which provides space for you to speak your truth. Currently playing archived shows. Massive audio archives of the shows. Our streaming platform helped develop Linux Os) by adding new audio features. darkcityradio.com and darkcity radio on youtube

27th Feb 2013 - Darkcity Radio becomes the fastest growing independent non corporate web base radio over 12th month.

July 2013 - Dark City Compassion Club Started. Darkcity Compassion Club
The Dark City Compassion Club is a small group of individuals who have come together to provide people in need with the resources required to reach wholeness and wellness. It has been a long journey for us with many ups and downs, but at Dark City Compassion Club we have kept our focus and channeled all our energy and funds into making Spain our home and we welcome you to become members. Dark City Radio was instrumental in the development cc.darkcityradio.com

2018 - Dark City Ancient Apothecary Started. After dealing with countless medical cases many terminal, The dark city members felt it was necessary to have their information published and shared with the general public the ancient apocryphy site give members of the public all the information they require to turn this health giving plant into medicine, It has become clear to everyone concerned that we were not being given the truth via governments and pharmaceutical agents, now you can access this website. www.darkcity-projects.com

Please be aware if you are receiving prescription cannabis in the United Kingdom then you are unable to process it into any form of Medicine, the flowers themselves are considered to be adequate under UK law when vaporised. at the time of publishing we would not advise the use of any extracts that are being provided by clinics, as their extraction technique has yet to be fully disclosed and with some products there is an alarming amount of solvents still remaining which would not be permitted in any other form of Medicine.

2025 the Dark City C.I.C was formed, Taking back control for our own well being, empowering the individual to become the change they would like to see. for far too long we have been judged to be ignorant an unable to deal with the truth by our government, now is the time to change we must bring forth truth over propaganda if we are truly to break free of the cartels hold over the people www.darkcitycic.co.uk



We hope that this information has proved useful and will help to prevent any form of discrimination or breach of human rights for medical cannabis users and help you avoid any civil litigation in the future.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Dark City CIC Ltd by emailing: info@darkcitycic.co.uk



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