

June 3, 2010

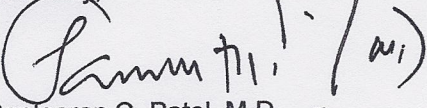
To Whom It May Concern:

I am a practicing internist in Sierra Vista, Arizona, who has been practicing in the field of primary care and internal medicine and geriatric practice. In my practice there are a variety of patients with chronic pain, malignancies, diffuse arthritis, and neuropathies due to diabetes, traumatic injuries and et cetera. As at times it is very difficult to control the pain, even with narcotics, there are other options which include behavioral therapy, pain management and nontraditional ways of treating with the use of marijuana.

Marijuana has been in use for ages and goes back to thousands of years when it was used for chronic pain as well as for hallucinogenic effect and happiness. All the medical literature has shown the effectiveness of marijuana in medical use for isolated cases which are refractory to narcotics, severe nausea and vomiting with cancer therapeutic agents and terminally ill cancer patients. In my opinion, if we can control the use for selected people it will be helpful, those who need it the most and any other person. However, it is very difficult to prevent the abuse potential of marijuana if it is prescribed very freely.

This is just my own opinion about the medicinal use of marijuana and I would screen my individual patients to the best of my ability and knowledge and decide the plan of treatment at my own discretion.

Sincerely,



Santsaran C. Patel, M.D.

/sgw

CC: Robert Barnard