

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REGULATORY SERVICES
Health Practice Commission



HEALTH PRACTICE COMMISSION
3rd Floor, Government Administration Building, Box 132
133 Elgin Avenue, Grand Cayman KY1-9000, CAYMAN ISLANDS
Telephone: (345) 949 -2813 / 946 -2084, Fax: (345) 946 -2845
Email: HPBUSERS@gov.ky
Website: www.dhrs.gov.ky



MEMORANDUM

TO: All Registered Health Care Practitioners
FR: Office of the Chief Medical Officer

Date: 14th September 2019

Cease Notice – Vaporisable Medical Cannabinoids

Dear Registered Health Care Practitioners,

It has come to the attention of the Ministry responsible for Health that vaporizable medical cannabinoids are available on island to patients. A principal responsibility of the Ministry responsible for Health is to ensure the safety of the public. Therefore, in the best interest of the Cayman Islands public, the Ministry, in collaboration with the Health Practice Commission, Councils and other relevant entities, has opened an investigation into the use of cannabinoids in medicine at my request.

Serious concerns have been received from many different groups, agencies and individual healthcare practitioners about the exponential growth in cannabinoid prescribing in the Cayman Islands, as evidenced by the increase in imported products and import certificate requests. This is on a background of professional advice by internationally recognised professional bodies such as the Royal College of Physicians (London), the British Paediatric Neurology Association, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (UK), and NHS England; there are similarly restrictive guidelines in the Americas. In addition, there is a lack of sufficient evidence surrounding the safety and efficacy of vaporising cannabinoids.

Pursuant to my powers in relation to controlled drugs under section 14 of the Misuse of Drugs Law (2017 revision) I request that all healthcare practitioners cease and desist from the issuance, processing, dispensing or selling of any cannabinoid which will be used by vapourisation until further notice.

Further investigations into this issue are ongoing. If you have any question you may contact the Health Practice Commission at hpbusers@gov.ky or 949-2813.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. John Lee BSc, MSc, MB BS, FRCA, FRCP, FFPMRCA
Chief Medical Officer