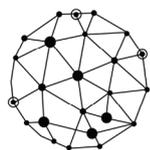


An introduction to **MEDICAL CANNABIS**



The Primary Care
Cannabis Network

Created by GPs, for GPs

The Primary Care Cannabis Network provides education to front-line doctors who are wanting to learn more about medical cannabis as a treatment option for their patients.

GPs are currently receiving mixed messages regarding when and how to discuss medical cannabis with their patients. Given the growing patient interest in this subject matter and rapid advances in the medical and scientific literature into the modes of action of cannabis and potential medical benefits, there is a clear and urgent need to provide support in education for GPs so they feel confident to have informed conversations with patients.

Here at the Primary Care Cannabis Network, we want to make it easier for GPs to be kept up-to-date with the latest news and legislation; by providing key insights, guidance around the evolving regulatory landscape within the UK, peer support and a platform for open discussions on medical cannabis. We pride ourselves in providing clarity and balanced opinion around this subject matter.

Current UK legislation permits GPs to monitor and prescribe cannabis-based medical products under a shared care arrangement with specialists. Providing high quality education and support to GPs ensures they are able to confidently understand the endocannabinoid system and are able to discuss and monitor a range of medical cannabis treatments.

GPs & CBD

Over the counter CBD (Cannabidiol) products have become widely accessible throughout the UK and are being utilised for a number of health conditions, despite the fact these products cannot be advertised as having medical properties. Given the increasing popularity and widespread use of CBD products, it is crucial that doctors are confident in understanding how CBD may affect our patients - including the various clinical therapeutic effects, dosing, side effects and potential drug interactions. The Primary Care Cannabis Network provides the most up to date information to help doctors understand CBD products and guide their patients to the safest and most effective and evidence-based products available.

Working together

We are proud to work in close collaboration with other professional organisations including patient groups who share our vision; to educate healthcare professionals, to advance scientific research and to improve patient access. We want to ensure that suitable cannabis based medical treatments can be delivered in a safe manner to patients with chronic conditions with poor quality of life who have failed to respond to more conventional therapies.

GPs & medical cannabis

Cannabis-based medical products have been demonstrated to be effective for a number of conditions including:

- Chronic pain
- Fibromyalgia
- Epilepsy
- Nausea and vomiting in chemotherapy
- PTSD

Here at The Primary Care Cannabis Network we will continue to keep GPs up to date with the latest research, clinical guidance and legislation to ensure they feel confident to discuss and oversee medical cannabis treatments. We feel GPs are well-placed to oversee the prescribing of cannabis-based medical products because:

- They tend to be the first-point of contact for patients
- They are often the main doctor involved with overseeing and coordinating medical treatments

- GPs have a deep understanding of complex, chronic illnesses and the quality of life for patients who have exhausted conventional treatments
- GPs are perhaps better placed for regular check-ups, to oversee close monitoring and carry out dosing adjustments

While the majority of countries across the globe that have legalised cannabis for medical purposes allow GPs to be primary prescribers, the UK Government has only permitted doctors on the specialist register to initiate a script.



Bringing GPs together

The Primary Care Cannabis Network aims to strengthen the voice of primary care within this rapidly emerging field of medicine.

Despite the level playing-field regarding the knowledge of cannabis as a medicine by specialists and GPs alike, current guidelines risk leaving GPs out of the conversation and has significantly reduced the pool of potential prescribers.

The medical industry has seen an unprecedented increase in cannabinoid and endocannabinoid research, as governments across the globe allow

for wider access to scientific research and medical prescribing.

At The Primary Care Cannabis Network, we want to expand knowledge and our focus is on academic research, education, key-papers and open discussions. We focus specifically on the needs of GPs and as more GPs across the UK reach out to the Primary Care Cannabis Network for more information on medical cannabis, a bigger community is forming which will enable us to confidently work together as a profession and help to shape this field of medicine in a responsible and professional manner.



Who We Are

Meet the team behind The Primary Care Cannabis Network



Dr Barron

Dr Barron is a London based GP. His interests within General Practice include mental health and managing complex symptoms that often combine physical, psychological and social components. A holistic approach to his clinical practice has led to an interest in medical cannabis as an alternative therapy for patients who have not found conventional therapies to be effective. He has undertaken specialist training in medical cannabis prescribing from leading doctors in Canada, the US and Israel. Dr Barron continues his work as a GP within the NHS, is a visiting tutor for undergraduate medicine at UCL medical school and an Executive Committee Member of The Medical Cannabis Clinicians Society.

Dr Dani Gordon

Dr Dani-Gordon is a double board-certified medical doctor, GP, Integrative Medicine Physician and world-renowned expert in cannabis medicine, having treated several thousand medical cannabis patients in her practice in Canada. Dr Gordon has a wealth of teaching experience and has lectured at Imperial College, King's College, University College London on medical cannabis. She was responsible for developing the first medical cannabis training program for physicians in the UK. Dr Gordon is Vice Chair of The Medical Cannabis Clinicians Society and recently advised the UN narcotic drugs committee on the re-scheduling of cannabis.



The Journal Club

The Primary Care Cannabis Network provides education to front-line doctors, wanting to know more about medical cannabis as an alternative therapeutic treatment.

Our mission is to provide evidence based information and guidance to support GPs in navigating the landscape of cannabis-based medicines, the referral pathway and the future of medical cannabis within the UK.

The Journal Club - from the Primary Care Cannabis Network - is an opportunity for members to meet on a regular basis and gain an understanding on recent developments within the medical cannabis sector, enhanced research topics and more.

Members will also be able to offer their input into future discussions for the Journal Club and receive regular newsletters from the Primary Care Cannabis Network.

Join in online.



SCAN ME

Get In Touch

Contact us if you would like to request any more information, meet with us or would like to partner with us to educate GPs further on medical cannabis.

EMAIL: info@primarycarecannabisnetwork.com

WEB: primarycarecannabisnetwork.com

