

Domestic Violence Offender Management Board
Colorado Division of Criminal Justice
700 Kipling Street, Suite 1000
Denver, Colorado 80215
303-239-4528

October 2010

DVOMB Suggestions for Working with Offenders Using Medical Marijuana

I. Providers and MTTs should obtain information from the Judicial District regarding its policy related to an offender's medical marijuana use while under court supervision.

If the medical marijuana use is allowed for a specific offender by the court and sanctioned by the Colorado Department of Health, then the offender's use of medical marijuana while in offender treatment should be treated like other medication, such as prescription narcotics. For example, offenders cannot be impaired during treatment and need to be able to focus, be present, participate and track content of treatment sessions.

Providers can determine which clients they accept into treatment and whether their program allows marijuana use or is trained to deal clinically with medical marijuana use.

Offenders need to sign release before a Provider can inquire about medical marijuana use or report on such use.

II. Scoring Domain B Drug or Alcohol Abuse on the DVRNA:

For offenders that report the use of medical marijuana:

For the purposes of scoring this instrument:

If the Approved Provider has verified the offender has a Colorado approved medical marijuana certificate AND the court or supervising agent for the court is allowing the offender to use the medical marijuana while under court supervision, then DO NOT score this as an illegal use of a substance.

Note: This does not prohibit an Approved Provider from also determining as necessary whether the marijuana use is being abused by the offender. If approved assessment instruments and evaluation identify that the marijuana is being abused, than this is scored under number 1 on Domain B.

If the Approved Provider verifies that the offender does not have a Colorado approved medical marijuana certificate OR the court or supervising agent for the court is NOT allowing the offender to use the medical marijuana while under court supervision, then score this as illegal use of a substance.

adopted Nov 1, 2010