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Madison Brame

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From: sara.trimmer2003 <sara.trimmer2003@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2022 8:54 AM
To: IRRC
Subject: MMJ regulations

Independent Regulatory
Review Commission

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To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns and questions regarding the proposed finalized regulations for PA's medical marijuana act.

I heartily agree that the ratio for health care providers to dispensary remain 1:1. I do feel that in the case of an emergency this ratio and telehealth should be available. I have unfortunately needed to take advantage of this and it was greatly appreciated by me. Health care providers care for their patients like family and wouldn't want to leave them without medicine. But unforeseen circumstances do arise.

I feel clarification regarding the health care providers role in checking certifications and proximity. Does this mean that the health care providers must be relegated to the front desk to scan patient cards, check their certification, and still be available to counsel patients on appropriate medication selection? Patients feel like they are imposing when they want to ask questions while I am sitting at the front desk scanning cards. I do think that remote coverage should be available at another dispensary location when consultations are occurring and when it's time for lunch. Traditional pharmacies are closing for a half an hour each day to give pharmacists an opportunity to eat lunch uninterrupted, allowing for remote coverage during that time would allow our health care providers a similar benefit.

My goal as a health care provider in a dispensary is patient safety, quality of life, and improved outcomes for their conditions. I need to be available to offer those counseling opportunities.

These are my opinions and not those of my employer. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Sara Trimmer, PharmD, RPh

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S22 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone