April 7, 2020

MEDICAL MARIJUANA INFORMATION BULLETIN 2020-01

Subject: COVID-19 Business Operation Guidance to OMMP Dispensaries

As a way to promote social distancing in the wake of the COVID 19 virus, the Governor’s Executive Order dated March 17, 2020 prohibits onsite food and drink consumption in bars and restaurants and public gatherings of 25 people or more. This order does not apply medical marijuana dispensaries.

At this time, medical marijuana dispensaries are NOT required to close due to COVID 19 restrictions. But this is subject to change at any time based on directives from the Governor or public health officials.

All the procedures below are currently allowable by rule; they are not requirements. You may want to utilize some of these when planning physical distancing and keeping you and your customers safe.

- Don’t allow customers to smell product prior to purchase or handle flower jars or products if not purchasing;
- Limit the number of customers in stores at one time and allow at least 6 feet of distance between customers and staff;
- Wash your hands often, especially after helping customers or handling money;
- Keep a log of employees’ schedules easily accessible so you can find when someone was on shift;
- Sell pre-packaged flower to speed up the time customers spend in the store;
- Take orders and answer product questions over the phone or email for quick pick-up in store;
- Use an app so customers can wait in their car or outside until it is their turn to enter the dispensary;
- Think about establishing special hours (within normal hours of operation) only for vulnerable populations;
- Ask customers to hold their own ID and OMMP patient or caregiver card when verifying; and
- Increase the frequency of your cleaning/disinfecting schedule.

The CDC published helpful fact sheets and information on cleaning and disinfection for Businesses and Organizations.

Sign up for updates from the Oregon Health Authority for the most current information on COVID 19 in Oregon.