# RESTORING COMPASSION TO NEW YORK'S MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM

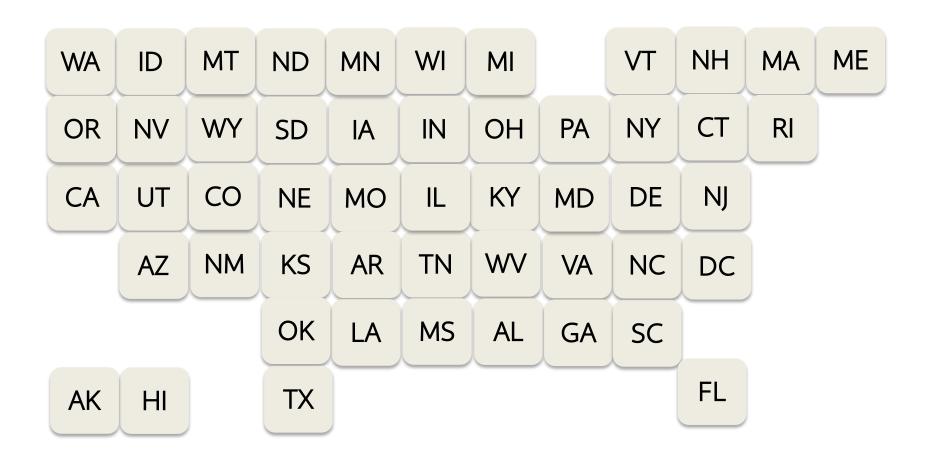
Documenting Challenges and Providing Recommendations on Expanding Patient Access

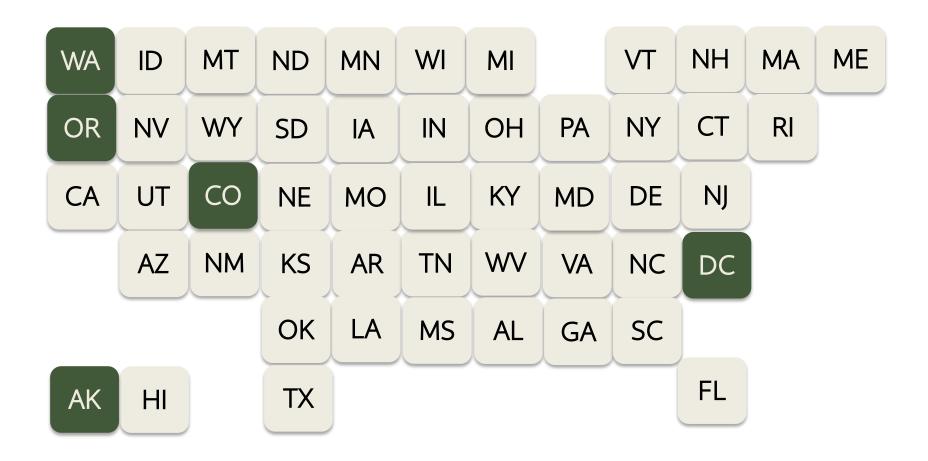
Presented By:

Gina Moreno Compassionate Care New York May 12, 2016

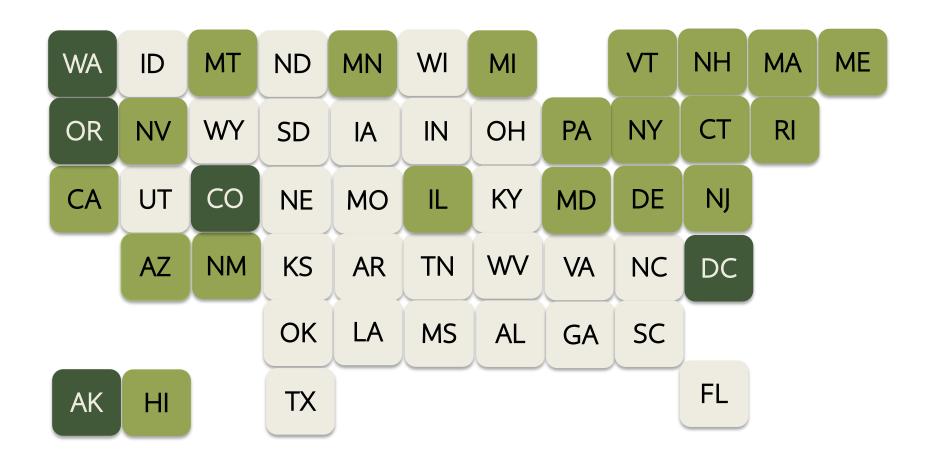


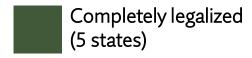


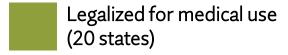


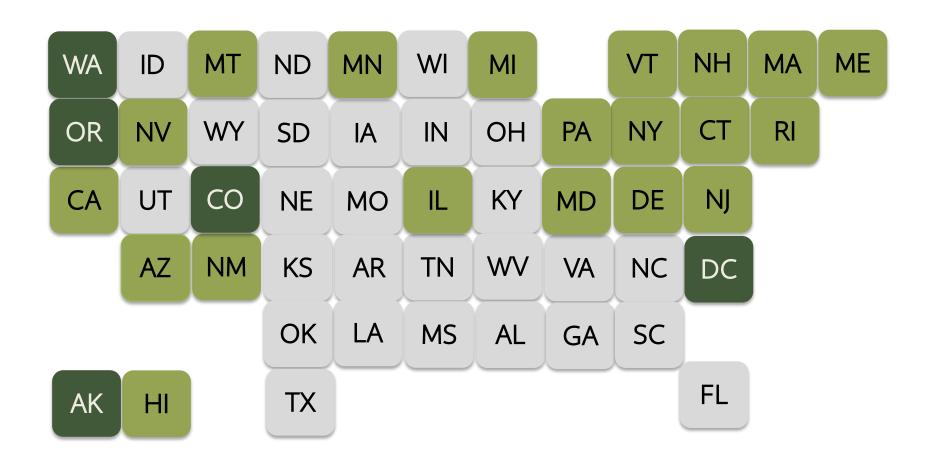


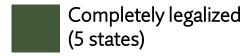
Completely legalized (5 states)

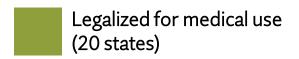


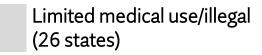












# TIMELINE OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM

#### June 20, 2014

NY becomes the 23<sup>rd</sup> state to pass a medical marijuana (MMJ) bill

#### Dec 23, 2015

NYSDOH announces launch of MMJ patient certification and registration system

### Oct 21, 2015

NYS Department of Health (DOH) launches required doctor training for MMJ program

### Jan 7, 2016

NY launches staggered roll out of MMJ program tomorrow. Only 8 of 20 dispensaries open for business



# COMPARISON WITH OTHER STATES' PROGRAMS

	DC	DE	IL	MA	NH	NJ	СТ	MD	MN	NY
4 elements of basic medical model & good manufacturing practices for pharmaceuticals										
Doctor-patient relationship	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>
Manufacturing and dispensing	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Testing and labeling	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓
Use of non-smokable MMJ*									✓	✓
3 components of restrictive models for controlled substances										
30-day supply limits						<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>
Prescription drug monitoring				<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>
Physician training*				<b>√</b>				<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>
Restrictiveness Score	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	5	5	7

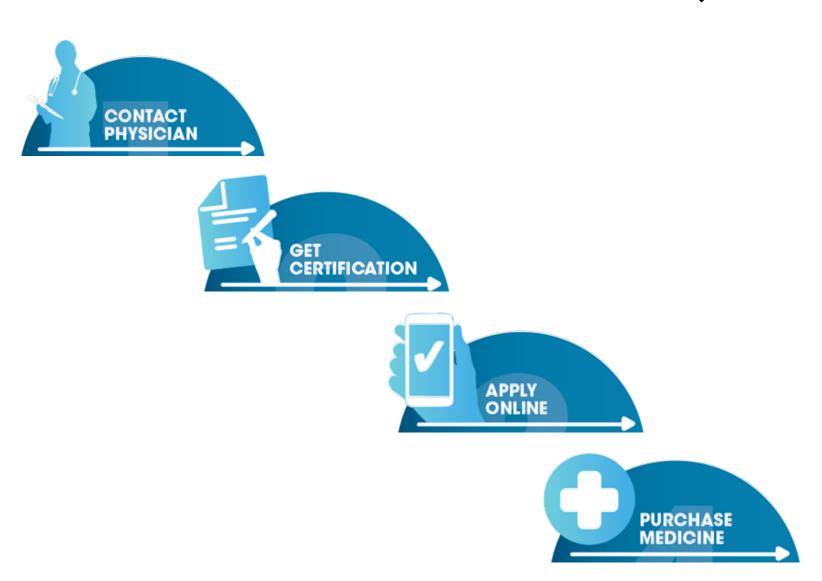


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Manufacturing and dispensing	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	✓	✓
Testing and labeling	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	✓
Use of non-smokable MMJ*									✓	<b>√</b>
3 components of restrictive models for controlled substances										
30-day supply limits						<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>
Prescription drug monitoring				<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>
Physician training*				✓				<b>✓</b>		<b>√</b>
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# PROCESS OF OBTAINING MEDICAL MARIJUANA



"I can't find a doctor [to certify me].

I have to drive a long distance to the dispensary nearest to me and once I get there, I can't afford [medicine]"



Patients struggle to get medical marijuana in New York



Medical marijuana: Elusive cure for a local family



Problems plague first month of medical marijuana

### DATA COLLECTION

#### ASSESSING EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

#### New York State DOH Data:



#### PATIENT REGISTRATION

- Out of ~ 500,000 eligible patients, more than 2000 have registered; Half purchased medicine



#### **DOCTOR CERTIFICATION**

- Less than 1% of NYS physicians have registered (500 +) out of 80,000



#### **MEASURING PATIENT ACCESS**

- The State is not collecting additional data (that we know of at present)

### DATA COLLECTION

#### ASSESSING EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM

### CCNY Patient-Caregiver Survey Data (n=200):



#### PATIENT ELIGIBILITY

- Among those who do not have one of the 10 qualifying conditions, 70% have severe, chronic pain, and 35% PTSD



#### **DOCTOR CERTIFICATION**

- Slightly more than half have not found a trained and registered doctor to certify them
- Among these, 60% said they have been trying for 3 to 4 months



#### **AFFORDABILITY**

- 3 out of 4 reported not being able to afford the monthly cost and were not offered financial assistance when they visited the dispensary.

# DESIRED OUTCOMES/EVALUATIVE CRITERIA

✓ Increase patient access

Ensure effectiveness of medicine

✓ Increase adorability of medicine

# DESIRED OUTCOMES/EVALUATIVE CRITERIA

#### Patient access defined as:

**ELIGIBLITY** — Having a state-approved medical condition

**CERTIFICATION** — Finding a medical professional registered to certify medicine

**REGISTRATION** — Registering online and finding a dispensary

**PURCHASE** — Cost and form of medicine

## Eligibility means:

+ Having one of these 10 approved medical illnesses:

Cancer, HIV infection or AIDS, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Parkinson's disease, Multiple sclerosis, Spinal cord injury with spasticity, Epilepsy, Inflammatory bowel disease, Neuropathy, Huntington's disease. + And one of these associated conditions:

Cachexia or wasting syndrome, Severe or chronic pain, Severe nausea, Seizures, Severe or persistent muscle spasms

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Adding 8 other conditions, as well as severe chronic pain, would make **at least a million** more patients eligible for medical relief

#### Certification means:

Finding  $^{[1]}$  a trained  $^{[2]}$  and registered  $^{[3]}$  physician  $^{[4]}$  to certify  $^{[5]}$  patients for medical marijuana

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[1] No publicly accessible list (DOH does not to publish a list)
Less than 1% of 80,000 doctors have trained and registered



[2] Training requirements are a deterrent to doctors
The mandated training is 4 hours and costs \$250



[3] Only physicians allowed to recommend medicine to patients



[4] Physician attitudes

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Bill allowing Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants to certify would add 30,000 additional healthcare providers



[4] Physician attitudes



State-wide outreach from State Health Department
Bill allowing producers/sellers to educate doctors [Unknown impact]

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#### Great disparities in geographic access

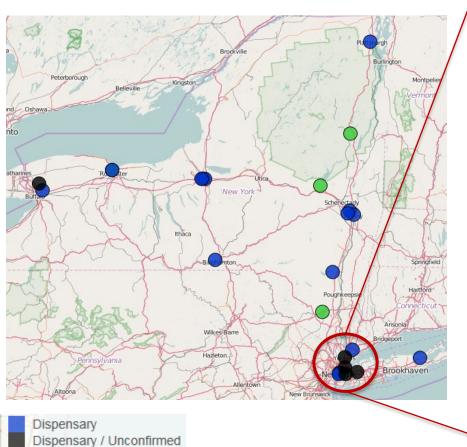
- + Only 20 dispensaries for a state of pop 20 million and 54,000 sq miles
- + Especially impacts the poor and sick



# DISPARITIES IN GEOGRAPHIC ACCESS



Manufacturer



New York City



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- + Especially impacts the poor and sick



Bill to add more 5 more producers and 60 additional dispensaries around NYS

Having access to all effective forms of medicine and being able to afford medicine

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Dispensaries not stocking the specific type of medicine patient needs and limited forms of medicine to choose from

#### **ALLOWED**



#### **NOTALLOWED**



Having access to all effective forms of medicine and being able to afford medicine



Dispensaries not stocking the specific type of medicine patient needs and limited forms of medicine to choose from

#### **ALLOWED**



#### **NOTALLOWED**





Bill permitting producer-producer sale
Bill introducing new forms of medicine (such as plant matter)

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Medicine is reported to range from \$100 to > \$2000 a month Manufacturing process is long, complicated & costly

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Direct solution: Offer financial assistance

- + Set up a charity pool
- + Incentivize producers to offer financial assistance



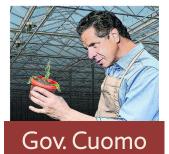
Indirect solution: Expand patient access and bring costs down



# INTEREST



















Senate Republicans