



1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

Circular 18/22

### **Medicinal Cannabis Access Programme (MCAP)**

Dear Pharmacist,

I refer to Circular 025/21 in relation to the Medicinal Cannabis Access Programme (MCAP). I am writing to update you on additional products reimbursed under this programme.

The purpose of the programme is to facilitate access to acceptable cannabis-based products for medical use that are of a standardised quality and which meet the requirements outlined in S.I. No. 262 of 2019 (Misuse of Drugs (Prescription and Control of Supply of Cannabis for Medical Use) Regulations 2019) (as amended).

The Medicinal Cannabis Access Programme is to provide access for patients with the following medical conditions only which have failed to respond to standard treatments:

- spasticity associated with multiple sclerosis resistant to all standard therapies and interventions
- intractable nausea and vomiting associated with chemotherapy, despite the use of standard anti-emetic regimes
- severe, refractory epilepsy that has failed to respond to standard anticonvulsant medications

The Minister for Health, following consultation with the IPU, has determined that the following fee rates should apply for dispensing under the Medicinal Cannabis Access Programme (MCAP):

Patient care fee:	€53.37
Standard dispensing fee:	€5.00
M.D.A fee	€5.74

In line with Ministerial policy pertaining to the Medicinal Cannabis Access Programme in Ireland, the specified controlled drugs listed below that are in Schedule 1 of the Misuse of Drugs (Prescription and Control of Supply of Cannabis for Medical Use) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 have been assigned administrative codes by PCRS.

The Consultant Neurologist / Oncologist must make an application to register the patient on the Cannabis for Medical Use Register. The HSE Cannabis for Medical Use Register Application form must be completed by the prescribing medical consultant and the patient/parent/guardian.

Persons added to the register will be issued with a Cannabis for Medical Use Registration (CMUR) number from PCRS and this CMUR number will be provided to the prescribing consultant on the Cannabis for Medical Use Prescription Form which must be used for prescribing these products. These products cannot legally be prescribed on any other prescription form.

Reimbursement of the listed products prescribed by medical consultants and supplied through community pharmacies for a specified therapeutic indication as outlined in Schedule 2 of the Misuse of Drugs (Prescription and Control of Supply of Cannabis for Medical Use) Regulations 2019 (as amended), will be on an individual named patient basis aligned to the patient's eligibility under the Community Drug Schemes.

Pharmacists can check if reimbursement approval is in place for patients by contacting Pharmacy Function on 01 8647100 option 7 or email [PCRS.ExemptMed@hse.ie](mailto:PCRS.ExemptMed@hse.ie). Pharmacies can dispense and claim manually for these products using the administrative codes provided on a unified claim form with a copy of the Cannabis for Medical Use prescription. Claims submitted for patients who are not approved will not be paid.

Administrative Code	Product Description	Pack Size	Reimbursement Price
46121	CannEpil™ Oral Solution (100mg/ml CBD, 5mg/ml THC in MCT oil)	50ml	€467.64
46120	CannEpil™ Oral Solution (100mg/ml CBD, 5mg/ml THC in MCT oil)	30ml	€280.80
46122	*Tilray® THC10: CBD10 Oral Solution (10mg/ml CBD, 10mg/ml THC)	25ml	€185.00
46123	Oleo Bedrobinol® dried flower THC 13.5% w/w (THC 135 mg/g)	5 gram	€84.67
46125	Oleo Bedrocan® dried flower THC 22% w/w (THC 220 mg/g)	5 gram	€84.67
46127	**Oleo Panacea Inhaler	1	€76.00

Yours faithfully,



Shaun Flanagan  
Primary Care Reimbursement Service

*\*Tilray product will be made available in the coming months.*

*\*\*Please note that there is a 2 year warranty on the Oleo Panacea Inhaler device. One device every 24 months is reimbursable under the MCAP for approved patients on the Oleo product.*