

Chronic Conditions Treated With Cannabis

Reported to California doctors between 1990 and 2005

By Tod Mikuriya, MD

Medical conditions that Californians have been treating successfully with cannabis are listed here according to ICD-9 number. The International Classification of Disease system was developed by the World Health Organization to promote comparability in the

collection, processing, classification and presentation of mortality statistics. It is universally required by insurance companies to process claims.

Some 38,000 cases are coded by ICD-9 number in the Oakland Cannabis Buyers' Cooperative database,

and 8,500 in my practice. The number would be larger if the Act-Up San Francisco contingent had not objected — because of privacy concerns — when the city's Department of Public Health set up their card system.

Genital Herpes 054.10
Herpetic infection of penis 054.13
AIDS Related Illness 042
Post W.E. Encephalitis 062.1
Chemotherapy Convaless 066.2
Shingles (Herpes Zoster) 053.9
Radiation Therapy E929.9
Viral B Hepatitis, chronic 070.52
Viral C Hepatitis, chronic 070.54
Other arthropod borne dis 088.
Lyme Disease 088.81
Reiters Syndrome 099.3
Behcet's Syndrome++ 136.1
Post Polio Syndrome 138.0
Osteoblastoma Ischium 170.6
Malignant Melanoma 172.x
Other Skin Cancer 173
Breast Cancer 174.x
Prostate Cancer 185
Prostate Cancer 186
Testicular Cancer 186.9
Adrenal Cortical Cancer 194.0
Brain malignant tumor 191
Glioblastoma Multiforme 191.9
Sarcoma: Head-neck 195.0
Cancer, site unspecified 199
Lympho & reticular ca 200
Hodgkins disease 201.9
Myeloid leukemia 205
Uterine cancer 236.0
Lymphoma 238.7
Graves Disease** 242.0
Acquired hypothyroidism 244
Thyroiditis 245
Diabetes Adult Onset 250.0
Diabetes Type I, Unco ++ 250.01
Diabetes Type I Ctrlrd ++ 250.03
Diabetes Insulin Depend. 250.1
Diabetes Adult Onset Unctrl 250.2
Diabetic Renal Disease 250.4
Diabetic Ophthalmic Dis 250.5
Diabetic Neuropathy 250.6
Diabetic Peripheral Vasc 250.7
Hypoglycemia(s) 251
Lipomatosis 272.8
Arthropathy, gout 274.0
Mucopolysaccharoidosis 277
Porphyria 277.1
Amyloidosis 277.3
Obesity, exogenous 278.00
Obesity, morbid 278.01
Autoimmune disease 279.4
Thalassemia 282.4
Hemophilia A 286.0
Henoch-Schoelein Purpur 287.0
Senile Dementia+ 290.0
Delerium Tremens+ 291.0
Schizophrenia(s) 295.x
Schizoaffective Disorder 295.7
Mania 296.0
Major Depression, Sgl Epi 296.2

Major Depression, Recurr 296.3
Bipolar Disorder 296.6
Autism/Aspergers 299.0
Anxiety Disorder+ 300.00
Panic Disorder+ 300.01
Agoraphobia 300.22
Obsessive Compulsive Di. 300.3
Dysthymic Disorder 300.4
Neurasthenia 300.5
Writers' Cramp**** 300.89
Impotence, Psychogenic 302.72
Alcoholism+ 303.0
Opiate Dependence+ 304.0
Sedative Dependence+ 304.1
Cocaine Dependence+ 304.2
Amphetamine Depend 304.4
Alcohol Abuse+ 305.0
Tobacco Dependence 305.1
Psychogenic Hyperhidrosi 306.3
Psychogenic Pylorospas** 306.4
Psychogenic Dysuria 306.53
Bruxism 306.8
Stuttering* 307.0
Anorexia Nervosa 307.1
Tic disorder unspc 307.20
Tourette's Syndrome 307.23
Persistent Insomnia 307.42
Nightmares 307.47
Bulemia 307.51
Tension Headache 307.81
Psychogenic Pain 307.89
Post Traumatic Stress Dis. 309.81
Org. Mental Dis. hd inj 310.1
Post Concussion Sydrome 310.2
Nonpsychotic Org Bra Dis. 310.8
Brain Trauma 310.9
Intermittent Explosive Dis 312.34
Trichotillomania 312.39
ADD w/o hyperactivity 314.00
ADD w hyperactivity 314.01
ADD other 314.8
Psychogenic PAT 316.0
Parkinsons Disease 332.0
Huntingtons Disease+ 333.4
Restless legs syndrome 333.99
Friedreich's Ataxia 334.0
Cerebellar Ataxia 334.4
Spinal mm atrophy II 335.11
Amytrophic Lateral Sclero 335.2
Other spinal cord disease 336
Syringomyelia 336.0
Reflex Sympath Dystroph 337.2
Multiple Sclerosis 340.0
Other CNS demyelinating 341.
Hemiparesis/plegia 342
Cerebral Palsy+ 343.9
Quadriplegia(s) 344.0x
Paraplegia(s) 344.1x
Paralysis, unspecified 344.9
Epilepsy(ies)+ 345.x
Grand Mal Seizures** 345.1

Limbic Rage Syndrome** 345.4
Jacksonian Epilepsy** 345.5
Migraine(s)+ 346.x
Migraine, Classical+ 346.0
Cluster Headaches 346.2
Compression of Brain 348.4
Tic Doloroux+ 350.1
Bell's palsy 351.0
Thoracic Outlet Synd 353.0
Phantom Limb Synd++ 353.6
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome 354.0
Mononeuritis lower limb 355
Charcot-Marie-Tooth 356.1
Neuropathy+ 357
Muscular dystrophies 359
Coat's Syndrome++ 362.12
Macular Degeneration** 362.5
Glaucoma 365.23
Dyslexic Amblyopia** 368.0
Color Blindness* 368.55
Conjunctivitis 372.9
Drusen of Optic Nerve 377.21
Optic neuritis 377.30
Strabismus & other binoc 378
Nystagmus, Congenital 379.5
Meniere's Disease 386.00
Tinnitus 388.30
Hypertension+ 401.1
Ischemic Heart Disease 411.X
Angina pectoris 413
Arteriosclerotic Heart Dis 414.X
Cardiac conduction disord 426.X
Paroxysmal Atrial Tach** 427.0
Congestive Heart Failure 428.0
Post Cardiotomy Syndrom 429.4
Raynaud's Disease 443.0
Thromboangiitis Obliteran 443.1
Polyarteritis Nodosa 446.0
Acute Sinusitis 461.9
Chronic Sinusitis 473.9
Chronic Obst Pulmo Dis 491.90
Emphysema 492.8
Asthma, unspecified 493.9
Pneumothorax, Spontaneo 512.8
Pulmonary Fibrosis 516.3
Cystic Fibrosis 518.89
Dentofacial anomaly pain 524.
T.M.J Sydrome 524.60
GastroEsophageal Rflx Dis 530.81
Acute Gastritis 535.0
Gastritis+ 535.5
Peptic Ulcer/Dyspepsia 536.8
Colitis, Ulcerative 536.9
Pylorospasm Reflux 537.81
Regional Enteri & Crohns 555.9
Colitis+ 558.9
Colon diverticulitis 562.1
Constipation 564.0
Irritable Bowel Synd. 564.1
Dumping SydroPost Sur 564.2
Peritoneal pain 568

Hepatitis-non-viral 571.4
Pancreatitis 577.1
Celiac disease 579.0
Nephritis/nephropathy 583.81
Ureter spasm calculus 592
Prostatitis 600.0
Epididymitis** 604.xx
Pelvic pain 607.9
Testicular torsion 608.2
Pelvic Inflammatory Dis 614
Endometriosis** 617.9
Premenstrual Syndrome+ 625.3
Pain, Vaginal/Pelvic 625.9
Menopausal syndrome 627.2
Sturge-Weber Disease 759.6
Eczema 692.9
Pemphigus 694.4
Epidermolysis Bullosa 694.9
Erythma Multiforma 695.1
Rosacea 695.3
Psoriatic Arthritis 696.0
Psoriasis 696.1
Pruritus, pruritic+ 698.9
Neurodermatitis 698.3
Atrophy Blanche 701.3
Alopecia 709.x
Lupus 710.0
Scleroderma 710.1
Sjogren's Disease ++ 710.2
Dermatomyositis 710.3
Eosinophilia-Myalgia Syn. 710.5
Arthritis, Rheumatoid+ 714.0
Fely's Syndrome 714.1
Arthritis, Degenerative 715.0
Arthritis, post traumatic+ 716.1
Arthropathy, Degenerat+ 716.9
Patellar chondromalacia 717.7
Ankylosis 718.5
Multiple joints pain 719.49
Intervertebral Disk Diseas 722.x
L-S disk dis sciatic N irrit 722.1
IVDD Cerv w Myelopathy 722.71
Cervical Disk Disease 722.91
Cervicobrachial Syndrome 723.3
Lumbosacral Back Disease 724.x
Spinal Stenosis 724.02
Lower Back Pain 724.5
Peripheral enthesopathies 726
Tenosynovitis 727.x
Dupuytens Contracture 728.6
Muscle Spasm 728.85
Fibromyagia/Fibrositis 729.1
Weber-Christian Dis++ 729.30
Legg Calve Perthe Dis++ 732.1
Osgood-Schlatter 732.4
Osteoporosis 733.0
Tietze's Syndrome 733.6
Melorheostosis 733.99
Spondylolisthesis** 738.4

Cerebral Aneurism 747.81
Polycystic Kidney 753.1x
Scoliosis 754.2
Club foot 754.70
Spina Bifida Occulta 756.17
Osteogenesis imperfecta 756.51
Ehlers Danlos Syndrom 756.83
Nail patella syndrome 756.89
Peutz-Jehgers Syndrme** 756.9
Mastocytosis 757.33
Darier's Disease 757.39
Marfan syndrome 759.82
Sturge-Weber Eye Syn** 759.6
Nater's Syndrome++ 759.89
Insomnia+ 780.52
Sleep Apnea Unspecified 780.57
Chronic Fatigue Synd 780.7
Tremor/Invol Movements 781.0
Myofacial Pain Syndrme** 782.0
Anorexia+ 783.0
Bulemia 783.6
Hyperventilation 786.01
Cough+ 786.2
Hiccough+ 786.8
Vomiting 787.01
Nausea+ 787.02
Diarrhea 787.91
Pain, Ureter 788.0
Cachexia 799.4
Vertebral disloc unspc 839.4
Whiplash 847.0
Back Sprain 847.9
Shoulder Injury Unspec 959.2
Fore Arm/Elbow/Wrist 959.3
Hand except finger 959.4
Finger 959.5
Hip 959.6
Knee, ankle & foot injury 959.7
Motion Sickness 994.6
Anaphylactic or Reaction 995.0
Renal Transplant ++ 996.81
"Trachoria Growths"****

+ Represents citations from pre-1937 medical literature

++ Jeffrey Hergenrather, M.D.

* Eugene Schoenfeld, M.D.

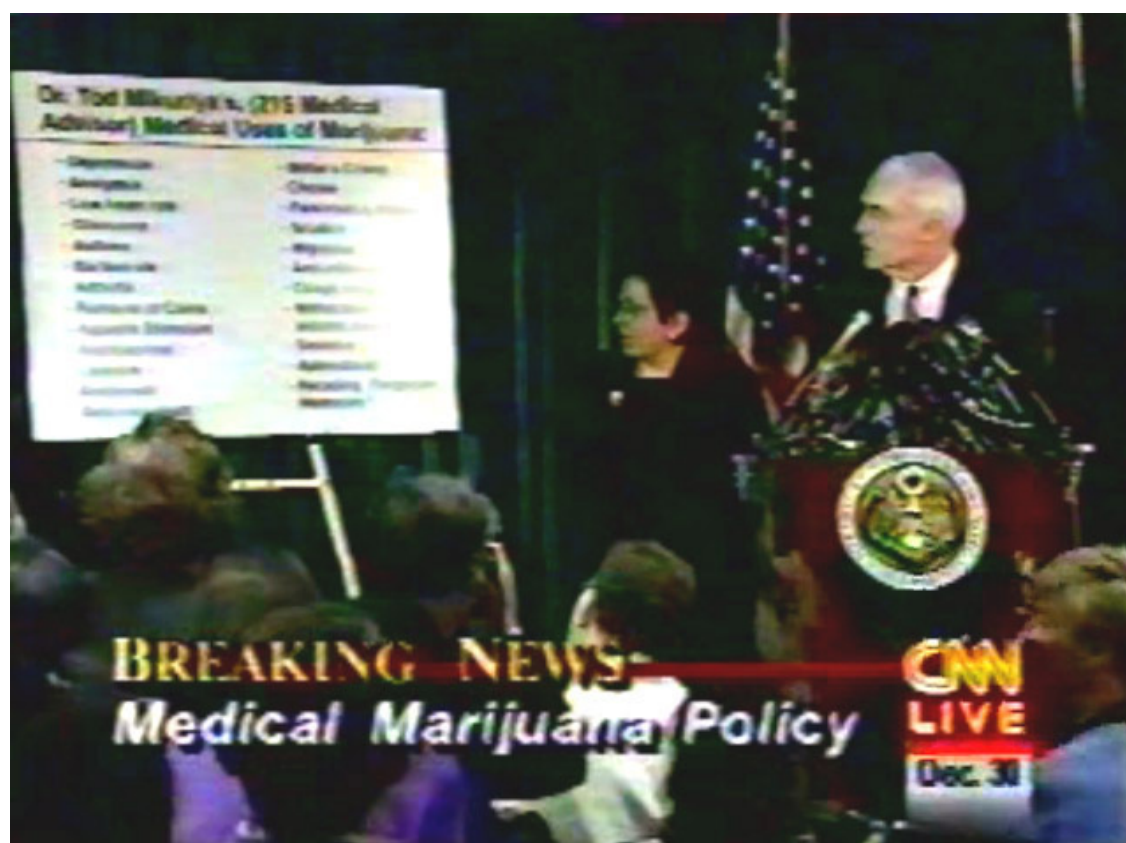
** Dale Gieringer, PhD CA NORML Hotline

*** Robert Wilson, Hayward Hempery. Uncodeable and thought to be a specious disease submitted by an undercover agent who presented a false physician's note.

**** Barry R. McCaffrey

12-30-96 Press Conference

(quote from John Stuart Mill 1867)



Anatomy of a Dirty Trick

By Fred Gardner

On the last day of 1996 most of the major dailies, including the *San Francisco Chronicle*, based front-page stories on a press conference at which Drug Czar Barry McCaffrey, flanked by Attorney General Janet Reno, Health & Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, and Alan Leshner, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, reiterated the Clinton Administration's opposition to the medical use of marijuana.

The key visual element was a large chart on an easel to the speakers' right. The heading read "Dr. Tod Mikuriya's (215 Medical Advisor) Medical Uses of Marijuana." Twenty-six conditions were listed in two columns of 13. One of the conditions was misspelled — "Migranes." Two of them — "Writer's Cramp," and "Recalling 'Forgotten Memories'" — simply do not appear in the extensive list of conditions Mikuriya has advised Cannabis Buyers Clubs to be tracking.

Mikuriya called the McCaffrey chart "a crude dirty trick — the kind of disinformation the U.S. military put out during the Vietnam War. Only in this case the 'enemy' is the people of California."

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Dirty Trick from previous page

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The drug czar warned that the use of marijuana violated federal law and would lead to reprisals, including the loss of prescription-writing privileges for any doctor who recommended it to patients. Reno said that prosecutors would focus on doctors who were "egregious" in recommending marijuana. In a New Year's Day interview at his home in the rain-drenched Berkeley hills, Mikuriya analyzed the set-up. "As doctors become more fearful, I'll obviously get more and more patients who are using cannabis or are considering it. Will that make it seem that there's something 'egregious' about my practice?"

Tod Mikuriya, MD, is a 63-year old graduate of Reed College and the Oregon State School of Medicine who practices psychiatry in Oakland. His office is in the grand old Claremont Hotel. He has been studying the effects of marijuana since 1966, when he directed the first-ever National Institute of Mental Health research project on the forbidden herb. He is considered a leading authority on the pre-prohibition medical literature. In recent years Mikuriya has served as medical advisor to Cannabis Buyers Clubs in San Francisco, Oakland, Santa Cruz and Marin County, and has interviewed several hundred members.

After Proposition 215 won at the polls in November, Mikuriya prepared what he calls "a protocol for buyers clubs," asking staffers to collect data on efficacy and dosage from as many members as possible. The Oakland club and several others immediately adopted Mikuriya's protocol. It lists 62 conditions which Mikuriya hypothesizes people may now be treating with marijuana. "If the data from these people is not properly compiled," Mikuriya warns, "a historic opportunity will have been lost."

Mikuriya says he sent a copy of his proposed buyers club protocol to McCaffrey in mid-November, hoping that the Clinton Administration would view the election results as a sign to rethink its prohibitive approach to medical marijuana use. "What's saddest and most ominous," according to Mikuriya, "is that the Director of the Drug Control Office and the Attorney General are not willing to challenge this new law on the basis of what it says. They could have chosen a condition that they consider to be in some gray area—say, insomnia, or colitis—and questioned the appropriateness of marijuana as a treatment. But instead they chose to make up some ludicrous falsehoods. I suppose I should take it as a sign that they understand the weakness of their position."

Mikuriya has retained Gordon Brownell, a St. Helena attorney who likens his client's situation to the plight of Richard Jewell after the FBI revealed that he was suspected of planting a bomb at a park near the Olympics last summer. "In that case the government had a defense of sorts," Brownell observes, "in that Jewell actually was a suspect, and the Atlanta Journal found out and printed it. But in this case we have a chart created at the White House for the apparent purpose of misleading the public and shaming a physician."

Who Concocted the Chart?

The chart was prepared for McCaffrey by an aide in the Office of National Drug Control Policy named David Des Roches, who describes himself as "sort of the Internet expert around here." He says his source was a version of Mikuriya's "Marijuana Medical Handbook," available on the Internet at <http://206.61.184.43/schaffer/hemp/mjmedhb.htm>. The 10-page document includes "every use in recorded history of marijuana for medical purposes," Des Roches acknowledged in a Jan. 3 interview.

Des Roches defends the identification of Mikuriya as "215 Medical Advisor" because, as advisor to the San Francisco Cannabis Buyers Club, Mikuriya has had a working relationship with Dennis Peron, the initiative's primary organizer. "Back here in Washington," Des Roches explained, "we see Prop 215 and the Cannabis Buyers Club as one and the same, the link being Mr. Peron."

"I want my name cleared at a press conference as widely covered as the original press conference," Mikuriya asserts. "And I want to hear an apology from Director McCaffrey himself."

Des Roches is a West Point graduate who spent nine years as an Army officer before taking early retirement. His title in the Drug Czar's office is "Special Assistant for Strategy;" his informal role is "the Internet specialist." Des Roches says he culled conditions from Mikuriya's "Handbook" with an eye towards "showing how ludicrous some of them were." Of the reference to "writer's cramp," Des Roches adds "I had to show that one to General McCaffrey because nobody believed it."

Des Roches's chart, as cited by McCaffrey, transformed the voice and tense in which the 10-page "Handbook" was written, making it seem as if Mikuriya recommended as a doctor every use he had uncovered as a medical historian. For example, Des Roches's entry "Recalling 'forgotten memories'" is shortened from Mikuriya's "John Stuart Mill suggested using cannabis for the recall of forgotten memories."

Des Roches's "Corn Removal" derives from Mikuriya's "Concentrated cannabis resin is topical anesthetic. Applied directly to a nerve, the electrical impulses are inhibited. It was mentioned as used on dental cares for treatment of pain. Prior to removal from the market it was combined with salicylic acid, a proteotic agent, and collodion to keep it in place for callus removal on feet." [Mikuriya also reminds himself or a prospective publisher at this point in the draft: "Insert Corn Remedy Advertisement."]

Upon learning the origins of McCaffrey's chart, Mikuriya said, "There was nothing in that document to suggest that I was recommending marijuana as a treatment for any given condition. The effect, and probably the intent, was to hold me up to ridicule before the whole country. The whole world." Mikuriya has drafted a letter to McCaffrey demanding an apology.

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Attorney Brownell commented, "When Pierre Salinger said it was friendly fire that brought down TWA flight 800, the federal government and all the pundits reminded everyone that the Internet was a notorious source of misinformation. Now they take something off the Internet, change it, and use it to humiliate a physician who has actually spent years studying the literature and collecting data on this subject. It's outrageous."

San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan expressed extreme disappointment over the Clinton Administration's strategy. "It's as if Dan Lungren had designed their response," Hallinan said Jan. 4. "Apparently they want to make buyers clubs illegal, period." On Monday, Jan. 13 Hallinan plans to announce protocols developed by the city Health Department under which buyers clubs can operate legally in this city "in the interests of harm reduction."

On Jan. 8 Dennis Peron, founder and maitre 'd of the San Francisco Cannabis Buyers Club, returns to Superior Court to argue that the passage of Proposition 215 changes the law under which his Market Street establishment was ordered closed back in early August, and that he should be allowed to reopen forthwith. Judge David Garcia will have read the briefs from each side and will rule from the bench after hearing some more from Peron's attorney, J. David Nick, and a lawyer from Attorney General Lungren's staff. Ever the optimist, Peron has announced plans to begin registering members Jan. 15, and to reopen the club under a new name, "The Phoenix," on Jan. 20.

P.S.: Peron's line on the McCaffrey press conference: "Good publicity for Cheech and Chong."

