

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL
PURPOSES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

I wish to submit my experiences with Cannabis as an alternative treatment for my own debilitating conditions of Epilepsy and Depression.

I have been on a few different pharmaceutical treatments for my primary condition of Epilepsy, from which I experience both chronic Grande Mal and Absence seizures, the amount of which is extremely affected by my surroundings and emotional state.

I was diagnosed with Epilepsy in [redacted] after a 5 minute Grande mal fit had me hospitalized for treatment and CEG scans. It was determined one main factor in this was due to scar tissue on my brain, although it also runs in my fathers' side of the family.

As stated before, I have been on several different treatment methods, the side effects of these including depression/thoughts of suicide, nausea, lack of appetite, inability to maintain an erection and loss of sexual appetite, mood fluctuations, and night terrors to name a few. I am currently on a treatment plan consisting of Keppra (as the AED) and Lexapro to manage the symptoms of depression.

The times at which i have been able to rely on Cannabis to manage my disorder, I experienced no Grande Mal fits (perhaps one absence seizure every 6 months), I was sleeping soundly with no dreams, my moods were more stable with no depressive thoughts, and my creativity and ability to structure my lifestyle were stable. I could achieve and set goals, maintain full-time employment, and maintain relationships with people.

As both an anti-epileptic/anti-convulsant AND mood stabilizer I wish to express my approval for the use of medicinal cannabis so people like myself have access to a natural remedy for neurological disorders. Awareness of it's medicinal values and origin in medicine should be made aware among the public.