MEDICAL CANNABIS INFUSED VAPE CARTRIDGES
Product Testing Landscape

Lori Dodson, MS, MT(ASCP)
Deputy Director

January 09, 2020
The Maryland Medical Cannabis Commission (MMCC) develops policies, procedures, and regulations to implement programs that ensure medical cannabis is available to qualifying patients in a safe and effective manner. The MMCC oversees all licensing, registration, inspection, and testing measures pertaining to Maryland’s medical cannabis program and provides relevant program information to patients, providers, caregivers, growers, processors, dispensaries and testing laboratories.
Vape Lung Injury and Cannabis Regulation

Number of Lung Injury Cases Reported to CDC as of November 19, 2019

Legend
Number of lung injury cases per state
- 0 cases
- 1-9 cases
- 10-49 cases
- 50-99 cases
- 100-149 cases
- 150-199 cases
Vape Lung Injury and Cannabis Regulation

Potential Concerns

• **Excipients/Diluents**
  • Aerosol testing not performed routinely
  • Unregulated

• **Plant-derived terpenes**
  • Proprietary formulas; often including carrier oils
  • Unregulated

• **Vape cartridges and devices**
  • Heavy metals leaching
  • Heat variation
  • Unregulated
Vape Lung Injury and Cannabis Regulation

Regulatory Approaches:
• Flavor bans/requirements (CO, NY, HI, WA, OH, ND)
• Excipient restrictions (CO, MD, MA, MI, OH, OR, WA)
Vape Lung Injury and Cannabis Regulation

MMCC’s Action Plan:

• **Banned Vitamin E Acetate**
  - Updated the Technical Authority for Medical Cannabis Testing
  - Required all vape cartridges to be tested for detection of Vitamin E Acetate before product hold was lifted

• **Performed landscape analysis of manufacturing facilities**
  - Survey sent to licensed processors regarding manufacturing protocols

• **Issued an RFP for expanded laboratory testing on vape cartridge retention samples**
  - Currently in the process of testing retention samples for additional excipients/diluents
Vape Lung Injury and Cannabis Regulation

- Banned Vitamin E Acetate
  - COMAR 10.62.23.04
    - Landscape analysis of licensed processors
    - Technical Authority for Medical Cannabis Testing
    - Temporary vape cartridge administrative hold
Vape Lung Injury and Cannabis Regulation

- Product Testing
  - Administrative Hold
  - Sample Collection and Analysis (retention samples)
  - Product Release
Questions?

410-487-8065
Lori.dodson1@maryland.gov