

Gender	Medical Condition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Male (5) Female (6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple sclerosis (spin, spasms) (3) Rheumatoid arthritis (joint pain) (3) Crohn's Disease (1) Stroke (1) Cachexia accident (weight loss, migraines) (2) Chronic back pain (1) Uromyelomeningocele (1) Dietables (1) Inosmeta (2) Anxiety (9) Depression (8)
Licensed Producers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broken Cross Cannabis (2) CanamFarm Avaira Can't Trust (3) Dawson Medical Weed MD The Original BC MadMax Organics Spectrum Cannabis (3) Emerald Vent Cannabis Tilray 	

Pharma Meds and medical cannabis use taken together	Pharma Meds and medical cannabis use taken together
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some participants are taking both pharmaceutical medication and medical cannabis. 3 participants with MS and Crohn's are all on immunosuppressant biologics to manage symptoms. The participants who had a stroke in an acute seizure-onset consultation medication. 2 participants mentioned still being on traditional anti-depressants (Wellbutrin, Paxil). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the benefits & side effects of medical cannabis? Have medical cannabis helped others with the same medical condition as me? Can I take medical cannabis and not get high/impaired/paranoid? Is cannabis additive or habit-forming? Will it lead to harder drug use?
Online & In-person	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants started their research with an open-ended google search. All participants (even those with recreational experience) still went online to research medical cannabis. The majority of participants were interested in reading about people who had the same medical condition as them and how they used medical cannabis to treat their symptoms. 2 participants mentioned that they belonged to facebook groups for a medical condition (MS, Uromyelomeningocele). Participants also spoke to friends & family who also had prescriptions for medical cannabis about their experiences. 1 participant was confused about the difference between a dispensary and a licensed producer. It wasn't always immediately clear who could prescribe and who to purchase from. 	

Getting a Prescription	Getting a Prescription
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camalis clinic (2) Canadian Cannabis Clinic (3) Natural Health Services (1) Apollis Cannabis Clinic (1) Couldn't remember (1) Family doctor (1) MP through Tweed (1) This participant belonged to a mommy group on Facebook. Someone posted scheduled meeting with medical cannabis and getting a prescription, inquiring that Tweed was offering free registration & membership. She reached out to Tweed, providing scans of medical documentation showing that she had diabetes. Tweed arranged a Skype consult with a nurse practitioner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camalis clinic (2) Canadian Cannabis Clinic (3) Natural Health Services (1) Apollis Cannabis Clinic (1) Couldn't remember (1) Family doctor (1) MP through Tweed (1) This participant belonged to a mommy group on Facebook. Someone posted scheduled meeting with medical cannabis and getting a prescription, inquiring that Tweed was offering free registration & membership. She reached out to Tweed, providing scans of medical documentation showing that she had diabetes. Tweed arranged a Skype consult with a nurse practitioner.
Leaned about clinic:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertisement (2) Read about the clinic in the Toronto Star Saw an advertisement (couldn't remember where) Participant's father recommended her to her (1) Family doctor referred participant to a doctor at a clinic who specialized in medical cannabis because they didn't feel comfortable prescribing (2) 	

Choosing an LP & Registration	Choosing an LP & Registration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration at the cannabis clinic vs. the doctor After speaking with the doctor and getting the prescription, each participant described meeting with a patient educator at the clinic. The patient educator was responsible for recommending an LP based on the registration process and sometimes recommending products to purchase based on the doctor's prescription. Patient educators filed out all the paperwork and submitted it to the LP. Participants who got their prescription from their doctor completed them together and then the doctor's admin staff submitted to the LP. The registration process at both the clinic and the doctor's offices were described as easy, painless, seamless. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration at the cannabis clinic vs. the doctor After speaking with the doctor and getting the prescription, each participant described meeting with a patient educator at the clinic. The patient educator was responsible for recommending an LP based on the registration process and sometimes recommending products to purchase based on the doctor's prescription. Patient educators filed out all the paperwork and submitted it to the LP. Participants who got their prescription from their doctor completed them together and then the doctor's admin staff submitted to the LP. The registration process at both the clinic and the doctor's offices were described as easy, painless, seamless.
Doctor/Clinic LP Recommendations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most participants stated that either their doctor or a patient educator at the clinic recommended an LP by name. Considerations for the recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patient education emphasized pricing and fulfillment times when recommending an LP. They were more likely to recommend 2 LPs and left the participant decide. Doctors spoke about a pre-existing relationship they had with a single LP who they endorsed (i.e. they had recommended the LP to their previous patients, who had positive experiences). 	

Why Medical Cannabis?	Why Medical Cannabis?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As an alternative to the opioids and benzos of medication. Some participants expressed that cannabis is more "natural" than traditional pharmaceutical medication, and perceived this to be a benefit as compared to opioids. To reduce the stigma of consuming cannabis. Participants stated that the prescription from a doctor made their consumption more legitimate and that they worried social judgement and respect as a medical patient. The prescription turned cannabis from a street drug into medicine. It legitimized it for me... There's no shame that comes from getting it from your doctor. I always thought of marijuana as a street drug. I never perceived it as medicinal. I don't want to be associated with people who buy a street. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As an alternative to the opioids and benzos of medication. Some participants expressed that cannabis is more "natural" than traditional pharmaceutical medication, and perceived this to be a benefit as compared to opioids. To reduce the stigma of consuming cannabis. Participants stated that the prescription from a doctor made their consumption more legitimate and that they worried social judgement and respect as a medical patient. The prescription turned cannabis from a street drug into medicine. It legitimized it for me... There's no shame that comes from getting it from your doctor. I always thought of marijuana as a street drug. I never perceived it as medicinal. I don't want to be associated with people who buy a street.

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No Research at LPs or Doctors	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No participants mentioned going to an LP to learn about medical cannabis. At this point, not all of them were familiar with the existence of an LP in the first place. Participants explicitly mentioned that they wouldn't go to their doctor for information on medical cannabis. The doctors I don't find that helpful. They would prefer you to talk to the people who sell the stuff. If they're you, I would prescribe you. 	

Pain Points with Doctors	Pain Points with Doctors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before going to the doctor, some participants expressed embarrassment or hesitation at asking for a prescription. All 5 participants who went to a clinic only did so after their family doctor or specialist doctor advised them down for a prescription. For 2 participants, their doctor was open to cannabis but didn't feel knowledgeable enough to prescribe, so referred them to a clinic. For the other 3 participants, they described their doctors described as old and not open to cannabis at all. Their doctors expressed concern that cannabis is a recreational drug that's habit-forming. There was a clear with recreational use being a goal. The 3 participants who were able to get a prescription had to convince their doctors. No one had a doctor that suggested their patient take medical cannabis. I don't see the difference at first how I know that CBD gets you more high. CBD is more relaxed and not as high, but also more. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before going to the doctor, some participants expressed embarrassment or hesitation at asking for a prescription. All 5 participants who went to a clinic only did so after their family doctor or specialist doctor advised them down for a prescription. For 2 participants, their doctor was open to cannabis but didn't feel knowledgeable enough to prescribe, so referred them to a clinic. For the other 3 participants, they described their doctors described as old and not open to cannabis at all. Their doctors expressed concern that cannabis is a recreational drug that's habit-forming. There was a clear with recreational use being a goal. The 3 participants who were able to get a prescription had to convince their doctors. No one had a doctor that suggested their patient take medical cannabis. I don't see the difference at first how I know that CBD gets you more high. CBD is more relaxed and not as high, but also more.
Experience at the clinic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone mentioned these clinics require a urine sample to test for hard drugs, which made the participants uncomfortable. Participant shared their medical history & provided background documentation. 	

LP Recommendations for Product	LP Recommendations for Product
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants wanted their LP to recommend specific LPs indicated that their disease or symptoms they're experiencing. Participants wanted a point of contact with them (no voice physical symptoms under control had a positive domino effect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Backer fix on work Went down & ride in the evening Full asleep more easily & stay asleep through the night More energy to take care of their kids & family Less anxiety and depression They were able to start to become very knowledgeable about product. TIC, indica seems to help with sleep & migraines. CBD strains to help with pain, anxiety and depression during the day. Combination strains (20% THC/20% CBD) that helped manage symptoms overall. The majority of participants also purchasing dried flower, partly from personal preference and because consuming that from a dispensary is immediately effective. Some participants stated that the price of the oils was prohibitive. Only 3 participants mentioned purchasing an oil. Once they figured out what products worked for their symptoms, most participants ordered the same products repeatedly. Once they figured out what products worked for their symptoms, most participants ordered the same products repeatedly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants wanted their LP to recommend specific LPs indicated that their disease or symptoms they're experiencing. Participants wanted a point of contact with them (no voice physical symptoms under control had a positive domino effect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Backer fix on work Went down & ride in the evening Full asleep more easily & stay asleep through the night More energy to take care of their kids & family Less anxiety and depression They were able to start to become very knowledgeable about product. TIC, indica seems to help with sleep & migraines. CBD strains to help with pain, anxiety and depression during the day. Combination strains (20% THC/20% CBD) that helped manage symptoms overall. The majority of participants also purchasing dried flower, partly from personal preference and because consuming that from a dispensary is immediately effective. Some participants stated that the price of the oils was prohibitive. Only 3 participants mentioned purchasing an oil. Once they figured out what products worked for their symptoms, most participants ordered the same products repeatedly. Once they figured out what products worked for their symptoms, most participants ordered the same products repeatedly.
Subsequent orders	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through experimentation & consumption, participants figured out what types of products worked for their symptoms. There were a couple start to become very knowledgeable about product. Participants mentioned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TIC, indica seems to help with sleep & migraines. CBD strains to help with pain, anxiety and depression during the day. Combination strains (20% THC/20% CBD) that helped manage symptoms overall. The majority of participants also purchasing dried flower, partly from personal preference and because consuming that from a dispensary is immediately effective. Some participants stated that the price of the oils was prohibitive. Only 3 participants mentioned purchasing an oil. Once they figured out what products worked for their symptoms, most participants ordered the same products repeatedly. 	

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