Medicinal Cannabis Europe

Cannabis has been an integral part of medicine for centuries. However, Western countries have come to prohibit or limit cannabis use. Yet, as the medical use of cannabis gains ground, **European regulation needs to develop in order to support the needs of patients for access to safe, high-quality cannabis-derived medicines**.

Europe is forecasted to become a leading market for medicinal cannabis, with a market value of around €55.2bn over the next 10 years[1]. As therapeutic applications are developing, patients and public policy knowledge remain incomplete or flawed, owing to societal misperception and deep-rooted beliefs.

Medicinal Cannabis Europe is a patient-driven advocacy group, comprising scientific organisations, academia, patient organisations, NGOs and industry, **which aims to ensure patient access to high quality, safe, cannabis-derived medicine** and demonstrate the benefits it brings to patients towards European policy-makers.

The regulatory framework around cannabis use in medical applications is currently fragmented across European Member States. In this regard, **Medicinal Cannabis Europe** fosters an open and transparent dialogue with policy-makers and society with a view to hamornising the use of cannabis-derived medicines throughout Europe.

Medicinal Cannabis Europe's mission is threefold:
1. To ensure European patients have fair access to consistent, high-quality, cannabis-derived medicines;
2. To engage all European stakeholders, including patients, in discussions pertaining to medicinal cannabis and its use; and
3. To promote a better understanding of the medical uses of cannabis through clear, science-based and transparent information.

[1] The European Cannabis Report, July 2018

Medicinal Cannabis Europe's core activites
Medicinal Cannabis Europe organises and undertakes the following activities in order to achieve an EU-wide harmonised legislative framework:

1) **Education & Communication:**
- We produce and publish information on medicinal cannabis and its uses.
- We promote and aim to increase the stakeholders' understanding of the use of cannabis in medical applications.

2) **Advocacy:**
- We undertake public affairs activities, e.g. representing and sustaining a dialogue with institutions and regulatory bodies at European, international and national levels.
- We assist national associations and members in building long-lasting networks with the European Commission, Members of the European Parliament and national government officials.

Medicinal Cannabis Europe's Member services:
Medicinal Cannabis Europe:
1. Provides opportunities for members across Europe to meet, exchange information and ideas and discuss current issues and upcoming challenges regarding the development of medical applications of cannabis.
2. Provides regular updates on regulatory and policy developments and events through e.g. monthly newsletters, as well as instant updates on key developments.
3. Advises members on opportunities in the area of EU-funded projects and help them identify potential research partners and opportunities in the framework of Horizon Europe, the future EU research and innovation programme, which should include calls for project proposals for developing medicinal cannabis applications.

Benefits of joining Medicinal Cannabis Europe
Medicinal Cannabis Europe offers its members an unprecedented chance to:
1. Contribute to raising awareness about the medicinal cannabis value chain towards policymakers, patients and the public;
2. Shape policy developments in relation to medicinal cannabis at European level;
3. Be part of an EU-wide network that acknowledges and informs about the benefits, the economics and the medical uses of cannabis.

Interested in joining Medicinal Cannabis Europe?
If you are interested in joining Medicinal Cannabis Europe, or would like to receive additional information, please contact the Secretariat at info@cannabiseurope.org.