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August 27, 2007

Robert Stephan  
14243 West 84<sup>th</sup> Terrace  
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RE: Medicinal marijuana issue

Dear Bob:

This is concerning my opinion regarding the medicinal marijuana issue. The new drugs for anti-nausea which we have available do work in 85% of the patient population. This leaves 15% of the cancer patient population needing additional treatment for their nausea. The issue of appetite also is significant in that cancer patients have a significant loss of appetite and we do not have a good therapy for that.

As you know, physicians are allowed to prescribe narcotics derived from plants and we do prescribe morphine, Dilaudid, methadone and opium in a significant number of our patients. As you also know, marijuana in a pill form is available to be prescribed by a physician.

Based on all these facts, I do not see why medicinal marijuana would not be legalized. It is an extra weapon to try and comfort the patient as far as nausea and appetite are concerned. Compared to the drugs we are prescribing, it has very little down side.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Shaker R. Dakhil, M.D.

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