

From: noreply@pharmacy.ohio.gov
To: MedicalMarijuana@med.ohio.gov
Subject: Condition Petition for Justina Casiano
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This message was sent from the Condition page on medicalmarijuana.ohio.gov.

Name: Justina Casiano
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Specific Disease or Condition:

Lupus

Information from experts who specialize in the disease or condition.

Under normal conditions, your body produces antibodies to attack foreign invaders in the body. With an autoimmune condition such as lupus, the body creates auto-antibodies that attack healthy tissue. Lupus is a chronic condition, meaning it usually lasts at least six weeks but often for years. The condition causes inflammation, which affects many different body systems, resulting in pain and damage in those systems. Lupus often affects the joints, skin, kidneys, blood cells, brain, heart and lung

Relevant medical or scientific evidence pertaining to the disease or condition.

People with lupus can experience significant symptoms, such as pain, extreme fatigue, hair loss, cognitive issues, and physical impairments that affect every facet of their lives. Many suffer from cardiovascular disease, strokes, disfiguring rashes, and painful joints. For others, there may be no visible symptoms. LupusFoundationofAmerica.com

Consideration of whether conventional medical therapies are insufficient to treat or alleviate the disease or condition.

Lupus has no cure, and sometimes result in life threatening. Medication does not always work. Chemo-therapy is used for Lupus patients. Cannabis has help treat my Lupus in several ways. I can walk normal, I do not throw up everyday anymore, I am not in pain all the time anymore because of Cannabis.

Evidence supporting the use of medical marijuana to treat or alleviate the disease or condition, including journal articles, peer-reviewed studies, and other types of medical or scientific documentation.

Medicinal cannabis is considered an ideal medication to help lupus patients cope with the many symptoms of the disorder, such as immense nausea and debilitating pain. While medical marijuana is primarily known to be an anti-inflammatory, this alternative remedy can successfully suppress certain parts of the immune system. Let's take a closer look at how weed causes these beneficial effects in the body.

Letters of support provided by physicians with knowledge of the disease or condition. This may include a letter provided by the physician treating the petitioner, if applicable.

One study looked at the effects of marijuana on the immune system. Researchers took blood samples from cannabis smokers and nonsmokers. The study found that the cannabis smokers had higher levels of interleukin-10, which may suppress the immune system, and lower levels of natural killer cells and lymphocytes, which enhance immunity. For the average person, decreased immunity is a negative, but in autoimmune diseases such as lupus, it could be beneficial.