

UTAH MEDICAL CANNABIS PROGRAM MARCH 2021 UPDATE

Table of Contents

<u>Pharmacy Updates.....</u>	<u>2</u>
Open Pharmacies.....	2
<u>Statute and Rule Clarifications.....</u>	<u>2</u>
Sugar Coated Products.....	2
Providers: Telemedicine.....	3
Providers: Pharmacy Relationships.....	3
<u>Public Notices.....</u>	<u>4</u>
Cannabinoid Product Board Meeting, Publication.....	4
<u>EVS and ICS Announcements.....</u>	<u>4</u>
NEW System Updates for Providers.....	4
NEW System Updates for Patients.....	4
<u>News and Press Releases.....</u>	<u>5</u>
NEW Medical Provider Email Address.....	5
<u>2021 Utah General Legislative Session Summary.....</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Utah Medical Cannabis Program Report.....</u>	<u>7</u>



288 North 1460 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84116

PHARMACY UPDATES

OPEN PHARMACIES

The Utah Department of Health has licensed the following medical cannabis pharmacies:

- Dragonfly Health and Wellness - 711 South State Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84111
- Perfect Earth Modern Apothecary - 2150 N Main, Suite 1, North Logan, UT 84341
- Perfect Earth Modern Apothecary - 3775 S Wall Ave, South Ogden, UT 84405
- WholesomeCo Cannabis - 580 W 100 N Suite 1, West Bountiful, UT 84010
- Deseret Wellness - 222 N Draper Lane, Provo, UT 84601
- Curaleaf - 3633 N Thanksgiving Way, Lehi, UT 84043
- Beehive Farmacy - 1991 S 3600 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84104
- Deseret Wellness - 1351 Kearns Blvd STE 110-B, Park City, UT 84060

The remaining six pharmacies issued an intent to award a license plan to be open prior to June 2021.

STATUTE AND RULE CLARIFICATIONS

PRODUCTS

Selling of Sugar Coated Products: Beginning April 1, 2021, the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) is prohibiting medical cannabis processors from manufacturing medical cannabis products with sugar coating. Medical cannabis processors know they cannot manufacture sugar-coated products on or after April 1, 2021 and that UDAF will cite them for any known violations of Utah Code 4-41a-603. To allow time for all sugar-coated medical cannabis products manufactured before April 1, 2021 to be sold to medical cannabis card holders, the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) has not set a deadline by which medical cannabis pharmacies must purchase all sugar coated products from medical cannabis processors. Furthermore, the UDOH has not set a deadline by which medical cannabis pharmacies must sell all sugar-coated products to medical cannabis card holders.

TELEMEDICINE

PROVIDERS: The Utah Department of Health reminds medical providers that patients must be seen in-person for a face-to-face evaluation prior to a medical provider issuing a recommendation for medical cannabis use. For more information, see the Utah Medical Cannabis Act.

PHARMACY RELATIONSHIPS

Providers operating from same building as a medical cannabis pharmacy:

[26-61-106 \(9\)](#) states:

(9) A qualified medical provider may not receive any compensation or benefit for the qualified medical provider's medical cannabis treatment recommendation from:

- (a) a cannabis production establishment or an owner, officer, director, board member, employee, or agent of a cannabis production establishment;
- (b) a medical cannabis pharmacy or an owner, officer, director, board member, employee, or agent of a medical cannabis pharmacy; or
- (c) a qualified medical provider or pharmacy medical provider.

In accordance with 26-61a-106 (9), a medical cannabis pharmacy cannot rent or lease office space to a qualified medical provider (QMP) or a medical clinic that employs a QMP who issues medical cannabis card recommendations because such a relationship would constitute a benefit to the QMP. However, Utah law does not prohibit a QMP from operating out of the same building as a medical cannabis pharmacy location if the QMP is renting or leasing office space from a property owner that is not listed in 26-61a-106 (9). In cases of QMP operating from the same building as a medical cannabis pharmacy, the two businesses must have separate entrances and exits.

If you have any questions about this clarification, please contact the Center for Medical Cannabis at the Utah Department of Health.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CPB MEETING, PUBLICATION

The [Cannabinoid Product Board](#) meets April 13, 2021 at 9 a.m. MST via online conference. Zoom Web Access: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88435239083> Meeting ID: 884 3523 9083

The CPB reviews new and current research in medical conditions using cannabis as a treatment. The CPB recently reviewed opioid use disorder with the help of guest speaker Dr. Adam Gordon (University of Utah), who spoke during the January 2021 CPB meeting. The CPB put together a recommendation on OUD and the use of cannabis as a treatment, which is available here: <https://medicalcannabis.utah.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/OUD-and-Cannabis-CPB-recommendation.pdf>

Cannabinoid Product Board Minutes and Recordings are available [via this link](#).

EVS AND ICS ANNOUNCEMENTS

EVS UPDATES - PROVIDERS

PROVIDERS: A Qualified Medical Provider (QMP) may now designate up to three staff members to have modified access to the EVS for the purpose of entering patient recommendations. The QMP proxy role does not have access to view or modify the QMP registration information. Adding a QMP proxy requires action from the QMP account and from the QMP proxy account.

For more information about the QMP Proxy Process, [click here](#).

PROVIDERS: When making changes to contact information in the EVS, our office asks qualified medical providers to email medicalcannabis@utah.gov or qmpcmc@utah.gov to notify our office of the change. This will ensure that all QMPs in the system receive important notifications from the Center for Medical Cannabis.

EVS UPDATES - PATIENTS

PATIENTS: A nonresident patients may now register in the EVS in order to purchase medical cannabis or a medical cannabis device from a medical cannabis pharmacy while the individual is visiting the state. A nonresident patient may receive a nonresident card for no more than two visitation periods per calendar year of up to 21 calendar days per visitation period. For more information, visit medicalcannabis.utah.gov.

NEWS AND PRESS RELEASES

PROVIDER EMAIL

PROVIDERS: A new email address has been created to assist qualified medical providers and their staff with the Electronic Verification System and other inquiries. Please add this email to your contacts: qmpcmc@utah.gov.

2021 GENERAL SESSION SUMMARY

SUMMARY

This is a summary of significant amendments made to the Utah Medical Cannabis Act (26-61) during the 2021 General Legislation Session. To review all amendments to 26-61a due to bills that passed during the 2021 Session, go to le.utah.gov where you can find complete versions of the bills mentioned below.

Possession of Out of State Medical Cannabis Product Extended to June 30, 2021. Medical cannabis card holders may legally possess under Utah law medical cannabis products purchased out of state until June 30, 2021 if the products comply with Utah's standards for medical cannabis dosage form and amounts. Previously this deadline was December 30, 2020 but it has been extended to June 30, 2021. See SB 192 for more details.

Utah Dept of Health to Issue a 15th Medical Cannabis Pharmacy License. The Utah Department of Health will issue a 15th license to a medical cannabis pharmacy located in one of the following rural counties: Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah, Sevier, Grand, San Juan, Emery, or Carbon. The department will work with the Utah Division of Purchasing during April 2021 on posting a Request for Proposal (RFP) that will provide interested businesses the opportunity to apply for and be awarded the license. There is not a deadline by which the department must award the license but the department plans to issue it before July 2021. See SB 192 for more details.

Pharmacist Review of All Medical Cannabis Transactions. Clarifies that a pharmacy medical provider must review each medical cannabis transaction before dispensing the medical cannabis to the cardholder in accordance with pharmacy practice standards. See SB 192 for more details.

Processor Product Labels. Medical cannabis cardholders are prohibited from alteration or removal of medical cannabis product labels placed by processor on product containers. See SB 192 for more details.

Treatment and Medication History Only Required to be Uploaded to the EVS if QMP Feels it is Relevant. A QMP is not required but is given the option to submit treatment and medication history to the EVS about a patient if they feel it is relevant to the patient's use of medical cannabis. See SB 192 for more details.

Podiatrists as QMPs. Podiatrists licensed in Utah can qualify as a QMP (in addition to MD, DO, APRN, and PA). See SB 170 for more details.

Physician assistant who is a QMP are not required to be supervised by a physician who is also a QMP. See SB 170 for more details.

Important Software Changes to Launch Later in 2021

Limited Medical Provider. A limited medical provider (LMP) may do a medical cannabis recommendation to up to 15 patients without registering with UDOH and without using the EVS. A limited medical provider is any MD, DO, podiatrist, APRN, or PA with a controlled substance license. This change requires software modifications before the Utah Department of Health is able to implement it. Please see SB 170 for more details.

Posting of QMP/Medical Clinic Price Data Online. Collection of QMP/Medical clinic fee data in the EVS and posting of the data on the Utah State Auditor's website. This change requires software modifications before the Utah Department of Health is able to implement it. SB 170 for more details.

Conditional Medical Cannabis Cards. The Utah Department of Health is to issue a conditional card to certain applicants while a card applicant waits for UDOH to review and approve a card application. Conditional cards will only be issued to applicants over age 21 who have a qualified medical condition. This change requires software modifications before the Utah Department of Health is able to implement it. See SB 170 for more details.

Increase of time frame of initial issuance of a medical cannabis card from 90 days to six months. This change requires software modifications before the Utah Department of Health is able to implement it. See SB 170 for more details.

Medical cannabis product and card information to be sent to and incorporated into Utah's Controlled Substance Database. This change requires software modifications before the Utah Department of Health is able to implement it. See SB 192 for more details.

Course Required of all Controlled Substance Prescribers to Include Medical Cannabis Education. Requires a medical cannabis component be added to required continuing education for controlled substance prescribers. DOPL already administers an existing continuing education course every two years for all controlled substance prescribers and this existing course must be modified. See SB 192 for more details.



Utah Medical Cannabis Program Report

March 12, 2021

On November 6, 2018, Utah voters approved Proposition 2, which legalized the use of medical cannabis in Utah for qualifying patients. Since its passage, the Utah Medical Cannabis Act (UMCA) has been amended multiple times by the Utah State Legislature. The UMCA designates the Utah Department of Health as the state agency responsible for licensing and oversight of medical cannabis pharmacies, registration of medical providers, and issuance of medical cannabis cards to qualifying patients. Qualifying patients first purchased medical cannabis in Utah on March 2, 2020 and this report shows growth in the program since that time.

This report presents data collected from the Department’s electronic verification system (EVS) and inventory control system (ICS) on February 28, 2021. For further information and data, please contact the Center for Medical Cannabis at medicalcannabis@utah.gov.

Patient Card Registrations and Recommendation Letters

Table 1. Patient Cardholders and Recommendation Letter Customers

23,089	Active patient cardholders – Number of patients with an active medical cannabis card as of February 28, 2021.
--------	--

Figure 1. Active Patient Cardholder Growth

Total active patient card growth from December 2020 to current day is shown in the graph below.

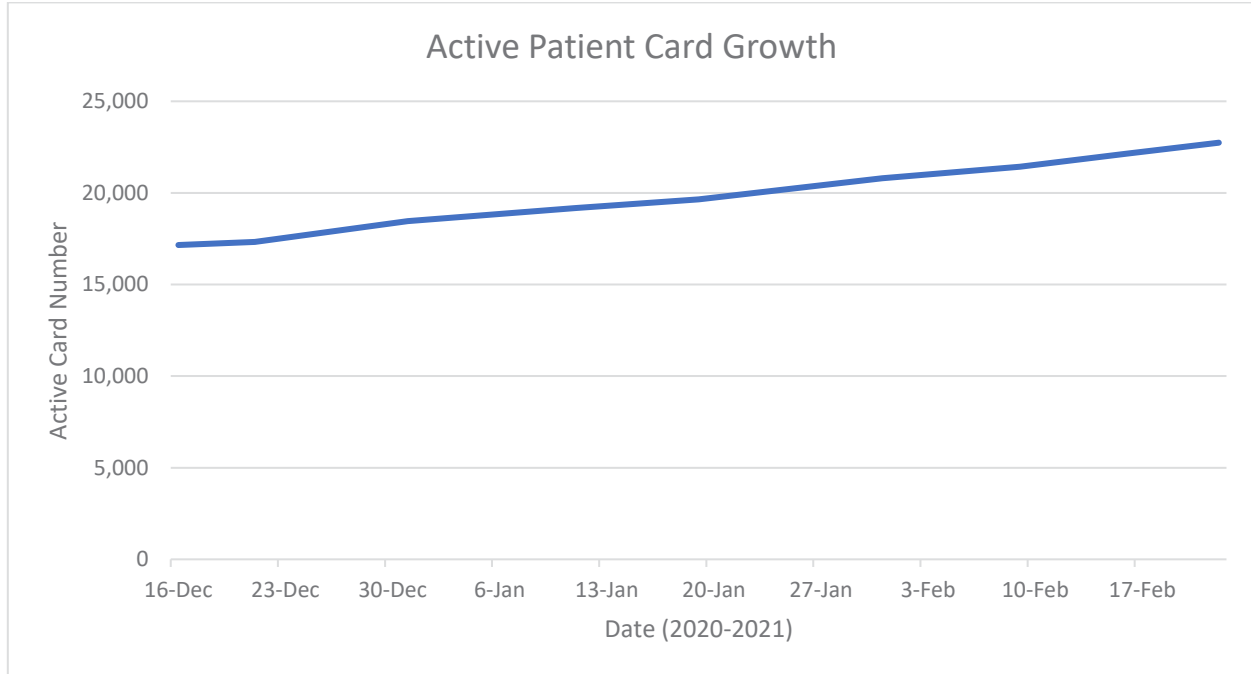


Table 2. Patient Demographics by Age and Sex

Patient Age	Number (N = 23,089)	Percentage
Less than 10 years	13	Less than 1%
11-21	142	Less than 1%
22-30	4,652	20.15%
31-45	9,346	40.48%
46-55	3,699	16.02%
56-65	2,992	12.96%
66+	2,245	9.72%
Patient Sex		
Male	12,582	54%
Female	10,445	45%
Other	62	Less than 1%

Table 3. Patient Cardholders by County of Residence

County	Number of patient cardholders
Beaver	28
Box Elder	306
Cache	833
Carbon	90
Daggett	4
Davis	1784
Duchesne	40
Emery	25
Garfield	5
Grand	12
Iron	63
Juab	45
Kane	12
Millard	39
Morgan	29
Piute	1
Rich	9
Salt Lake	6351
San Juan	12
Sanpete	65
Sevier	31
Summit	225
Tooele	256
Uintah	164
Utah	10105
Wasatch	157
Washington	321
Wayne	1
Weber	2076
Total Active Patient Cardholders	23,089

Table 4. Patient Cardholders by Medical Condition

Patients may register in the program with more than one qualifying condition, thus the total number of patient cards by condition is higher than the actual number of total active patient cards.

Medical condition	Total number of patient certifications as of February 28, 2021
AIDS	19
ALS	7
Alzheimer's	7
Autism	142
Cachexia	39
Cancer	323
Chronic Pain	18,012
Crohn's Disease	259
Debilitating Seizures	89
Epilepsy	213
HIV	101
Hospice	3
MS	259
Nausea	448
Other*	18
Persistent Muscle Spasms	121
PTSD	2,701
Rare Condition	54
Terminal Illness	435
Ulcerative Colitis	131
Total number of patient certifications	23,381

*Other denotes those conditions petitioned to the Compassionate Use Board. Conditions petitioned to the Board include GAD, insomnia and seizure disorders.

Compassionate Use Board

Table 5. Compassionate Use Board Petitions Submitted by Petition Status

The Compassionate Use Board meets monthly to review patient petitions. Petitions may be approved, denied, or considered incomplete (i.e. needing more information). The data below represents petitions received through February 28, 2021.

Status	Number of petitions reviewed, March 2020 – February 2021 (N=257)
Approved	215
Incomplete	39
Denied	3

Table 6. Compassionate Use Board Petitions by Age

	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB
Total petitions	16	16	16	28	16	18	41	52
Age range	5-43	6-27	12-72	2-20	3-20	8-41	7-73	4-53
Total under 21yo	15	16	14	17	16	15	21	50

Qualified Medical Providers

Table 7. Qualified Medical Provider Totals

628	Active Qualified Medical Providers – Number of medical providers with an active QMP registration.
137	Active Qualified Medical Providers with Cardholder Cap of 600 – Number of medical providers approved by UDOH to recommend to up to 600 active cardholders at one time (22% of all QMPs).
491	Active Qualified Medical Providers with Cardholder Cap of 275 – Number of Medical Providers limited to recommend to up to 275 active cardholders at one time (78% of all QMPs).

Table 8. Total Registered Qualified Medical Providers by County

A qualified medical provider (QMP) may list more than one office location for their practice. The table below shows the distribution of QMPs registered throughout Utah by county. This total is greater than the total of registered QMPs because a QMP may have multiple office locations.

County	Number of QMP office locations registered
Beaver	1
Box Elder	2
Cache	10
Carbon	2
Daggett	0
Davis	44
Duchesne	0
Emery	0
Garfield	0
Grand	1
Iron	1
Juab	3
Kane	0
Millard	2
Morgan	0
Piute	0
Rich	0
Salt Lake	276
San Juan	0
Sanpete	2
Sevier	3
Summit	5
Tooele	3
Uintah	3
Utah	228
Wasatch	5
Washington	19
Wayne	0
Weber	42
Total QMP office locations registered	652

Table 9. Total Registered Qualified Medical Providers by American Medical Board Certification

Most QMPs are limited to recommending cannabis as a treatment to up to 275 active patient cardholders but some QMPs have qualified to recommend to up to 600 active cardholders. To qualify to recommend to up to 600 active cardholders, a QMP must be a physician certified by the appropriate American Medical Board of anesthesiology, neurology, oncology, pain, hospice and palliative care, physical medicine and rehabilitation, endocrinology, rheumatology or psychiatry OR the QMP may be employed or contracted by a business for the specific purpose of providing hospice and palliative care. The table below shows the distribution of QMPs reporting an American Medical Board Certification to receive the higher patient cap. This is a total list of MDs and DOs only. APRNs and PAs can only apply for the higher patient cap if they are employed by hospice and palliative care, which is not represented below.

American Medical Board Certification	Number of QMPs reporting American Medical Board Certification
Anesthesiology	16
Endocrinology	0
Gastroenterology	4
Hospice and Palliative Care	13
Neurology	10
Oncology	9
Pain Medicine	10
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	16
Psychiatry	16
Rheumatology	1
Total QMPs with American Medical Board Certification	95

Table 10. Qualified Medical Providers by DOPL License type

Qualified Medical Providers	Number (N=628)
Medical Doctor (MD)	242
Osteopathic Doctor (DO)	46
Physician Assistant (PA)	75
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)	265

Pharmacy Medical Providers and Pharmacy Transactions

Table 11. Medical Cannabis Pharmacy Employee Totals

42	Active Pharmacy Medical Providers - Pharmacy medical providers who have an active registration with the Utah Department of Health.
168	Active Pharmacy Agents - Pharmacy agents who have an active registration with the Utah Department of Health.

Table 12. Medical Cannabis Pharmacy Sales Transaction Totals

Transaction and sales revenue data is retrieved at the end of each month. Data below represents all transactions and total sales revenue between March 2, 2020 and February 28, 2021 from eight medical cannabis pharmacies that opened during that time frame. As of February 28, 2021, medical cannabis pharmacies operating in Utah include Dragonfly Wellness (Salt Lake City), Perfect Earth Modern Apothecary (Logan and Ogden), WholesomeCo Cannabis (West Bountiful), Curaleaf (Lehi), Deseret Wellness (Provo and Park City), and Beehive Farmacy (Salt Lake City).

231,987	Transactions at Medical Cannabis Pharmacies – Transactions at medical cannabis pharmacies between March 2, 2020 and February 28, 2021.
31,265	Transactions at Medical Cannabis Pharmacies in February 2021 – Transactions at medical cannabis pharmacies in February 2021.
\$29,919,649.61	Medical Cannabis Sales Revenue – Medical cannabis sales revenue at licensed medical cannabis pharmacies between March 2, 2020 and February 28, 2021 (does not include sales of medical cannabis devices and medical cannabis educational materials).
\$3,940,404.93	Medical Cannabis Sales Revenue in February 2021 - Medical cannabis sales revenue at licensed medical cannabis pharmacies during February 2021 (does not include sales of medical cannabis devices and medical cannabis educational materials).

Figure 2. Medical Cannabis Transactions at Pharmacies by Month (for months not displayed below, please find earlier reports posted on the Center for Medical Cannabis' website)

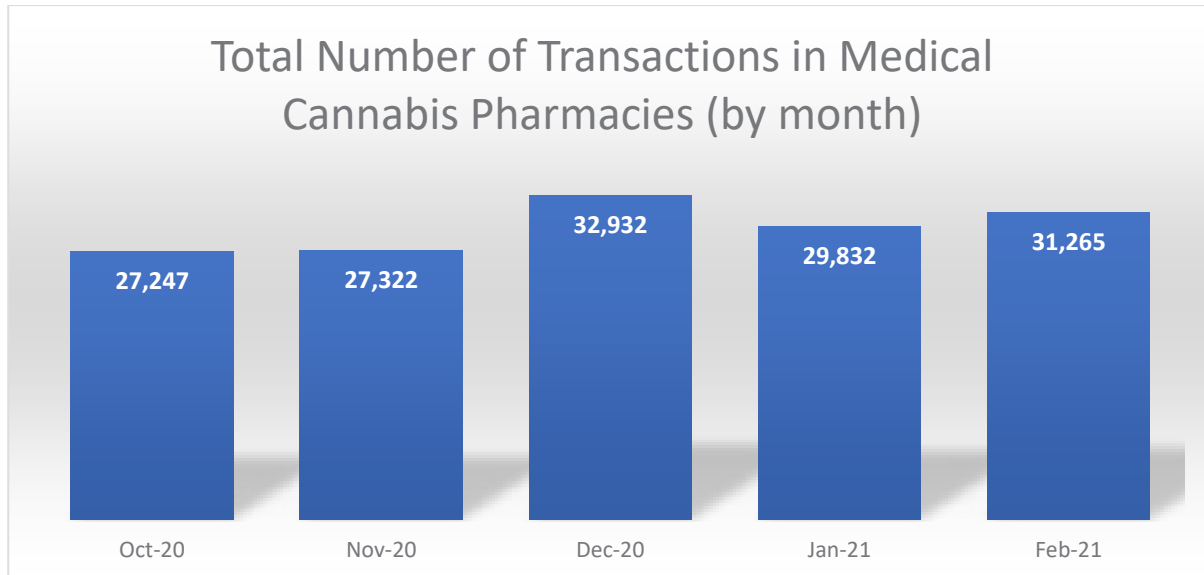
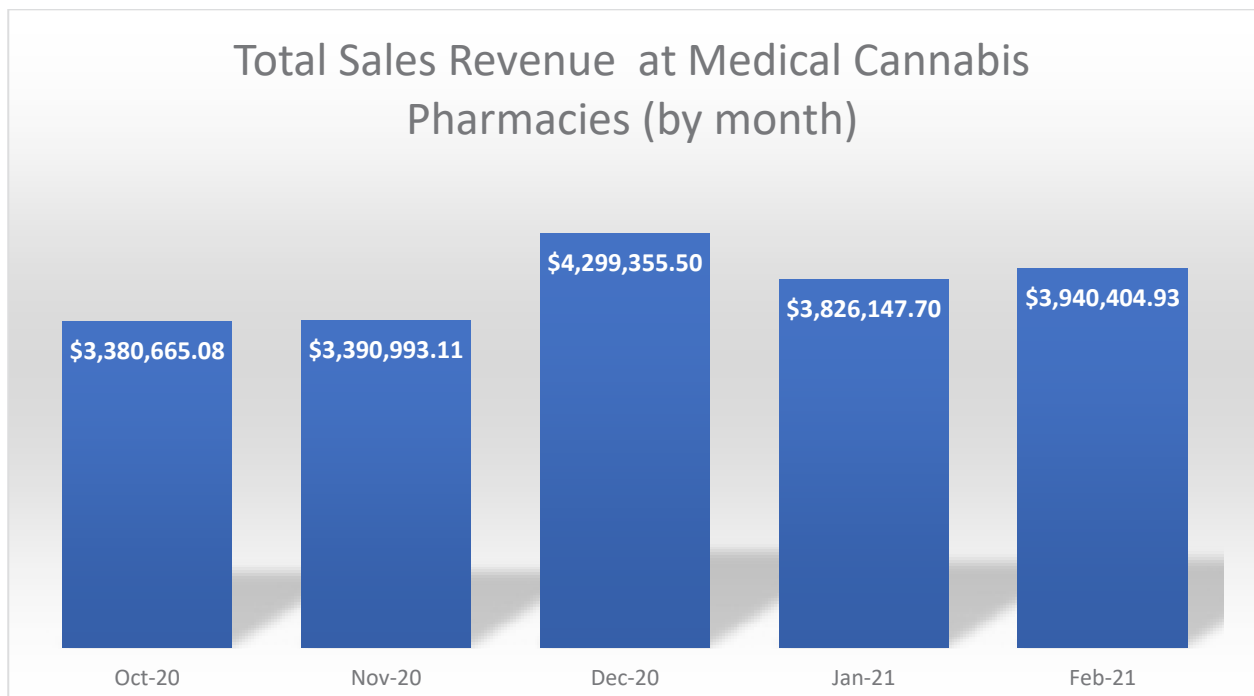


Figure 3. Medical Cannabis Sales Revenue by Month (for months not displayed below, please find earlier reports posted on the Center for Medical Cannabis' website)



[Sign up](#) for future updates from the Center for Medical Cannabis.