



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH**  
Center for Medical Cannabis

01/06/2022

**INDUSTRY-WIDE BULLETIN: 22-01**

**Subject: Recommending Medical Provider Initial Visits with Patients**

Dear Cannabis Industry Stakeholders:

This Industry-Wide Bulletin from the Utah Department of Health Center for Medical Cannabis (CMC) is intended to remind recommending medical providers of a standard established in Utah Code 26-61a-201 (4)(a)(iii) in the Utah Medical Cannabis Act.

The statute states that for a recommending medical provider to recommend a medical cannabis treatment to a patient, a recommending medical provider shall conduct a face-to-face visit with a patient during the initial visit.

The CMC has found it necessary to clarify that a face-to-face visit is an in-person encounter between a patient and a recommending provider when they are both physically present at the same location in the State of Utah.

A recommending medical provider conducting initial visits virtually (i.e. Zoom, Google Meets) does not satisfy [Utah Code 26-61a-201 \(4\)\(a\)\(iii\)](#) and is out of compliance.

Subsequent visits with a recommending medical provider for the purpose of renewing the medical cannabis card may be done virtually using telehealth services. A recommending medical provider cannot renew patient medical cards using telehealth services if they did not conduct the initial face to face visit with that patient.

Please direct any questions to [cannabiscompliance@utah.gov](mailto:cannabiscompliance@utah.gov).

*This industry-wide bulletin does not constitute legal advice. Individuals and entities are encouraged to seek legal counsel to ensure their actions comply with all applicable statutes and rules.*