



From 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 certain cannabis-based medicines will be available on prescription to patients in the U.K. suffering from certain medical conditions.

**Cannabis has NOT been legalised and remains a Class B controlled drug.**

There is an opportunity for persons in unlawful possession of cannabis to claim it is for a medicinal purpose in order to avoid prosecution.

It is paramount that no person prescribed their medicine has it confiscated.



- Only a specialist doctor who is on the Specialist Register of the General Medical Council (**not the patients GP**) can prescribe the medicines.
- Only products meeting the definition of a cannabis-based medicinal product will be available, not home-grown or self sourced.
- These products must be in an appropriately marked container.
- Any legitimate patient should be in possession of a letter from the specialist doctor who prescribed it.
- Any prescription will be limited to 30 days supply.
- No legitimate medicine is consumed by smoking (although vaping is a legitimate route of administration).



- Cannabis-based products for medicinal use may take the following forms, which have previously been issued under licence in the UK:

- Bedrocan - Bedrolite:



- Bedrocan – Bedica



- Tilray - 2,100:





Illicit/counterfeit packaging and labelling products have been encountered by forces across the U.K. Below are examples of these:





- The prescribing of cannabis-based medicines will not become widespread and it is envisaged that the number of prescriptions will be low.
- It is expected that legitimate patients of these products will be fully cooperative with any reasonable police enquiry.
- Where any person found in possession of cannabis suggests that it is a medicine, immediate enquiries might be needed to establish the facts.
- Any unreasonable behaviour of the ‘patient’ in the circumstances, amateur packaging or labelling of the product, or possession of unreasonable quantities might raise suspicions of unlawful possession.
- Anyone administering cannabis-based products by smoking will be committing an offence.