

MEDIA RELEASE:**Medicinal Cannabis Medicines Portal www.mcmp.com.au to help facilitate product access and ordering process between manufacturers, health professionals and patients.**

PharmaPrograms is pleased to launch the Medicinal Cannabis Medicines Portal (MCMP) (www.mcmp.com.au). This online portal will provide a streamlined process for Medicinal Cannabis prescribing and dispensing, between Health Professionals and Manufacturers of Medicinal Cannabis. The MCMP will ensure a continuity of care between patients, carers, and their existing health professionals.

The MCMP is open to all manufacturers of Medicinal Cannabis and will facilitate supply of Medicinal Cannabis via the TGA's Special Access Scheme and Authorised Prescriber scheme. Medicinal Cannabis from selected multiple manufacturers will be distributed via the community pharmacy network in Australia. The foundation company participants in the portal are Cann Group Limited & Hydroponics Company

PharmaPrograms Systems Architect, and pharmacist, Kos Sclavos AM believes that the MCMP will ensure that a greater number of health professionals will be able to work together to support patients and carers who require access to Medicinal Cannabis. Health Professionals will be supported through the regulatory requirements.

"In other countries, the supply of Medicinal Cannabis has gone down a distribution route that often bypassed the patient's regular community pharmacy, sometimes even bypassing the patient's existing doctor support network.

"The MCMP will result in a more effective continuity of care for the patient. The IT enabled system will support patients and carers. Initially, supply will focus on Manufacturers' 'Sponsors' approved to import bulk supplies of medicinal cannabis products under the TGA SAS (Category B) or Approved Prescribers schemes.

The process to prescribe and dispense Medicinal Cannabis is complex with Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) requirements at the Commonwealth level and a variety of additional requirements across states and territories. For health professionals, the MCMP will assist them to comply with all regulatory requirements through step-by-step support coupled with an array of resources, including an efficient and easy to use ordering process." Kos said.

Kos added that from today Pharmacies and Prescribers are invited to register on MCMP. Registered MCMP Network Pharmacies will be detailed on a publicly accessible online Pharmacy Locator thereby allowing patients to know where participating pharmacies are located. At these pharmacies patients can access participating sponsor's Medicinal Cannabis at a known maximum price, with the security of knowing the product is in Australia and accessible. Prescribers are also welcomed to enrol to use the IT system which will facilitate compliance with necessary TGA and State/ Territory requirements for Medicinal Cannabis prescribing.

There are also a number of resources contained within the MCMP to support registered health professionals to ensure they are ready to use the system once the process goes live.

For more information on the Medicinal Cannabis Medicines Portal visit mcmp.com.au or call 1300 364 231.

PharmaPrograms is an IT enabled health system that helps patients by improving access to pharmaceutical treatments and programs, with the support of their doctor and pharmacist. PharmaPrograms was developed by Sinapse Pty Ltd. Sinapse provides tailored, IT enabled, patient support programs, for pharmaceutical manufacturers. Since 2013 some 5000 prescribers and 4300 pharmacies have participated in PharmaPrograms initiatives. Sinapse works with leading global health and pharmaceutical companies on their business strategy, business optimisation and systems implementations. The depth of experience includes retail and hospital environments, wholesale distribution providers and originator and generic pharmaceutical companies.

Media contacts:

For further information please contact Kos Sclavos AM, Senior Health Strategist Sinapse Pty Ltd on 0415 879 830 or kos.sclavos@sinapse.com.au