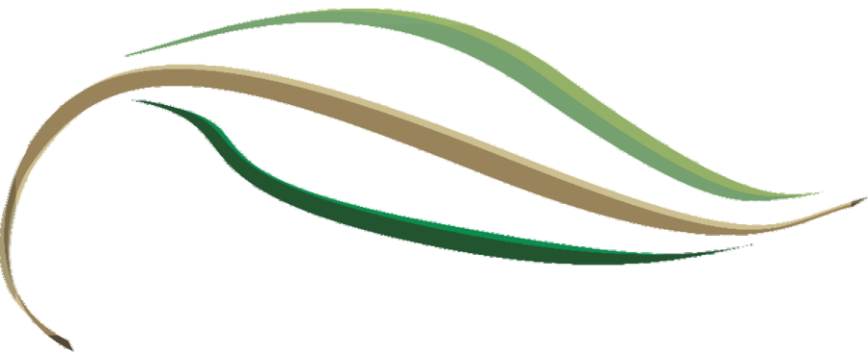


The Medical Marijuana Battleground in Residential Care: Ethical Aspirations and Legal Contexts

Presented by Al Jina, Park Place Seniors Living



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Care to Chat Forum
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Faculty/Presenter Disclosure

- Faculty: Al Jina
- Relationships with commercial interests:
 - No ownership in Cannabis retail, distributorship, producer, or related business
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 - Other: Employee of Park Place Seniors Living

Balancing Rights, Care, Ethics, and Legal Context

With the Cannabis Act coming into force, there is much to learn about the regulation of cannabis by federal, provincial, and municipal governments.

Residential Care operators will have to balance rights in safely providing access to medical and recreational marijuana while respecting rights, safety, health and comfort of other residents, staff and volunteers.

Presenter Al Jina is both a lawyer and the Founder/President of Park Place Seniors Living, which has more than 25 years of experience in seniors residential care.

Issues to be considered:

- Ethics governing safe administration
- Federal Legislation
- Provincial (B.C. and Alberta) Legislation
- Municipal Law
- Alberta Health Services Policy, Calgary Zone, May 26, 2016
- Worksafe BC Policy on workplace impairment
- Health Employers Association of BC General Information Update #270, August 1, 2018
- Park Place Policies
 - Medical Marijuana Use in Residential Care Homes
 - Drug, Alcohol and Substance Misuse

Ethical For Residents



Cannabis in residential care is ethically justifiable if it:

- provides improved Quality of Life
- provides improved Quality of Care (e.g. multiple sclerosis, chronic pain, reducing side effects of chemotherapy)
- is an informed decision with discussion of treatment options and explanation of associated risks (e.g. drowsiness/dizziness can increase risk of falls)
- there are strong protocols in place to govern use

Ethical for Professional Staff



Cannabis in residential care is ethically justifiable for professional staff if they:

- Are appropriately trained and supported through educational programs
- Receive clear guidelines from their respective professional associations
- Have updated insurance
- Are protected from malpractice or allegations of unprofessional conduct

Park Place Policies

The Park Place Clinical Leadership Team has developed 2 major policies to address the legalization of cannabis:

1. Medical Marijuana use in Residential Care Homes
2. Drug, Alcohol and Substance Misuse

Medical Marijuana Use in Residential Care Homes Policy

Some notable provisions are:

- The buying, selling, bartering or growing of medical marijuana is not permitted on Park Place property
- Residents are not permitted to share or borrow medical marijuana

- The order of Medical Marijuana will be added to the Medication Administration Record (MAR) and resident medication profile and will note “personal use”
- The Park Place Care Home will provide a secure storage location (e.g. locked cupboard/drawer) which will remain the property of the resident

- No solicitation role: When a supplier is invited to a Park Place Care Home to visit a resident, that supplier must limit their interactions related to medical marijuana to that specific client resident
- Park Place Seniors Living and staff will not aid in procuring medical cannabis for a resident

Drug, Alcohol and Substance Misuse Policy

Some notable provisions are:

- Staff who are 'on call' must ensure they are not under the influence of drugs or alcohol during the 'on call' period as they may be required to make decisions/drive/attend work
- All staff must advise their manager if they are charged and/or convicted of a driving offence while under the influence

About Park Place Seniors Living

Park Place Seniors Living is family owned company, founded, owned and operated by Al & Jenny Jina. Al is a lawyer by profession and Jenny is a nurse who specializes in geriatrics and adult education.



Owner Al Jina (left) with a Park Place resident and her husband.

The company was founded more than 25 years ago with one private Care Home in Nelson B.C. Since then, the company has steadily grown and now operates homes in B.C. and Alberta.

Park Place provides a continuum of care from independent living to assisted living to complex care, dementia care and palliative care. All complex care homes are accredited. All sites are owned and operated by the company from a small head office in Vancouver, B.C.

Park Place Seniors Living works in partnership with seven regional health authorities in Alberta and British Columbia.

Enriching the Lives of Seniors