

PUBLIC ADVISORY CONCERNING PRODUCTS CONTAINING CBD
Minnesota Board of Pharmacy

This advisory does not address any products produced and sold by the medical cannabis manufacturers regulated by Minnesota Department of Health.¹ Nor does it address the use of hemp in food products, which is not under the jurisdiction of Board of Pharmacy. It only addresses products sold as “dietary supplements” and for which certain health claims are made or implied. When such claims are made or implied, the products are considered to be drugs, not dietary supplements. Drug products are under the Board of Pharmacy’s jurisdiction.

This advisory concerns products marketed as dietary supplements and labeled as containing cannabidiol (CBD) or other cannabinoids. Such products are advertised as being derived from hemp, which is a variety of the cannabis plant that contains less than 0.3% of THC (the primary psychoactive substance found in marijuana). Products are being sold for both human and animal consumption.

Neither federal nor state law allows cannabinoids such as CBD to be extracted from hemp and then sold in products for human or animal consumption.

Manufacturers and sellers of such CBD products sometimes make specific or implied claims about the treatment of diseases or about general health benefits. These claims have not been evaluated by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or by any Minnesota State agency. The FDA has clearly stated that CBD cannot be sold as either a drug or a dietary supplement, with the exception of Epidiolex, a CBD-containing product that was recently approved by the FDA for treating certain childhood seizure disorders.

Consumers are advised to use caution when deciding whether to use CBD or other cannabinoid-containing products to treat medical conditions. Products containing CBD and other cannabinoids, other than those produced by Minnesota’s registered medical cannabis manufacturers, are not manufactured in facilities licensed or inspected by the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy, Minnesota Department of Health or by any other federal or state agency. There is no way for state regulators to know if the production facility for any particular CBD product is being operated in a manner that is consistent with good manufacturing procedures. The cannabis plants used as the source of CBD and other cannabinoids might not be tested to ensure that they contain none, or only very low amounts of, THC. Finished CBD products might or might not contain the amount of CBD stated on the label.

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¹ Minnesota Statutes §152.22 allows for limited production and sales of marijuana, in the form of medical cannabis.