**PURPOSE**

To establish Ohio Living’s position on medical marijuana use in skilled nursing and assisted living.

**POLICY**

Ohio Living supports the patient’s right to use medical marijuana consistent with the provisions of Chapter 3796 of the Ohio Administrative Code, as approved and directed by his/her health care professional. However, marijuana remains a Schedule I drug under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA). Drugs classified as Schedule I are determined to have a high potential for abuse and there is no currently accepted medical use for treatment in the U.S. As such, physicians are not allowed to prescribe Schedule I drugs.

Ohio Living accepts Medicare and Medicaid funding. We are required to comply with certain federal standards and laws. Under the Social Security Act (SSA), individuals or entities that are convicted of felonies related to the manufacture, distribution, prescription or dispensing of a Schedule I drug could be excluded from participation in federal health care programs. Thus, allowing medical marijuana could put Medicare and Medicaid funds at risk, although, to date, no nursing home has been cited for allowing its residents to utilize medical marijuana.

A registered physician can only recommend medical marijuana for the following conditions:

1. HIV/AIDS
2. Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig’s disease)
3. Alzheimer’s disease
4. Cancer
5. Chronic traumatic encephalopathy
6. Crohn’s disease
7. Epilepsy or other seizure disorder
8. Fibromyalgia
9. Glaucoma
10. Hepatitis C
11. Inflammatory bowel disease
12. Multiple sclerosis (MS)
13. Pain: either chronic, severe, or intractable (difficult to manage)
14. Parkinson’s disease
15. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
16. Sickle cell anemia
17. Spinal cord disease or injury
18. Tourette’s syndrome
19. Traumatic brain injury
20. Ulcerative colitis

Medical marijuana can only be delivered in the following forms:

* Inhalation of marijuana through a vaporizer (not direct smoking)
* Oils
* Tinctures
* Plant material
* Edibles
* Patches

**PROCEDURE**

1. Ohio Living does not allow the use of medical marijuana in any licensed area.
2. Ohio Living does not pay for or obtain medical marijuana or participate in the patient’s qualification process.