

## JMCC Signs on to Support Europe's Largest Medical Cannabis Study

Canadian-headquartered company is only invited provider of several participating in Project Twenty21.

London, June 2, 2020/JMCC Group announced today that it has agreed to participate as one of five medical cannabis providers worldwide for Project Twenty21, as the exclusive Caribbean supplier of cannabis-based medicines to patients across the United Kingdom taking part in the ground-breaking study.

Drug Science, the UK's only independent drugs research charity, launched Project Twenty21, Europe's first and biggest national medical cannabis registry, in November 2019. The project involves enrolling up to 20,000 patients by the end of 2021 in the study, to create the largest body of evidence for the effectiveness and tolerability of medical cannabis.

The key objectives of Project Twenty21 are to create the largest body of evidence in Europe for the effectiveness and tolerability of medical cannabis, and to demonstrate to policymakers that medical cannabis should be as widely available, and affordable, as other approved medicines, for patients who would benefit from them. The project will also help prescribers across the country to gain knowledge and confidence in prescribing medical cannabis for patients. Drug Science hopes that the findings will make a powerful case for National Health Service (NHS) funding of cannabis-based treatments, by proving the favourable risk/benefit ratio for seven key identified conditions, specifically focusing on patients for whom alternative treatments have failed. The targeted conditions are Anxiety Disorder, Chronic Pain, Epilepsy, Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Substance Use Disorder (as a harm reduction strategy), and Tourette's Syndrome.

Treatment will be provided by a network of clinics and private prescribers across the UK, which utilize best practices developed by experienced medical cannabis specialists. The medical cannabis prescribed will be provided, at cost, by recognized

global leaders in medical cannabis, and will now include JMCC.

JMCC was specifically invited to support Project Twenty21.

"We were so impressed when we met Diane Scott last year," said Drug Science Founder Professor David Nutt, referring to JMCC Group's Chair & CEO). "She has a unique appreciation for where the medical cannabis industry should be going. And she was singularly determined that JMCC would keep to that direction, where the company would continue to, first and foremost, serve patients. So JMCC was a natural partner for us in Project Twenty21."

"When I first heard about this project, I immediately thought how bold and visionary it was," Diane Scott said. "We were already planning JMCC's evolution as a company, from being the best grower of Jamaican medical cannabis to developing our own world-class cannabis-based medical products. So, when David invited me to discuss it, and told me more <u>about Project Twenty21</u>, and asked us to participate, how could we not be honoured to help patients in the UK this way?"

"The whole company is behind it. And, as a dual Canadian-UK citizen, I'm personally delighted that we're taking part," Ms. Scott added.

Five months after that first meeting, JMCC is announcing its participation in Project Twenty21 and the launch of a new division, <u>IMCC Scientific</u>, which will support both that participation and JMCC's future expansion.

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## **About Project Twenty21**

The brainchild of Drug Science Founder Professor David Nutt, Project Twenty21 was launched in November 2019 with the primary goal of creating the largest body of evidence yet for the effectiveness and tolerability of medical cannabis – with the aim to demonstrate to policymakers that medical cannabis should be as widely available and affordable to patients as other approved medicines.

"Cannabis was a medicine in the UK for over a century until 1971, when it was banned for political reasons. Since then hundreds of thousands of patients in the UK have been forced to break the law to get a treatment that most find preferable to their previous prescription medicines," Professor Nutt said.

"And, despite the UK making cannabis a medicine in November 2018, there have as yet been only a handful of prescriptions provided via the NHS. To rectify this impasse Drug Science has joined forces with a group of medical cannabis producers to open up a treatment network for up to 20,000 patients.

"This will allow patients to get vital therapy without breaking the law. It will also provide a solid clinical database from which experience of, and confidence in, medical cannabis prescribing will develop, providing a foundation for other medical prescribers to build on."

The study will use real-world data to document the effectiveness, safety, quality of life, and patient reported outcomes in those prescribed medical cannabis for seven conditions. It will not be a randomized control trial (where some would receive a

placebo), and all 20,000 participants will receive medical cannabis from participating providers at an affordable cost, achieved in part, by the medical cannabis providers offering their products at cost, and by Drug Science itself. Project Twenty21 has the support of The Royal College of Psychiatrists, The British Pain Society, the United Patients Alliance, Patient-Led Engagement for Access (PLEA), patients, peers and medical cannabis campaigners.

## **About Drug Science**

Founded in 2010 by Professor David Nutt following his removal from his post as Chair of the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, Drug Science is the only completely independent, science-led drugs charity, uniquely bringing together leading drugs experts from a wide range of specialisms to carry out groundbreaking research into drug harms and effects. Learn more at <a href="https://drugscience.org.uk/">https://drugscience.org.uk/</a>.

## **About JMCC**

Founded in 2016, JMCC Group is the leading provider of high-quality Jamaican medical cannabis products and services to the world. Headquartered in Toronto, Canada, the company serves customers in Australia, Canada, the EU and UK, and Latin America.

JMCC combines Jamaica's natural, year-round growing climate and distinctive cannabis landraces with an unswerving commitment to meeting or exceeding international standards for quality, safety, security and sustainability.

Learn more at <a href="https://www.jamaicanmedicann.com/">https://www.jamaicanmedicann.com/</a>.