

MEETING MINUTES

Consortium for Medical Marijuana Clinical Outcomes Research:

BOARD MEETING

Monday, Oct 13th, 2025, at 1:00 pm

Remote Connection via Zoom

Board Members Present:

Max Orezzaoli, Chair
Charles Weatherford
William Anderson
Martha Rosenthal
Dinender Singla
Jacqueline Sagen
Christopher McCurdy
Eric Holmes
Peter Holland
Troy Quast
Ken Dawson-Scully

Team Members Present:

Almut Winterstein
Yan Wang
Md Mahmudul Hasan
Catalina Lopez-Quintero
Jeevan Jyot
Allison Veliz

Opening Remarks: Welcome to the Board Members

Dr. Max Orezzaoli, chair of the Consortium board, called the meeting open at 1:02 PM EST and welcomed the board members. He expressed sincere gratitude to Dr. Eric Holmes for his service on the Consortium board from 2019-2025. A new board member representing FSU will be nominated soon. Dr. Orezzaoli also thanked Dr. Jacqueline Sagen, board member since 2021, for continuing her service for another term.

Overview of Consortium Research Plan 2025-2026

Dr. Winterstein presented the Consortium Research Plan for 2025-2026 and highlighted outputs and achievements under each of the five consortium pillars. The Grants Program over its 7 cycles has awarded 62 research awards totaling more than \$4 million to 8 of its member universities.

MEMORY, a unique data repository, is available to Consortium researchers. It includes 1.4 million certified medical marijuana users in the medical marijuana use registry, which has now been linked to Medicaid and Medicare beneficiary claims data as well as vitals records. The MEMORY team is conducting a number of studies on driving safety-risk of motor vehicle crashes, pain management in long-term opioid users, utilization patterns during pregnancy, AI-based prediction of cannabis use disorder, cardiac safety, and health outcomes among adolescents and young adults.

The Clinical Core supports and conducts prospective studies and is working on manuscripts utilizing data from the Medical Marijuana and Me (M³) survey, which includes a cross-sectional sample of 632 patients, and a longitudinal cohort of 602 patients. Other clinical core activities include presentations at scientific conferences, a collaboration with FAU using M³ data, establishing a cannabis working group that meets biweekly with invited speakers, and providing regulatory consultations to support new and existing INDs at Consortium-affiliated institutions. The Clinical Core also maintains a patient contact registry and the Connect and Advance Research for Medical Marijuana Analysis Database (CARMMA).

Outreach involves organizing CCORC, the annual conference, a quarterly newsletter, website, the researcher spotlight series, and conference exhibits. Dr. Winterstein highlighted that there is a new researcher spotlight video on the website, and new episodes will continue to be produced. Additionally, new Consortium and CCORC brochures are available on the website, as requested by board members, as a way to provide more information.

The Evidence Core synthesizes and publishes evidence reviews and is continuing to work on the Evidence in Context series as well as developing patient informational sheets. Dr. Winterstein highlighted the Consortium partnership with the Florida Medical Association (FMA) to create a new and improved Florida Physician Medical Marijuana Course. This CE course is available to all physicians in Florida and focuses on the safety and effectiveness of marijuana.

Dr. Winterstein provided a brief summary of CCORC 2025, with a total registration of 126. Moving the 2026 conference to fall had been previously discussed, and a survey was sent out to get feedback. The survey elicited positive feedback from board members and grant awardees, potentially attracting more attendees traveling from the north to enjoy Florida's warmer weather. The dates of November 5-6, 2026, were chosen to avoid overlapping with any related conferences.

Dr. Orezza opened the floor to discussion, and board members agreed that the moving the dates would be a strategic decision. Dr. Singla suggested that in the future, it be considered to expand the meeting with a third day and bring in new committee members from different organizations to collaborate with. Dr. Holland expressed that there may not be enough programming to fill three days, and the board agreed to continue the two-day structure. Dr. Winterstein mentioned that there may be opportunities to collaborate in the future as there has been interest from the Cannabis Research Conference to establish a partnership with CCORC for 2027. This could potentially increase attendance if the two conferences were to be combined, though Dr. Winterstein emphasized the need to maintain the identity of CCORC despite the collaboration.

The board voted on finalizing the CCORC 2026 dates to November 5-6, 2026. Dr. Singla made a motion and Dr. Rosenthal seconded it. All members voted to approve the dates, no members opposed the decision and no members abstained from voting.

[Consortium's Funding Update & Budget Proposal FY26](#)

Dr. Winterstein provided an overview of the Consortium's research plan for fiscal year 2026. Presently, no massive changes will be made to the Consortium's structure. The Consortium will continue the Grants Program, outreach activities, and planning of CCORC which is now on a new schedule. Additional info sheets are also forthcoming, and the Clinical Core will be continuing M³ analyses for publications with topics covering pain, anxiety, sleep, cannabis use disorders, and product preferences and dosage. Dr. Winterstein highlighted a new upcoming collaboration with Johns Hopkins University's Cannabis Science Laboratory which will help facilitate recruitment for the National Cannabis Study through an expanded consortium registry of medical-cannabis patients. Continued MEMORY studies will focus on driving safety, opioid use, and MMJ use in children and during pregnancy. MEMORY linkages will be expanded with M³ survey data and UF Health Electronic Health records. The researcher spotlight series will be continued to be produced as well.

Dr. Winterstein mentioned that the funding awarded to the Consortium will remain the same at \$1,500,000 and shared the budget allocation for FY26.

[Comments and Vote on Approval for FY26 Budget](#)

Dr. Orezza proposed a motion to approve the FY26 budget. The board approved the budget as presented. No board member opposed the decision, and no board members abstained from voting.

Consortium Collaborations

Dr. Winterstein shared two potential collaborations with the board. The first being the Association of Cannabis Research Centers (ACRC), a national association of different cannabis organizations and universities with a mission to advance high-quality research on the impact of cannabis on health. The board was supportive of joining the ACRC.

The second potential collaboration interest was from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM). The Consortium received a formal letter of interest to collaborate from Dr. Tim Novak, Dean of LECOM School of Health Service Administration. Dr. Winterstein proposed that LECOM collaborates by having a representative on the CCORC Scientific Program Committee, presenting an educational session on the LECOM Master of Science in Medical Cannabis Therapeutics program, and having faculty and students present research posters at CCORC 2026. The board was supportive of this collaboration and of inviting LECOM to join the CCORC Scientific Program Committee.

Public Comments

There were no public remarks.

Closing Remarks

Dr. Orezzaoli thanked Dr. Winterstein and the team, and all members agreed to maintain communication via email for the approval of the next RFP and scheduling of the next board meeting.

Adjournment

Dr. Orezzaoli adjourned the meeting at 2:03 PM EST.