# Medical Marijuana Edible Research

Eric Bohn Jennifer Corrigan Marlene Gaither PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES DISTRICT COCONINO COUNTY

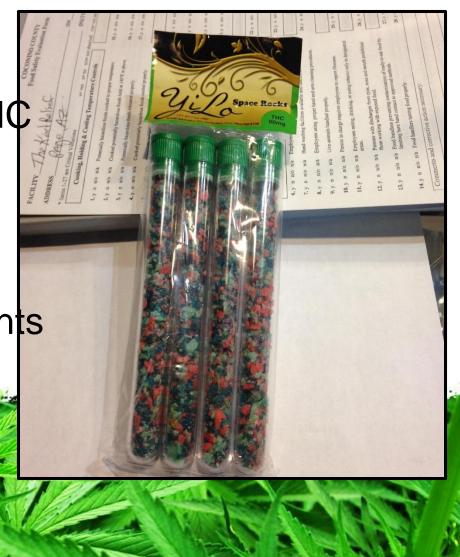
# Background



- ADHS adopted AZ Medical Marijuana Act ARS Title 36 Chapter 28.1 in 2010
- ADHS adopted rules AAC Title 9, Chapter 17 in 2011
- CCPHSD adopted Edible Food Products Ordinance as part of the County Food Code in 2011
- CCPHSD Edible project proposal approved by ADHS 2014

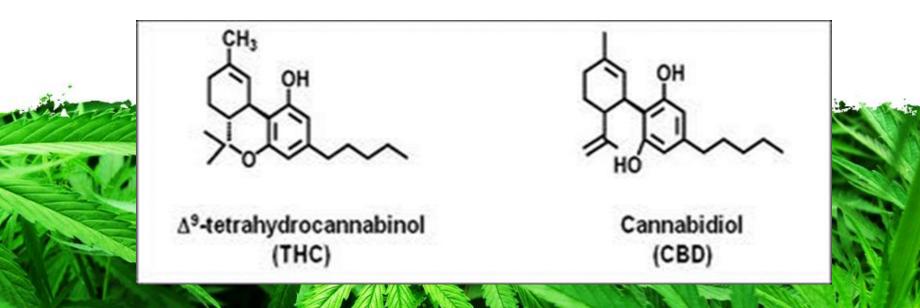
### What is a Medible?

- Contains medicinal marijuana (tetrahyrocannabinol THC or cannabidiol CBD)
- PHF (TCS)?
- Extraction types?
- How are active ingredients applied?



### What are the Active Ingredients?

- THC tetrahydrocannabinol this is the principal psychoactive substance in cannabis (decarboxylation to produce active form)
- CBD cannabidiol there are over 85 different types of CBDs in cannabis. These are nonpsychoactive chemicals



### Who Regulates Medibles?

- Arizona State laws reference edibles, but do not regulate processing
- Coconino County is currently the only jurisdiction in state that regulates the processing of edibles as part of the Food Code
- Edible use is currently on rise in Arizona dispensaries report 20% to 25% increase of total sales

## Project Scope – Learn from Dispensaries, Develop Guidelines & Conduct Survey



### **Colorado & Washington**

# What we learned from their codes and mistakes:

- Extraction
- Testing
- Labeling
- Packaging
- Processing



### How is an edible made?

• What, no ground up plant?







### Trim



### **Common Extraction Methods**

- 1. Butter
- 2. CO<sub>2</sub>
- 3. Butane, n-butane
- 4. Alcohol
- 5. Other



### **Butter Extraction**



### **Carbon Dioxide Extraction**

This method is very efficient extracting active ingredients by using CO<sub>2</sub> gas in a pressurized



### CO<sub>2</sub> Extraction Unit





## **CO<sub>2</sub> Extraction**

- CO<sub>2</sub> oil Does not leave any chemical residue in the end product
- CO<sub>2</sub> oil, wax, butter, etc.



### **Butane Extraction**

- Butane extraction occurs in a pressurized system, which is passed through buds & leaves to extract THC & CBDs
- This process is one of the most efficient & economical ways to extract active ingredients







### Vacuum Unit



### **Butane Extraction Issues**

- Butane extraction may create a fire hazard if not set up and used properly
- Occurrence in Denver:



### **Butane Extraction Hazards**

### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=agZBqKB Dq 4





### **Butane Extraction**

 After the product is vacuumed to remove butane the substance is dried creating a product called "shatter"



### **Alcohol Extraction & Distillation**



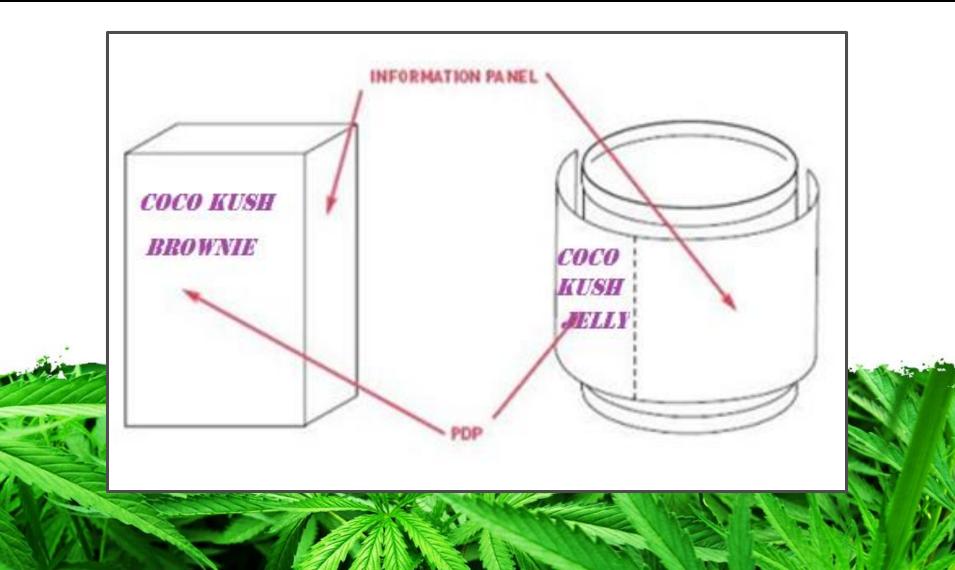


### **Labeling Guide for Medibles**

- Borrowed from ADHS, CO, WA, FDA
- Active ingredient concentrations on PDP
- Portion control (dosing)
- Information panel
  - Manufacturer information
  - Ingredient & nutrition info
- General Health Warning



### Principal Display Panel & Information Panel



### **Principal Display Panel**



### **Information Panel**

### INGREDIENTS: MILK CHOCOLATE (SUGAR; MILK; CHOCOLATE; COCO BUTTER; LACTOSE; MILK FAT; SOY LECITHIN; PGRP, EMULSIFIER; VANILLIN, ARTIFICIAL FLAVOR)

### GLUTEN FREE. This item is perishable. Keep refrigerated.

Cannabinoid profile	
per serving:	

CBDA	0.3 mg
СВD	20 mg
CBN	4 mg
Δ9 THC	10 mg
THCA	0mg
AND DESCRIPTION OF A PROPERTY OF	

The intoxicating effects of this product may be delayed by two or more hours.

### The standard Colorado THC dose is 10 mg per serving. This product contains six servings.

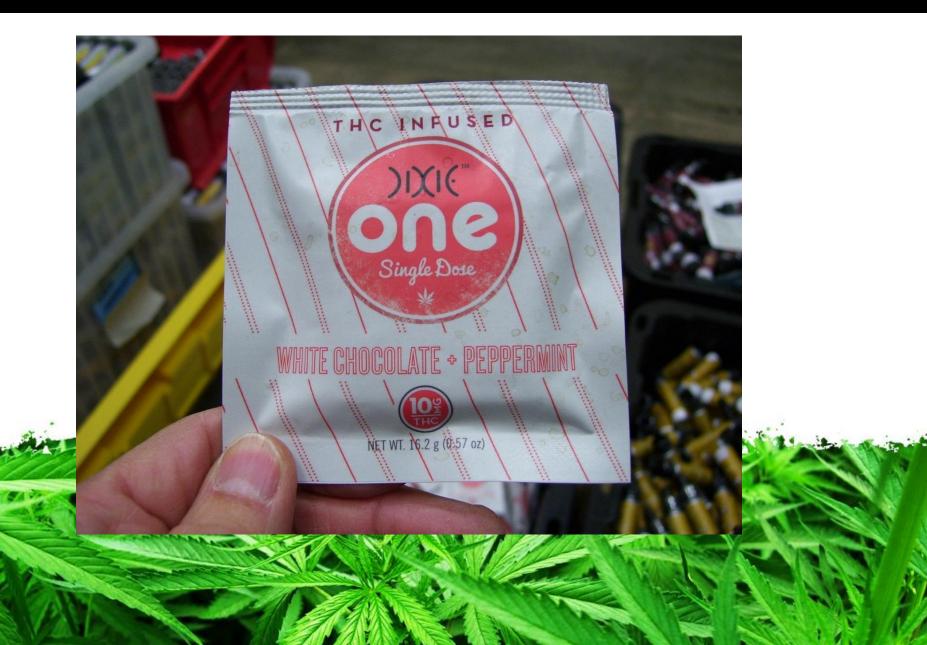
There may be health risks associated with the consumption of this product. This product is unlawful outside of the State of Colorado. This product is infused with cannabis. There may be additional health risks associated with the consumption of this product if you are pregnant, breastfeeding, or planning to become pregnant. Do not drive a motor vehicle or operate heavy machinery while using this product. This product has been tested for: mold, mildew, filth, microbes, herbicides, pesticides, fungicides, and harmful chemicals. KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN.

For a complete list of test parameters please visit: white label client web site.



MANUFACTURED FOR: White label client, address and contact data. POWERED BY CLS INC.

### How much is in that medible?



### Individual Doses

- WA & CO laws require individual doses for edibles,
- Single serving size of 10 mg (WA & CO) with any one single edible not more than 100 mg total (WA).



### Warning Label

### WARNING!

Do not open container until you have reached your destination.

Do not medicate in parking lot and / or near any public buildings.

Never under any circumstances medicate with any other person(s) not recommended for medical marijuna use by a certified physician.

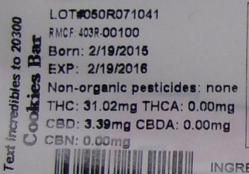
Do not redistribute your medical cannabis.

Do not operate heavy equipment.

Keep out of reach of children & pets.

### Label Examples





Facts	Tot	al Fat	6g	3%	TotalCarb	100 6%
	Sat	Fat	2g	9%	Fiber 2g	6%
Serv. Size 4.5		Trans	Fat Og		Sug	ar 1g
Serv Per Cont. 10 Calories 76		Choles	st 4mg	1%	Prot	ein 2g
		Sodiur	n 12mg	1%	and the second second	
Fat Cal. 26 Vitar	litamin .	A 0%	Vitamir	C 2%	Calcium 8%	iron 2%

INGREDIENTS: White Chocolate (sugar; milk, coconut oil, milk fat, lecithin, vanilla), Lab Tested Cannabis, Cookie Sandwich (flour, sugar, leavening, vanilla, cornstarch, chocolate, salt)

The serving size of active THC in this product is 3mg, this product contains 10 servings of marijuana, and the total amount of active THC in this product is 30mg.

CAUTION: DO NOT CONSUME THIS PRODUCT UNTIL YOU HAVE ADVICE FROM A LICENSED CAREGIVER ON ITS USE AND SIDE EFFECTS. Keep out of reach of children. The marijuana is intended for recreational use solely by the patient to whom it is sold, and that any resale or redistribution of the marijuana to a third person is prohibited. There are no non-organic pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides that were used in the cultivation of the retail marijuana used in the product, unless listed above. This immediate package is considered child resistant. Do not drive a motor vehicle or operate heavy machinery while using marijuana. Solvents used in the extraction concentrate include: n-butane, ethanol. Refrigeration is not necessary but recommended for best quality. This product is infused with marijuana. This product was produced without regulatory oversight for health, safety, or efficacy. The intoxicating effects of this product may be delayed by two or more hours. There may be additional health risks associated with the

consumption of this product for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, or planning on becoming pregnant. The marijuana product contained within this package has not been tested for contaminants. There may be health risks associated with the consumption of this product. This product is intended for use by adults 21 years and older. This product is unlawful outside the State of Colorado. Made in a facility that processes nuts, peanuts, dairy and wheat.



#404R-00012

**JEDICALLY** 

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www.MedicallyCorrect.com

may be unlawful outside the state where purchased. Products containing marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. Do not operate a vehicle or heavy machinery under the influence of this drug. Caution: When eaten or swallowed, the intoxicating effects of this drug may be delayed by two or more hours. Package patent pending.

### **Peel-off Labeling**



### **Packaging Guide**

- Packaging materials what's safe?
- Opaque or not?
- Child-resistant How should it be packaged so it's child-resistant?



#### **Child Resistant Packaging**



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### **Child Resistant Packaging**



# **Food Processing Guide**

Borrowed from:

- FDA Current Good Manufacturing Practice in Manufacturing, Packing, or Holding Human Food (21 CFR 110) and
- State Food Code



### **Food Processing Draft**

- Types of medibles
- Processing controls
- Edible serving size
- Combining active ingredients
- Defective action levels





# **Medible Types**

- Baked goods brownies, cookies, etc.
- Candies gummies, hard candy, worms, etc.
- Chocolate bars
- Capsules

- Soda & juice
- Honey
- Cakes & pies
- Powder
- Syringes to inject food
- Tinctures
- Hot sauce, etc...

# **Edible Processing**

- Active ingredient application
- Shelf-life
- Storage refrigerated or room temp?







#### **Homogenize Active Ingredients**







# Spray Application of Active Ingredients









# Antique & Restored Candy Wrapping Machine



#### Recall



# **Testing of Extracts & Medibles**

- Not mandated
- No laboratory analysis standards on how to test various medibles



Test for:

- Active ingredients
- Microbial
- Pesticides
- Herbicides
- Solvents

### What are safe limits for chemicals?

- Chemicals of concern butane and hexane (Class 2 solvent) used for extraction
- What are safe limits in medibles?
- Currently, no credible studies have been conducted for residual solvents so rules vary widely:
  - Washington requires 500 ppm butane
  - Colorado went from 50 to 800 ppm
- FDA drug laws do not address butane

# **Pesticides in Marijuana**

- ADHS Code R9-17-317-A-6 requires listing of chemicals, including pesticides (does not mention or require testing for concentration).
- March 2015: Denver Health recalls 100,000 marijuana edibles due to pesticides.
- One plant is worth ~\$1,000
- Five most common pesticides currently banned by Denver Health:
  - *Myclobutanil* (Fungicide)
  - Imidacloprid (Insecticide)
  - Abamectin and the avermectin chemical family (Insecticide)
  - Etoxazo (Insecticide)
  - Spiromesifen (Insecticide)



# **Survey of Medible Consumers**

- Consumers = individuals with prescription from doctor
- Distributed by dispensaries to use
- Electronic survey via Internet
- Medical marijuana edible consumed at least once in past year
- 18 years old +

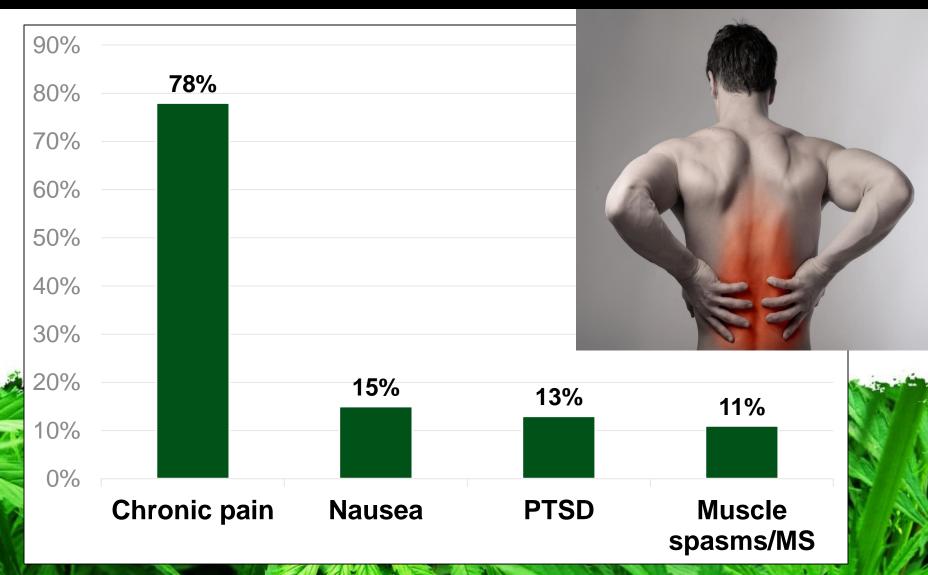


# **Survey of Medible Consumers**

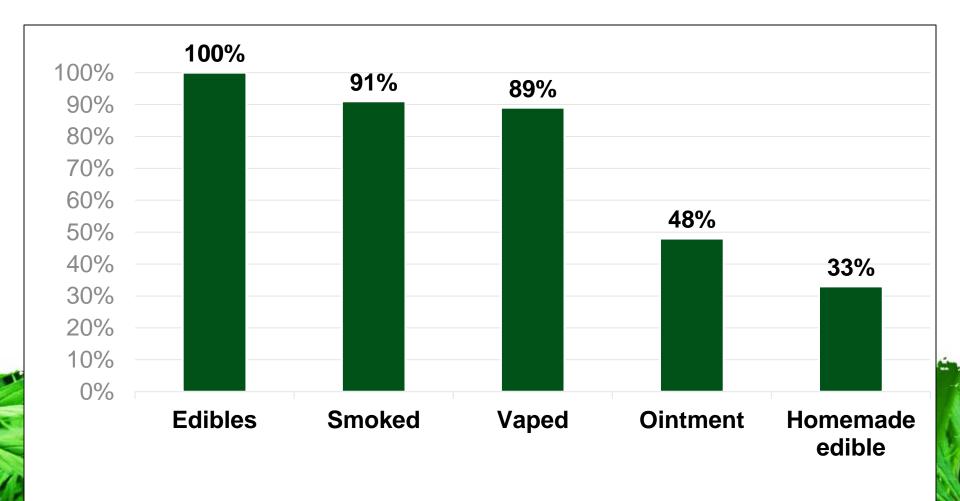
- 46 completed surveys
- Completed March August 2015
- Questions on usage, labels, frequency consumed, etc.
- Male 58%, female 42%
- Age distribution: 38% (18-34),30% (35-54) 34% (<u>></u>55)



# Conditions for Which Medibles Used – Mentioned Most Often

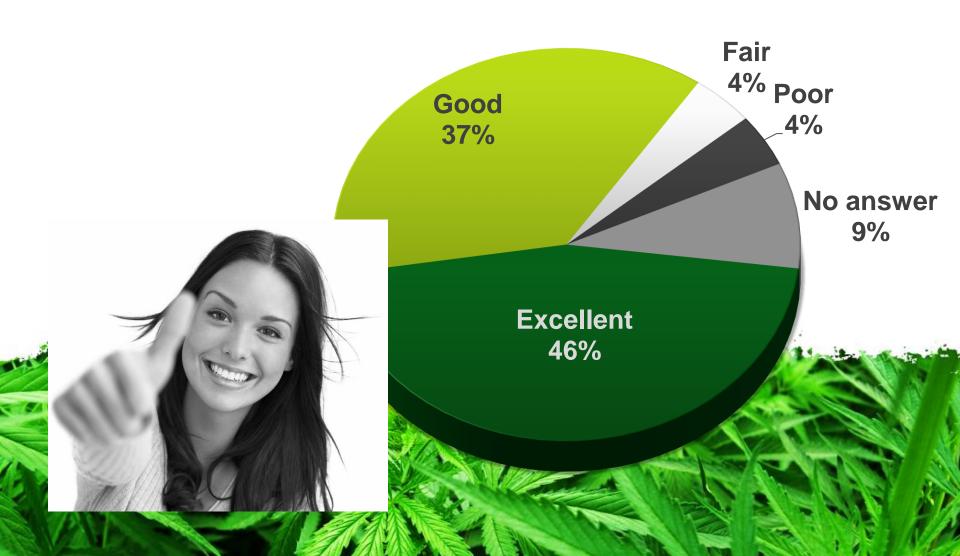


#### **Types Used Past Year**



#### **Consumers pleased with MMEs**





#### **Quotes from Respondents**

- "They'rrrrrrre Great!!!!! As Tony the Tiger would put it..."
- "They have a place as medicine especially for non-smokers and insomniacs."
- "Significantly improved my quality of life."
- "They're yummy."



#### Some Don't Read Label

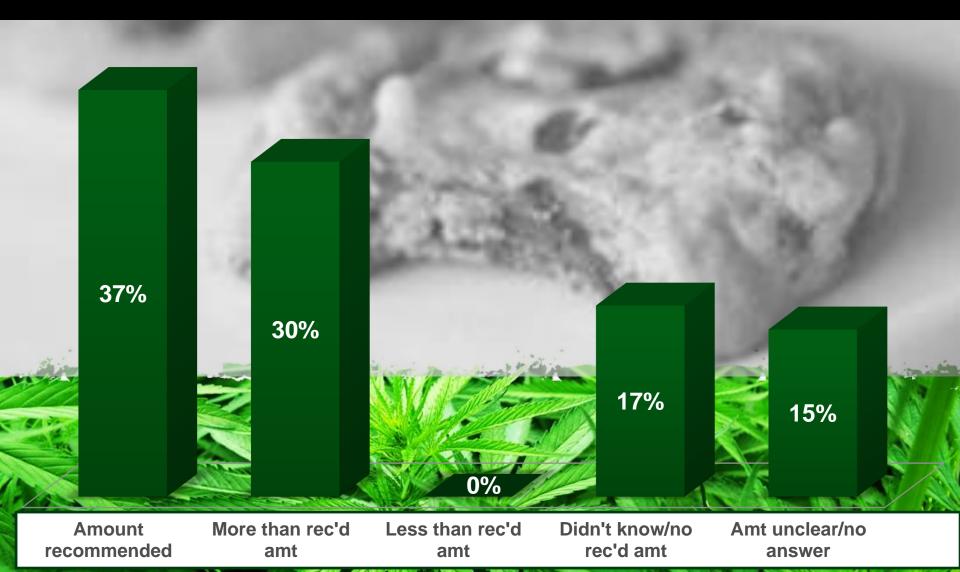
- 1 in 5 (17%) did not read label last time consumed medible
- 1 in 3 (40%) did not look at grams of marijuana
- 1 in 3 (30%) didn't read instructions included in package

# **Role of Dispensary Varies**

- 46% of respondents said dispensary suggested particular type of MME (raw, consumable, vape pen, etc.)
- 12% said dispensary recommended specific time for how often they should consume medible
  - 41% told as often as needed for symptoms
  - 57% remaining said no recommendation, don't know, or variable frequency



# Some consumers use more than recommended amount



#### What's next?

- Distribute guides to dispensaries after drafts are approved
- Conduct "Bud Tender" Survey and develop best practices for "Bud Tenders"
- Provide presentations to physicians
- Develop best practices for testing medibles



#### Physician's Guide for Medical Marijuana





# **Special Acknowledgements**

- Carla Berg, Special Licensing ADHS
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- Various AZ, CO, and WA State Dispensaries who have participated
- Desert Valley Testing and Steve Cottrell
- City of Denver Health Department
- Washington Liquor and Cannabis Board
- Mare Schumacher, CCPHSD

#### **Future Considerations**

- 1. As a potential consumer, what are the three most important components you would like to see included on medible labeling?
- 2. Should medibles be permitted to look like candy? If "yes", under what circumstances?
- Assuming there is a need for standardized training for Bud Tenders (dispensary staff), what topics should be included?



#### **Future Considerations**

4. If creating laboratory standards for the testing of marijuana and medibles, what areas would you like to see addressed?

