

# Pharmacy Student Summer Research Fellowship Proposal for 2020

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## ***FACULTY INFORMATION:***

**NAME:** Nalin Payakachat and Amy Franks

**DEPARTMENT:** Pharmacy Practice

**LOCATION:** UAMS Little Rock Campus

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## ***PROJECT INFORMATION:***

**TITLE:** Changes in perception and attitudes toward pharmacist roles on medical cannabis in Arkansas: Arkansas Medical Cannabis Study

**LOCATION OF THE PROJECT:** UAMS Little Rock Campus

## **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:**

Arkansas is one of 29 states in the US that has legalized use of the marijuana plant for medicinal purposes. The constitutional amendment (Medical Marijuana Amendment, Issue 6) was approved on November 6, 2016, legalizing marijuana use in the state of Arkansas for 14 medical conditions and disease states. In March 2017, the Arkansas House passed an amendment to the Medical Marijuana Bill requiring pharmacists to help dispensaries and medical marijuana patients. This is a prospective cohort study using an online survey among Arkansans about their perception and attitudes toward pharmacist roles. The first survey was launched in February 2018, before legal medical cannabis products were available in Arkansas. The first dispensary in Arkansas was opened in May 2019. The follow up survey was then conducted in September 2019, after few months of availability of medical cannabis products. This current project evaluates whether perceptions and attitudes towards pharmacist roles on medical cannabis has changed after the availability of legal medical cannabis products.

## **STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES-DUTIES IN THE PROPOSED PROJECT:**

1. Conduct literature review on pharmacist involvement in dispensaries and helping marijuana patients in other states and in other countries that legalize marijuana for medical purposes
2. Describe demographic characteristics of the study cohorts
3. Examine whether participants' perceptions and attitudes have changed over time.

**ESTIMATED TIME FOR PROJECT COMPLETION:**   10   weeks

**DOES THE WORK INVOLVE ANIMAL RESEARCH?** YES -----

NO ---x-----

**ORAL/POSTER PRESENTATION OPPORTUNITY:**

Present at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) annual meeting, Arkansas Association of Health-System Pharmacists meeting, UAMS research day

**MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION:** Possible journal names for this work to be submitted:

The American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education, Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy